



Good Neighbors

San Diego
Housing Commission

REPORT

DATE: For the Agenda of December 1, 2000 **ITEM 101**

REPORT NO.: HCR00-050 Supplemental

SUBJECT: Housing Trust Fund Housing Grant (Council District 2)

SUMMARY

Issue: Should the Housing Commission approve a supplemental grant of \$25,000 to San Diego Youth & Community Services for operation of Take Wing, a transitional housing program for homeless youth?

Recommendation: That the supplemental grant of \$25,000 be approved, increasing the Housing Commission FY01 commitment from \$22,000 to \$47,000.

Fiscal Impact: Approval of this recommendation will reduce available FY01 Housing Trust Fund Transitional Housing operations funds to \$850,000.

BACKGROUND

To comply with the Housing Trust Fund Ordinance, the Commission issues an annual Request for Proposals (RFP) from Nonprofits Seeking to Operate Transitional Housing Facilities. On May 19, 2000 the Board of Commissioners approved seven grants for a total of \$743,500 to provide operating funds for local programs (see HCR00-050, attached). During Board discussion of the agenda item, representatives of San Diego Youth & Community Services (SDYCS) testified that they needed additional funding beyond the recommended grant of \$22,000. In response, the Board directed staff to work with SDYCS to determine if any additional funding would be appropriate.



A state agency authorized by the City of San Diego

DISCUSSION

SDYCS is a community-based social service agency that provides comprehensive service to runaway and homeless youth, families, and seniors. The agency has been providing services to San Diego for over 25 years. In 1991, SDYCS opened its first long-term transitional living program for homeless youth. Take Wing has operated at 3255 Wing Street since 1994, when the Housing Commission provided \$375,000 for the acquisition and rehabilitation of an apartment complex on Wing Street in the Midway area.

Take Wing is an 18-month transitional living program for homeless and potentially homeless youth, ages 16 through 24. Most are referred from a homeless shelter and two group homes run by SDYCS or from county social workers, probation officers, and other community-based agencies. Some have "aged out" of the foster care system but lack the maturity or skills to become independent.

In its RFP submittal, SDYCS asked for \$65,000 to help pay for one year's operating costs. Staff recommended a grant of \$22,000 because SDYCS had just received \$483,114 in Housing Commission assistance to pay off a mortgage loan and would realize cash savings of approximately \$43,000 per year from the loan payoff. At the Commission meeting, SDYCS agreed to provide documentation of increased program costs and further justification for their funding request.

Recently, SDYCS submitted a revised budget of \$638,512 for the program, representing an increase of approximately \$250,000 over the original budget. This significant increase was due primarily to the addition of the County-funded Independent Livings Skills (ILS) component to the Take Wing program. While ILS will enhance Take Wing by paying for support services, the contract does not include facility expenses. Overall, SDYCS has identified sources for \$512,538 of the needed funds; this grant would increase the funding to \$559,538. The shortfall of approximately \$79,000 will be covered by SDYCS.

SDYCS indicates that current participants include 30 youth and 11 of their children plus three low-income elders residing in the multi-generational program. SDYCS has 32 completed units, of which 29 are used by program participants and three are occupied by holdover tenants whom SDYCS has identified as low-income.

A Housing Trust Fund grant of \$47,000 will represent seven percent of Take Wing's annual cost. Any award of funds would be subject to Housing Trust Fund restrictions, under which at least 75 percent must be spent on building operations costs and no more than 25 percent may be spent on program administration.

ALTERNATIVE

The Board could deny this request for additional funds, leaving SDYCS with the original grant of \$22,000 or the Board could deny any support to Take Wing and use the funds for the upcoming FY01 Request for Proposals.

Submitted by,

Patricia Duplechan
Director, Housing Programs

**Signature on File
With Original Document**

Approved by,

Elizabeth C. Morris
Chief Executive Officer

Attachment: HC00-050 (without attachments)