
DATE: September 8, 2011

REPORT TITLE: HOMELESSNESS PARTNERING STRATEGY 2011 - 2014 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

FROM: Janet Menard, Commissioner of Human Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorses the funding recommendations made by the Homelessness Partnering Strategy Community Advisory Board;

And further, that the Region's duly authorized signing officers be authorized to execute agreements with community agencies approved for funding, and other documents that may be required to participate in the Homelessness Partnering Strategy.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- A Request for Applications for HPS funding was released to the community on June 6, 2011
- The Region of Peel received 32 applications from community agencies totaling \$14,965,701
- The Community Advisory Board (CAB) has recommended funding for 14 applications totaling \$2,056,093

DISCUSSION

1. Background

As reported to Council on March 24, 2011, Service Canada announced a new round of funding for the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS). The Region of Peel has accepted the responsibility of administering the funds. HPS funds are for programs and/or capital projects aimed at preventing and/or reducing homelessness in Peel Region.

Funding in the amount of \$2,811,030 was approved for Peel Region for the period beginning April 1, 2011 and ending March 31, 2014. HPS funds are provided by the federal government. The Region of Peel is responsible for administering the flow through of funds to eligible community agencies that meet the funding criteria, using a community engagement process whereby a community advisory board (CAB) makes the funding recommendations.

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As permitted under the guidelines, three eligible agencies were allocated \$225,010 for one year extensions to their 2009 – 2011 HPS programs. As a result, there is \$2,164,365.50 of HPS funds available for allocation to community agencies. The agencies who will receive extended HPS funding until March 2012 are:

- St. Leonard's Place Peel – \$65,780
- The Salvation Army – \$120,980
- Anba Abraam's Coptic Church - \$38,250

2. Program Components**a) Community Advisory Board**

The HPS Community Advisory Board (CAB) consists of ten voting members who are representatives of the Peel community. Regional staff and representatives from Service Canada and the Province of Ontario also sit on the board as non-voting members. CAB members were solicited through an open call for volunteers, sent to Peel agencies and organizations. The agencies and organizations that CAB members represent, serve a wide range of clients from diverse vulnerable populations. All CAB members have signed a confidentiality and conflict of interest agreement with the Region of Peel.

CAB members are tasked with reviewing all HPS applications received by the Region of Peel and making funding recommendations. Annual reports and work plans are required from the CAB to meet the terms and conditions of the contribution agreement with Service Canada. The CAB is also responsible for ensuring the HPS Community Plan reflects the needs and values of the community in Peel Region.

Voting Members of the 2011 – 2014 CAB are:

Lorna Dixon	<i>United Way of Peel Region</i>
Lana Burchett	<i>Vita Manor</i>
David Carleton	<i>Salvation Army</i>
Joycelet Brown	<i>United Achievers</i>
Carolyn Bailey	<i>Ecosource</i>
Kay Setaram	<i>Peel Poverty Action Group</i>
Father Larry Leger	<i>Holy Family Parish</i>
Richard Brown	<i>St. Leonard's Place, Peel</i>
Douglas Kwan	<i>Mississauga Community Legal Services</i>
Raj Jhaji	<i>former member of Peel Multicultural Council</i>

b) Community Plan

As stated in the terms and conditions of the HPS contribution agreement with Service Canada, the Region of Peel has developed a community plan that outlines important community priorities in regards to reducing and preventing homelessness in Peel Region. HPS programs and capital projects must align with at least one of the community plan priorities, and funded agencies must report on related outcomes. The community plan priorities are to:

- i) Coordinate initiatives to connect individuals at risk and/or experiencing homelessness to basic needs, food, information and resources.

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- ii) Share information about the issues, causes and impacts of homelessness with stakeholders, service providers and the larger community in Peel, to foster collaborative opportunities for effective solutions to prevent and reduce homelessness.
- iii) Provide individuals who are experiencing and/or facing homelessness with accessible, available transitional/ supportive housing.
- iv) Ensure that there is capacity to meet the needs of individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness with food and supplementary supports.
- v) Coordinate a seamless continuum of accessible and available programs and services which are inclusive of the diverse needs of the individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness.
- vi) Enhance the availability of and access to service provision and supports which meet and accommodate holistic health needs of individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness at emergency shelters, transitional housing or within the community.
- vii) Provide homeless and at-risk individuals with educational supports and skill development to assist with self sufficiency.
- viii) Coordinate the collection and use of data for reporting and identifying applicable measures and outcomes to address the specific root causes of homelessness unique to Peel.

3. Funding Allocation Process

a) Request for Applications

A Request for Applications document for 2011 – 2014 HPS funding was released to the public on June 6, 2011. The deadline to submit an application was noon on July 20, 2011.

Eligible activities under HPS are categorized by Service Canada into three areas: (1) capital investments; (2) client services; and (3) community coordination, partnership development and data management. All eligible activities must be geared towards clients who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness and must address at least one community priority from the Community Plan. There is a strong emphasis on supporting the coordination of service delivery and on establishing sustainable, long-term solutions.

Information regarding HPS funding and a link to the application form was posted on the Region's website. Newspaper ads also ran in the Mississauga News, Brampton Guardian, and Caledon Enterprise during the week of June 6, 2011. Further, two mandatory information sessions were held. Agencies applying for HPS funding were required to attend one of these sessions.

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b) Application Review Process

The Region of Peel received 32 applications, for a total funding ask of \$14,965,701.64. Five applicants were not reviewed by the CAB because they were deemed ineligible for funding for one or more of the following reasons: (1) applicant is not located in Peel Region; (2) applicant is not financially responsible; and/or (3) application does not meet the terms and conditions of HPS as set out by Service Canada.

Regional Staff and CAB members met six times over the month of August 2011 to review the remaining 27 applications for HPS funding. An evaluation matrix was designed for CAB members to score applications based on the program criteria set out by Service Canada.

c) Funding Recommendations

Through the application review process, the CAB recommended funding for 14 HPS applications, for a total of \$2,056,093. As a result, 13 applications were denied funding. Appendix I summarizes the CAB's funding recommendations.

The recommended funding amount will be deducted from the available \$2,164,365.50 of 2011 – 2014 HPS funding, leaving \$108,272.50 unallocated. After the approval of the funding recommendations, the CAB will be approached to discuss possible recommendations for the remaining funds. Council will be advised of these recommendations once they have been made.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

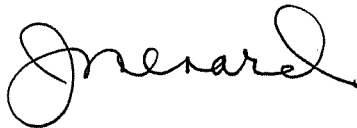
There are no financial implications for the Region of Peel in regards to these recommendations for funding approval, as all the funding will be provided through Service Canada. The Region has been allocated a portion of the total funding for administration and staffing costs associated with the 2011 – 2014 HPS funding.

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CONCLUSION

The Community Advisory Board (CAB) has recommended funding totalling \$2,056,093 under the 2011 – 2014 Homelessness Partnering Strategy program. This funding will allow the Region of Peel, along with its funded community agencies, to continue creating and maintaining sustainable programs and projects aimed at reducing and preventing homelessness throughout Peel Region.



Janet Menard
Commissioner of Human Services

Approved for Submission:



D. Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer

For further information regarding this report, please contact [Lisa Duarte] at extension 4862 or via email at lisa.duarte@peelregion.ca

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c. Legislative Services

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APPENDIX I

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HPS 2011 - 2014

Agency	Municipality Ward	Funding Requested	Funding Allocated	Description
Bramalea Community Health Centre	Brampton Ward 8	\$300,223	\$169,878	Providing primary health services in 3 locations throughout Brampton while connecting with street involved clients through roaming street outreach.
Caledon Community Services	Caledon Ward 5	\$215,143	\$31,000	Providing outreach and support services for residents who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness in Caledon.
Catholic Family Services of Peel Dufferin	Brampton Ward 3	\$562,940	\$154,709	Construction/Renovation of a community kitchen and the purchase of appliances and equipment.
Eden Food Bank	Mississauga Ward 8	\$361,662	\$263,088	Funding of food bank shifts, the renovation of a community kitchen, and the purchase of a refrigerated truck.
Malton Neighbourhood Services	Mississauga Ward 5	\$535,180	\$254,202	Providing outreach and support services for residents who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness in Peel Region
Ontario Inter-Cultural Community Services	Mississauga Ward 5	\$183,198	\$75,778	Purchase of a refrigerated truck and the hiring of a part-time driver for the Mississauga East Malton Food Bank
Mississauga Furniture Bank	Mississauga Ward 1	\$185,000	\$185,000	Expanding the capacity of the furniture bank to serve more clients
Our Place Peel	Mississauga Ward 3	\$324,903	\$89,050	Construction/Renovation of admin and resource room at youth shelter
Peel Aboriginal Network	Brampton Ward 7	\$784,377	\$226,171	Providing outreach and support services for Aboriginals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness in Peel Region.
Regeneration Outreach Community	Brampton Ward 1	\$339,295	\$274,295	Accessibility renovations and construction of laundry, shower, and storage facilities.
The Salvation Army	Mississauga Ward 7	\$263,120	\$130,410	Providing support and counseling services for individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness and face substance use issues.
St. Leonard's Place, Peel – Connections	Brampton Ward 3	\$158,961	\$65,777	Providing support and counseling services for individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness.
St. Leonard's Place, Peel – SharED	Brampton Ward 3	\$181,070	\$103,075	Coordinating a network of social service agencies that serve residents who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness to share information, collaborate, and build capacity.
Street Soccer Canada	Brampton Ward 1	\$225,076	\$33,660	Drop-in soccer program for individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness.

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AGENCIES APPROVED FOR HPS EXTENSION APRIL 2011 – MARCH 2012

Agency	Municipality Ward	Funding Requested	Funding Allocated	Description
St. Leonard's Place, Peel – Connections	Brampton Ward 3	\$ 77,536	\$65,780	Providing support and counseling services for individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness.
The Salvation Army	Mississauga Ward 7	\$150,200	\$120,980	Providing support and counseling services for individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness and face substance use issues.
Anba Abraam's Coptic Church	Mississauga Ward 3	\$51,000	\$38,250	Providing outreach support and referrals to clients of the St. Joseph's Community Kitchen.