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2007 LONG TERM CARE FUNDING INCREASE ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY LIVING PROGRAM

The Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, November 8, 2007, from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Regional Council approve the receipt and expenditure of an additional \$88,000 in base annualized funding (\$7,333 in 2007) from the Central Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) for the expansion of Alternative Community Living/Supportive Housing Program.
2. Regional Council authorize a 1.6 FTE increase in the approved Long Term Care and Seniors Branch 2007 Staffing Complement to accommodate the creation and recruitment of the necessary positions for program implementation.
3. Staff be authorized to sign any Agreements with the Central LHIN that may be required to implement the above.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to secure approval from Regional Council for the receipt and expenditure of additional subsidy from the Central LHIN for program costs related to the expansion of the Alternative Community Living Program.

3. BACKGROUND

The Central LHIN approached Regional staff in October 2007 regarding the availability of an additional \$88,000 for supportive housing services for the frail elderly and requested that a proposal be submitted for expansion of one of our existing Alternative Community Living Program sites.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

The Alternative Community Living Program is a supportive housing program operated by the Community and Outreach Programs Division of the Long Term Care and Seniors

Branch. The Alternative Community Living Program provides personal support services and essential homemaking to clients in designated supportive housing apartments and on an outreach basis to other clients in the building. The program avoids or delays institutionalization of the frail/at risk seniors and adults with disabilities by providing them with the supports necessary to stay in the community and remain independent. Staff (Elderly Service Workers and Housekeepers) are based in an on-site client centre and support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

There are six Alternative Community Living Program sites geographically located throughout York Region: Genesis Place in Richmond Hill, Hadley Grange in Aurora, Heritage East and Armitage Gardens in Newmarket, Keswick Gardens in Keswick and Kitchen-Breedon Manor in Schomberg. Two additional sites are planned, one in Vaughan and one in Markham. There is a current wait list of over 560 clients for the Alternative Community Living Program.

Staff have conducted a review of wait lists and identified the Keswick Gardens site as having clients with the most need and longest urgent wait list. A proposal was submitted to the Central LHIN to fund an additional 3,000 units/hours of service utilizing the \$88,000 in additional funding. The proposal has been submitted subject to final approval by Regional Council.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The LTCSB will receive an additional \$88,000 annualized and \$7,333 in funding from the Central LHIN in 2007. This funding will cover 100% of the operating costs associated with the identified program expansion. There is no net cost to the Region.

The following chart depicts the annualized and current year program allocations and funding increases.

Table 1
Overview of Funding Increases and Allocations

Program	Current Year \$ Increase	Annualized \$ Increase	FTE Increase
Salaries and Benefits	\$4,037	\$48,440	0.8 Elderly Service Workers
	3,296	39,560	0.8 Housekeepers
Total	\$7,333	\$88,000	1.6

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

The utilization of this additional funding will allow us to meet the needs of additional frail at risk seniors at the Keswick Alternative Community Living Program site.

7. CONCLUSION

The approval of the recommendations regarding the receipt and expenditure of the additional subsidy from the Central LHIN will enable us to add an additional 3,000 hours of service at the Keswick Alternative Community Living Program site and help us to address the needs of some of the clients who are in most urgent need for supportive housing services.

For more information on this report, contact Shawn Turner, General Manager, Long Term Care and Seniors Branch of the Community and Health Services Department.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.