

**DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2001**

**TO: PASADENA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**FROM: CYNTHIA J. KURTZ, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,000 TO THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL OF PASADENA AREA CHURCHES FOR THE PROVISION OF BAD WEATHER EMERGENCY SHELTER SERVICES**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Pasadena Community Development Commission ("Commission") take the following actions:

- A. Approve a grant in the amount of \$27,000 to the Ecumenical Council of Pasadena Area Churches from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Trust Fund for the provision of Bad Weather Emergency Shelter Services in accordance with the terms and provisions of the contractual agreement between the Commission and the Ecumenical Council; and
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute, and the Secretary to attest, the contract with the Ecumenical Council for said services.

**RECOMMENDATION OF ADVISORY BODIES:**

This item was reviewed and recommended by the Northwest Commission on Thursday, October 25, 2001 as presented, recommending a grant for \$22,000. This item was reviewed by the Community Development Committee (CDC) on Thursday, November 8, 2001 and they recommended to increase the grant to \$27,000.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bad Weather Shelter (BWS) was established during the 1986 – 87 winter season in response to the needs of the homeless population who lacked adequate refuge during the cold and rainy season. The Ecumenical Council of Pasadena Area Churches ("Ecumenical Council"), is the umbrella agency of emergency shelter organizations, social services providers, and volunteers, and will sponsor this year's BWS program. Last year thirteen organizations volunteered their time for the provision of services. Six (6) members of those organizations form with the Ecumenical Council an advisory committee. They are: The Institute for Urban Research and Development, Union Station, Pacific Clinics - Passageways, Pasadena Covenant Church, Worldwide Church of God and the City of Pasadena - Housing Division. The purpose of the advisory committee is to advise the Ecumenical Council on the location of shelter, availability of food, supplies, and organization of volunteers.

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Since 1987, the Pasadena Community Development Commission has provided over \$178,000 for Bad Weather Shelter services. During the 2000-2001 season the shelter was open 62 nights and provided shelter to approximately 447 individuals (unduplicated) for a total of 4,380 units of shelter. This was a much greater use of the Bad Weather Shelter than expected. For that season it was anticipated and planned to serve only 320 individuals (unduplicated) and provide 2,500 units of shelter.

In response to this, the Community Development Committee felt it appropriate to increase the grant by \$5,000 and recommended a grant of \$27,000 be given. The justifications for the increase are as follows:

- The period of continuous operation for the shelter has been extended from 31 to 47 nights (see Statistical Data below).
- There was a 40% increase in the use of the shelter by the homeless population last year, and that trend is expected to continue for this year.
- The shelter is experiencing rising operational cost (rent, utilities, and labor).

The BWS budget for the 2001-2002 season as submitted by the Ecumenical Council totals **\$55,613** for an anticipated 60 nights of operation. This year (2001-2002 season) it is recommended that the Ecumenical Council receive a grant of **\$27,000** from the Commission. It is anticipated that the remaining funds will be obtained from the following sources:

Federal Emergency Food and Shelter Program	9,000
Private donations	<u>19,613</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,613</b>

Housing Trust funds would be used to pay for program costs such as shelter staff, rent, utilities and accounting services.

Volunteers will mail and deliver flyers (English/Spanish) to local churches and shelters, community-based service centers, and public offices for the purpose of announcing the availability of the Bad Weather Shelter. Approximately 125 Pasadena area congregations will receive information bulletins regarding the Bad Weather Shelter. In addition, flyers will be delivered to the Jackie Robinson Center, Villa-Parke, El Centro de Accion Social, AIDS Service Center, libraries and public counters, including City Hall. A toll-free information hotline, which provides current bad weather shelter information in both English and Spanish will be available daily through March 2002.

For this year, commitments to send volunteers to assist at the Bad Weather Shelter have been made by eleven (11) congregations and organizations. They are as follows: Abounding Grace Ministries, All Saints Episcopal Church, Altadena Baptist Church, Bishop Gooden Home, Lutheran Churches, City of Pasadena, Pasadena Covenant Church, St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, Union Station Foundation and Worldwide Church of God.

### **STATISTICAL DATA:**

In addition to meeting the established criteria for opening the shelter (i.e., opening when temperature is expected to be 40 degrees or lower and/or if rain is expected during the evening hours), the shelter staff is proposing to provide 47 consecutive nights of shelter during the period of January 1, 2002 through February 16, 2002 (in the previous year the shelter was open 31 consecutive nights). The purpose of being open for a consecutive time period will enable the shelter to meet several goals:

- 1) Provide continuous nightly food and shelter to needy persons during the coldest winter months of the year, and
- 2) Enable emergency shelter staff to (a) conduct a more in depth survey of those persons who utilize the shelter; (b) conduct needs assessments to determine their needs as homeless individuals, and (c) establish case management on an ongoing basis for a greater period of time.
- 3) Enable staff to compile comprehensive statistical data of an actual population count of homeless individuals in the City of Pasadena, help in determining the kinds of services the homeless population is actually using and/or not using and the kinds of services that are needed.

This statistical data is required for community information purposes, and federal funding applications. In both cases, it is imperative that current and accurate data be readily available for use by the City of Pasadena. This data is also made available as a resource to the public and to local agencies seeking technical assistance in assessing needed services, grant writing and the processing of grant applications.

### **PROGRAM GOALS:**

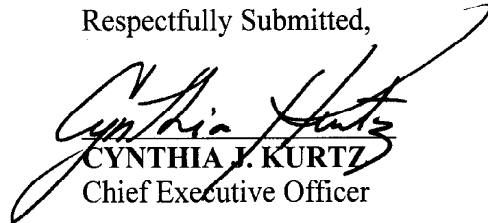
The following are the goals for Bad Weather Shelter for the 2001-2002 season:

- Provide 4,000 units of shelter
- Be open an estimated 60 nights
- Provide 90 shelter beds
- Provide a meal for the guests each night the shelter is open
- Compile statistical data on the numbers of homeless individuals in Pasadena
- Establish Case Management with homeless individuals
- Provide information and social service referrals as needed


**FISCAL IMPACT:**

These funds have been included in the FY 2002 operating budget in the Commission's Affordable Housing Program BWS/Emergency Shelter Account # 8170-810-684120-51501.

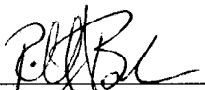
Respectfully Submitted,

  
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