

**DATE:** NOVEMBER 20, 2000  
**TO:** PASADENA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
**FROM:** CYNTHIA J. KURTZ, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
**SUBJECT:** APPROVAL OF GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,000 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 take the following actions:

- A. Approve a grant in the amount of \$22,000 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 a contract between the Commission and the Ecumenical Council;
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute, and the Secretary to attest, the contract with the Ecumenical Council for said services.

**ACTION OF ADVISORY BODIES:**

This item was reviewed and recommended by the Northwest Commission on Wednesday, November 1, 2000 and the Community Development Committee on Thursday, November 16, 2000.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Ecumenical Council of Pasadena Area Churches, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has requested a grant in the amount of \$22,000 for the Bad Weather Shelter Program. The shelter is open each night from 8:00 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. when the overnight temperature is expected to be 40 degrees or lower and/or there is a 30% chance of rain expected in the evening hours during the months of November 2000 through March 31, 2001. The Bad Weather Shelter, located at the Pasadena Covenant Church, 539 N. Lake Avenue, will provide an estimated 2,500 units of shelter service (unit of service - one person, one night) for an anticipated total of 60 nights. Approximately 90 beds are available to house individuals and families. Soup, sandwiches, pastries, water, juice and coffee are provided for the guests.

This year the Bad Weather Shelter Program will continue its efforts to assist its guests through a health services component. The Program has entered into agreements with Queenscare; a community based healthcare organization, and Passageways, a multi purpose service center for the homeless, a program of Pacific Clinics for the provision of these services. During the season, Queenscare and volunteer nurses from the community will furnish to the shelter a nurse. The nurse will provide basic healthcare services for conditions such as colds, flu, and other upper respiratory infections, as well as medical intervention for other minor illnesses and injuries. Tuberculosis (TB) testing is also available. Passageways will provide mental health outreach workers on an as needed basis to assist those who wish to seek mental health services.

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**BACKGROUND:**

The Bad Weather Shelter 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 is an umbrella agency of emergency shelter organizations, social services providers, and volunteers, and will sponsor this year's Shelter program. Last year, sixteen organizations volunteered their time for the provision of the services. Six of those organizations together with the Ecumenical Council have created an advisory committee. They are: The Institute for Urban Research and Development, Union Station, Pacific Clinics - Passageways, Pasadena Covenant Church, Huntington Hospital and the City of Pasadena - Housing Division. The purpose of this committee is to advise the Ecumenical Council on the location of shelter, availability of food, supplies, and organization of volunteers.

Since 1987, the Pasadena Community Development Commission has provided over \$156,000 for Bad Weather Shelter services. During the 1999-2000 season the shelter was open 59 nights and provided shelter to approximately 320 individuals (unduplicated) for a total of 2,759 units of shelter.

The Shelter budget for the 2000-2001 season as submitted by the Ecumenical Council totals \$40,494 for an anticipated 60 nights of operation. This year (2000-2001 season) the Ecumenical Council is requesting a grant of \$22,000 from the Commission. It is anticipated that the remaining funds will be obtained from the following sources:

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Ecumenical Council                         | 5,000           |
| Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) | 9,500           |
| Private donations                          | <u>3,994</u>    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                               | <b>\$18,494</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, All Saints 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 2001.

**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 31 consecutive nights of shelter during the month of January 1-31, 2001. 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 January, one of the coldest winter months of the year, and
- 2) Enable emergency shelter staff to (a) conduct a more indepth 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 on-going 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 information is also critical to verify the veracity of the Census Bureau's reporting of the community's homeless population.

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 2000-2001 season:

- Provide 2,500 units of shelter
- Be open an estimated 60 nights
- Have available 90 beds
- Provide a meal for the guests each night the shelter is open
- Provide hotel/motel vouchers to families with small children for lodging when they present themselves at the Shelter
- Compile statistical data on the numbers of homeless individuals in Pasadena
- Establish Case Management with homeless individuals
- Make available information and social service referrals

#### **HOUSING IMPACT:**

There will be no net increase in the number of housing units. However, approximately 90 beds will be available to homeless individuals and families during the cold and rainy season (November 23, 2000 through March 31, 2001). The provision of the Bad Weather Shelter is consistent with the Community Development Commission's Affordable Housing Plan 1995-2000, the Commission's 1999-2003 Implementation Plan, the Community Development Committee's Fiscal Year 2000-2001 Priority Work Program, the City of Pasadena General Plan (Housing Element), the Northwest Pasadena Community Plan (Housing Element), and the City of Pasadena Consolidated Plan.

**CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY IMPACT:**

The Bad Weather Shelter benefits children, youth and families by providing a portal for the provision of services to homeless families with children. It is the policy of the Ecumenical Council, that when families with children present themselves at the Bad Weather Shelter, if the resources are available and the referral is appropriate, the family will be given a voucher to stay at a local motel for that night. Being housed in a motel is often a more suitable environment for families with children than the shelter. In addition, when a family arrives at the Bad Weather Shelter they are then identified by staff as a family in need of services and are referred to one of the city's network of Continuum of Care providers to assist with their long term housing and human services needs.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

These funds have been included in FY 2001 operating budget in the Commission's Affordable Housing Program BWS/Emergency Shelter Account # 8170-810-684120-51501.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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