

THE CHAPEL HILL/CARRBORO RESIDENTS' COUNCIL

CAPITAL FUNDS REQUEST

CONTACT PERSONS:

JOANN SHIRER, DIRECTOR

JANETTA FERGUSON, BOARD CHAIR

TELEPHONE:

919-932-2914

FAX:

919-942-3720

**IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE CHAPEL HILL/CARRBORO
RESIDENTS' COUNCIL CONTINUES TO EXIST!**

CAPITAL FUNDS REQUEST FOR 2002-2003

February 25, 2002

To: Town of Chapel Hill Department of Housing

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Residents' Council (RC) is hereby requesting from the Housing Department of the Town of Chapel Hill a continuation of funding from the Capital Funds Grant for the operation of RC activities, programs and services to the residents of public housing. The RC is requesting a total of \$54,870 for the year 2002-2003.

The Mission of the Residents' Council is to organize public housing communities into Residents' Associations and to provide programs and resources in support of these Associations. In the past year, RC staff has worked with hundreds of residents and their children, supporting them, encouraging them, even alerting them to new and exciting opportunities within the town and beyond. The RC believes in helping others to help themselves, a creed the staff lives by every day. The RC has consistently met or exceeded our program goals under our Performance Agreement.

The development work the Resident Council undertakes is a continuous and sometimes arduous process and in order to operate at maximum performance levels, funding from the Town's Capital Funds Grant is crucial. While the RC looks forward to the day when this funding is no longer needed, continued Town support will provide the RC with the momentum to seek out and attain full funding independent of the Town.

SERVICES:

The Residents' Council is a vital part of resident services in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area. Without it, 13 public housing communities with almost 1000 residents would have very few opportunities and coordinated services offered to them, few places to find real support, and few leaders for the proper organization of Resident Associations--a component HUD feels is crucial to proper "development" among public housing residents. We have been in existence and active for ten years and continued funding of Resident Council staff and activities will ensure that such development continues, that residents find added support and encouragement, and that new opportunities and programs are continually offered to them.

The road toward true development is a slow one, but the Residents' Council has the experience and insight that it takes to get the job done, and the job done well.

Presently, the RC provides children's after school tutoring/mentoring programs through the coordinated efforts of UNC@CH's Communiversy After School Program and the

RC. In addition, RC staff provides numerous referrals, including, but not limited to, employment, continuing education, child rearing, emotional health, legal assistance, physical well-being, financial assistance, and home safety measures including crime, drugs and abuse prevention. The RC acts as a liaison to the Housing Department in providing helpful information concerning residents' needs residents, and in the process, provide residents with an opportunity to have a voice in the decision making processes that affect their living situations.

The RC recognizes the need to expand youth services in our communities. The RC has created a citywide public housing youth council. The City Wide Youth Council (CWYC) will perform as a youth services coordinating council and will serve as an outreach for constructive expressions for the young people in our community. The CWYC will be comprised of 12 to 20 youth. The CWYC meets on a regular schedule, attends special learning programs aimed to enhance the Councils' ability to address youth services in all public housing communities and will design and implement annual events/activities. The Council receives training in peer mediation, leadership development, organizational skills and fundraising techniques. Field trips will include visits to other public housing youth councils within the state.

The RC is in the process of writing proposals for our programs, such as a Rites of passage program, a different approach to community organizing training program, minority leadership training program, and other youth programs. to foundations for financial support. As we have done in the past, the RC will continue to provide support and referrals to residents of public housing, and to develop lasting relationships with city and county organizations and agencies so that we may all work together for a brighter future for all residents of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area.

The evaluation process for measuring the Resident Council success will include but not be limited to the following:

- . Meeting or exceeding all points in the Performance Agreement; as outlined by monthly reports.
- . Community needs assessment survey from residents
- . Program attendance records in meetings, trainings and activities

JOB DESCRIPTIONS

The staff will serve as technical support to the Residents' Council, Residents' Associations, and the residents themselves.

Community Organizer Supervisor /Director; **Full-time** **\$25,000**

Responsibilities: Organizes and supervises daily office operations, oversees the implementation of the Performance Agreement, coordinates workshops, writes proposals,

implements partnerships between the Town, the Housing Department, the Police, public and private businesses, the Department of Social Services, non-profit organizations and educational institutions. Also supervises staff and programs, attends all Resident Council meetings, and works closely with the Council in achieving its goals.

Program Coordinator; Part-time(30 hours weekly @ \$10.00per hour) \$15,000

Responsibilities: Develops programming for After school programs for children 5-11 years, including: 1) Mentor/Tutoring 2) Specific Skills Assistance, and 3) Creative Expression/Character Building. Develops Empowerment programming for youth 12-17years. Recruits and trains volunteers and mentors, consults with parents and teachers, collaborates with agencies for programs, prepares monthly reports, assists with community programs and trainings, attends RC meetings, writes articles for newsletters, assists with grant writing and supervise all youth programs.

Board Development/Participation; (9 member board) \$7,000

Responsibilities: Recruit membership, actively participate in decision making on policies, administer community survey, attend meetings, trainings, build community relationships, assist with community education, and events.

It is vital that we support the council members as they try to balance the needs of their families against the needs of their communities. Finances are a major concern for people living in PH. More often than not, the lack of funds is at the center of most family crises. Managing a family within this dynamic leaves little time and/or energy for volunteering, no matter how strong the desire to do so. Stipends provided for those community members that make the effort to volunteer them selves would provide a significant, productive support for those willing to make the sacrifice of serving on the Residents' Council. The dynamics of board responsibilities and its management as it relates to operating the council is a time consuming and difficult task. HUD has recognized that residents' participation and input is vital to the operation of the housing department. The barriers that prevent this involvement such as lack of board education, transportation, resident turn over, and financial stresses must be addressed. Adding stipends to encourage longevity, and stability to board commitment will improve attendance, and smoother operation of community development.

Van Drivers;(1) Part-time (as needed, @scale rate/# of trips or distance) \$2,000

Responsibilities: Transports adults and youth to programs including library story times, field trips, adult meetings and training's. Also maintains regular mileage and maintenance records.

Miscellaneous

\$5,870

Includes taxes, insurance, program supplies, field trips, and phone.

Chapel Hill Carrboro Residents' Council

**Capital Grant Funds
2002-2003**

BUDGET

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
SALARY (3 EMPLOYEES)	\$42,000
TAXES (@6.75%)	\$2,745
PROGRAM INSURANCE	\$ 800
BOARD SUPPORT	\$7,000
PHONE/FAX SERVICES	\$ 800
PROGRAM SUPPLIES/FIELD TRIPS	\$1,000
MISCELLANEOUS/REFRESHMENTS	<u>\$ 525</u>
TOTAL	\$54,870