



CAPITAL FUND POSPOSAL

UNDER THE TREE PROGRAM

JULY 2002- JUNE 2003

Under the Tree

GOAL: TO INCREASE RESIDENT PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY BUILDING

Program Summary

The Emancipation Oak and trees in the communities across the nation serve as a gathering place to relax, discuss issues, and fellowship. The Under the Tree is a program designed to draw from the power of informal community relations, enhance community development and awareness, and trainings to improve the quality of life for public housing residents.

Under the Tree will focus on the residents lack of involvement, interest, and knowledge of the CHCRC. For the most part, the relationship with authority dominates the public housing neighborhoods of Chapel Hill. While the Residents' Council exists to support residents and community, The perception is that the Residents' Council is an arm of the Housing Department. Unfortunately, this misperception is reinforced by the presence of the RC office in the basement of the Housing Department building. This misunderstanding of the role of the RC means that many residents avoid RC activities and involvement because of its associated with the "authority." For other residents, the RC is understood as a support and resource, but is approached to fix problems or to intervene in crises. In either situation, the RC is limited in its ability to foster a sense of community and resident "ownership" of the RC and it is often expected to advocate for resident with the Housing Department and other agencies. This perception of the RC forces the resources of the RC to be directed toward crisis management for individual residents, rather than addressing broader goals of the community building and fostering self-advocacy.

It's essential for residents to be part of a true neighborhood and apart of the larger Chapel Hill community. With this in mind, the RC intends to focus on the goals this year on: 1) to increase residents involvement and participation in the RC meeting and its sponsor activities, and 2) to shift problem solving away from the "central authority" of the RC office and into the communities. Both these goals support the overall RC goal of creating community building and fostering self advocacy and self determination among community residents.

OBJECTIVES AND PROCEDURES:

1. Increase Resident participation in resident council sponsored programs by 30%, improve community relations, to plan community events and identify and deal with "hot issues", to increase participation in the Residents' Council and to improve the image of the Residents' Council.

- a. Residents will receive surveys before the program begins, to determine the level of their current awareness of community resources and resident council activities. The same survey will measure the responses at the end of the program year to identify changes in the responses.
- 2. Provide employment opportunities and training for eight (8) Ambassadors recruited from the housing communities.
 - a. Eight Ambassadors will receive training for the job of Ambassador.
 - b. Ambassadors, after training, will 1) work with residents in the thirteen communities,.
 - c. Ambassadors will be supervised by the Director of the program.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

- 1. Ambassador training will be contracted out and will include:
 - Counseling (including confidentiality, crisis intervention etc.)
 - Mediation
 - Marketing/Public Relations (event advertising, responding to policy changes, etc.)
 - Event Planning
 - Non-threatening Reporting Skills
 - Leadership
 - Community Development
- 2. Childcare and transportation will be provided for trainings and programs.

Outcomes:

- 1) 30% increase in RC participation in meetings and activities
- 2) Community need assessment and awareness survey
- 3) Provided part-time employment for 8 residents
- 4) Clearly understanding of the RC and its resources by 50%
- 5) Apply for 2 other source of funding to support this programs

BUDGET

Program Director (\$12/hr. @ 20 hours wkly.) + Taxes	14,352
Ambassador stipends (eight) \$8/hr. @ 20 hours/month	10,148
Ambassador training	1,500
Insurance	800
Misc. supplies and refreshments	1,000
Transportation/ Childcare	<u>700</u>
TOTAL	\$28,500

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2001-2002 PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT

Prepared by Chapel Hill-Carrboro Resident' Council

WORK STATEMENT REQUIREMENTS	IS REQUIREMENT BEING MET?	COMMENTS
Provide youth development activities and leadership training for public housing children – minimum 20 children.	Yes	H.O.T. Youth Council membership is 9, Communiversity After School served 10, Journey Toward Womanhood served 7, (Holiday youth activities 138, working with associate agencies we served 54 others, Training includes problem solving, leadership development, culture enrichment, career development.
Recruit and supervise volunteers and supervise children who are participants in the youth development activities.	Yes	Provided training and orientation to UNC-NAACP, Big Brother, HPYE, and Black Student Program, Assisted in recruitment of Teen Climb High public housing youth, Communiversity participants,
Public housing children will be transported to the Library a minimum of two times per month.	No	The RC provided after school program through the Communiversity program, which provided UNC environment. We mail the Library monthly schedule and offers transportation to the YMCA at S. Estes Drive and Trinity Ct. after school centers. The HOT Youth Council currently meets monthly at Library.
Provide transportation for public housing residents to attend workshops and training programs that are of interest to residents.	YES	RC provided transportation to our regular and Executive Board meetings, Bridge the Gap Conference, community holidays events, and agencies programs
Publish and distribute a bi-monthly newsletter to public housing residents.	YES	Copies are submitted with quarterly reports.
Serve as liaison to the Department of Housing.	YES	Meet monthly with the Housing and Community Board, Housing Achieve Self Sufficiency Program, communicates regularly with Housing and Urban Development, Sykes Street Steering Committee, and Liaison for the Town through policy recommendations. We represent Housing on other agency boards and committees.
Conduct Residents' Council meetings at least 9 times per year, with the objective of an average attendance of at least 10 residents representing at least three communities.	NO	We distributed flyers to all apartments (36) each month. The schedule is placed in every newsletter bi-monthly. We provide mini workshops, transportation, refreshments, and childcare. The attendance varies according to the interest of the resident.
Of the 9 meetings, at least one must be an annual meeting attended with the objective of at least five communities being represented.	Yes	November 2001, we celebrated our 10 th year anniversary, with a 3-day conference; named Bridging The Gap there was 6 communities participated (18). Newly elected Mayor Kevin Foy guest speaker along with 10 other cities Residents' Councils. <u>2002 annual meeting will be held November 9th at S. Estes Drive Center.</u>
Of the nine meetings, at least one meeting, in addition to the annual meeting must be a social event to encourage participation.	Yes	Our social event is our Community Day held in August. There were 8 communities participated, and 5 agencies participated in the Resource Fair. OPC Mental Health, Leadership Girls received a mini tobacco grant to support the event youth activities and prizes.
Submit grant proposals with the goal of becoming self-sufficient.	Yes	Submitted grant proposals to Town Housing Department Capital funds, The Town Human Services and Community Development and Z. Smith Reynolds.

11/7/2002