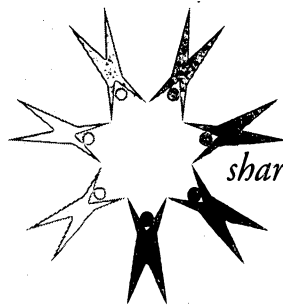


Department of Human Service Programs



sharing resources...building community

Jill Herold
Assistant City Manager

TO: Robert W. Healy
City Manager

FROM: Jill Herold
Assistant City Manager for Human Services

RE: Response to Consent Communication #011 of 2/24/97

DATE: March 24, 1997

Childcare

Commission for
Persons with Disabilities

Community and Youth

Community
Learning Center

Coordinating Council for
Children, Youth and Families
(Kids' Council)

Council on Aging;
Elderly Services

Low Income
Fuel Assistance

Multi-Service Center;
Homeless Services

Office of Workforce
Development

Planning & Development

Recreation

The Department of Human Services currently provides a range of services that are available and accessible to residents of Fresh Pond Apartments. Those services include:

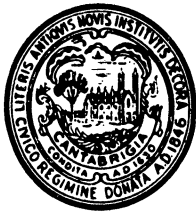
1. The North Cambridge Crime Task Force frequently holds monthly meetings at the Fresh Pond Apartments. Most recently the January meeting included a presentation by Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services on domestic violence. Additionally, the Governor's Alliance Against Drugs is supporting the work of the Task Force in expanding youth participation in crime and substance abuse prevention activities in which many Fresh Pond Apartment youth participate.
2. Through the ESL Network of the Community Learning Center, three Harvard undergraduates offer a number of on-site classes for Fresh Pond Apartment residents: three levels of ESL Monday to Thursday evenings, an ESL conversation group on a weekend morning, GED math Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings and two computer classes in the morning. The CLC provides training and referrals for the Harvard volunteers. Also, the CLC has recently done door-to-door outreach at the Fresh Pond Apartments to identify parents who would like an evening ESL class through the Center for Families of North Cambridge. The CLC expects to begin a class within the next few weeks.
3. The current membership of youth at the Gately Youth Center includes 12% from Fresh Pond Apartments.



4. The Fitzgerald Community School summer camp serves 25 children from Fresh Pond Apartments (23% of enrollment) and during the school year 16 % of the children serviced in the Community School enrichment classes are from Fresh Pond Apartments.

5. The Center for Families holds monthly meetings of the North Cambridge Family Services Alliance every month at the Fresh Pond Apartments and targets outreach to residents of the Apartments to participate in programs offered by the Center. Currently, Fresh Pond Apartment families participate in the Center's computer literacy class, a group for Latino parents and the newborn homevisiting program in conjunction with the public health nurses.

The manager of Fresh Pond Apartments reports that in addition to the Harvard volunteers referenced above, that the Art Therapy Institute provides four classes on site serving 40 young people. She reports that she is satisfied with the current range of programming currently offered at Fresh Pond Apartments and that the community or common space is fully utilized and unable to accommodate additional services at this time. She considers the previous Drug Elimination Grant through which the Department of Human Services provided on-site services to Fresh Pond youth to have been a great success and worked as it was intended to create partnerships with local service providers.



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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ROBERT W. HEALY

City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI

Deputy City Manager

March 31, 1997

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item Number 16, regarding funding for additional services for the Fresh Pond Neighborhood, please find attached a response from Jill Herold, Assistant City Manager for Human Services.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/dls
attachment

Consent Agenda #1

5-188

Relative to awaiting Report Item Number
Sixteen, relative to funding for
additional services for the Fresh
Pond Neighborhood.

In City Council March 31, 1997

Placed on file