



CANADIAN MENTAL
HEALTH ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
POUR LA SANTÉ MENTALE

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Application for One-Time Financial Assistance to Kelowna City Council

Request: Financial Assistance one-time grant comparable to what would be paid as a tax exemption for temporary transitional housing. CMHA Kelowna has been offered the use of the Willow Inn building from November 2007 through January 31, 2008 and possibly longer while it awaits demolition and redevelopment. We are requesting a grant as it is our understanding that Property Tax exemptions occur on an annual basis and this is a short-term one time only project.

Amount: Approximately \$7500 based upon \$2500 per month over 3 months to compensate Westcorp Properties Inc. for use of building.

Rationale: The Canadian Mental Health Association Kelowna branch is working in partnership with Westcorp Properties Inc. to provide temporary housing over the winter months to people looking for housing, who will be carefully screened to meet specific eligibility criteria.

Westcorp has made a commitment to CMHA Kelowna that they would delay going forward with the process of demolition of the Willow should CMHA Kelowna present a strong business plan in order to utilize the site as part of their homeless outreach programming. This use is permitted under the current zoning of the building.

Program: CMHA Kelowna will provide temporary housing at the Willow Inn from November through January 2008 for people who are committed to finding long-term housing solutions. The program will involve intensive case management and life skill development and support for people who are homeless but are prepared to do the work to find stable market housing by January 2008.

The program will entail 24 hour monitoring of the program clients and building. CMHA Homeless Outreach staff will oversee the program and assist people to build the bridge toward stable housing.

Resources: CMHA Outreach Services – 1 full-time Outreach Worker whose time will be dedicated to overseeing all aspects of the Willow Project this winter.
50 Tenant Starter Kits valued at \$500 per kit – with dishes, bedding, towels, cleaning supplies for people who are starting over.
Outreach Urban Health and Partners in Community Care committee who will assist with the support and monitoring of program participants.

CMHA Outreach Worker will be hired January 1, 2007 funded via PHAT-CO will focus on building relationships with landlords in our community and supporting them to house our clients.

UBCO School of Social Work has applied for a research grant to evaluate the effectiveness of this program.

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