

MEETING: 22/09/2016

Ref: 13357

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - English for Speakers of Other Languages

Baytree Centre

Adv: Shegufta Rahman

Base: Lambeth

Amount requested: £148,832

Benefit: Lambeth

Amount recommended: £108,900

The Charity

Baytree Centre (BC) is part of the larger charitable company Dawliffe Hall Educational Foundation (DHEF) which was established in 1979 to promote all round personal development for women, especially young women. Started in 1991, BC was originally a pilot project to develop services 'creating pathways towards social inclusion for inner city families through education and training programmes for women and girls'. DHEF operates a devolved management structure and BC has its own Management Committee and its own management accounts. BC can apply to DHEF for grant funding, and has received c.£100,000 of such funding from the parent charity over the last two years. BC is currently exploring the possibility of becoming its own independent charity.

The Application

BC is seeking funding for its English Breakthrough project which will support local women (recent arrivals, low income, non literate, immigrants and others) with pre-entry, Levels 1 and 2 English classes. Improved English language skills will enable the women to participate in the wider community and access mainstream services.

The Recommendation

BC has an excellent track record in providing good quality ESOL classes, as well as reaching out to 'hidden' and isolated individuals and communities. Although the parent charity is projected to end the current financial year with almost three times its reserves policy, BC is unable to access these funds, and is looking to separate from DHEF in order to operate as an independent charity. Any funding you might award would be payable to DHEF but would be a restricted fund for the work at BC. The amount recommended is at a reduced rate as you do not fund more than 1 FTE post.

£108,900 over three years (£36,300, £36,300, £36,300) towards the salary of ESOL tutors (36 hpw) and towards the part-time salary of a project coordinator (4 hpw) and associated project costs for the English Breakthrough project at the Baytree Centre.

Funding History

Meeting Date	Decision
03/10/2013	Applicant wishes to support an existing volunteering programme within its own Centre, which is outside your criteria.
25/11/2008	£105,000 over 3 years (3 x £35,000) towards salary and teaching resource costs of providing entry 1 and entry 2 level ESOL classes.
04/10/2007	Declined as the parent charity could use its reserve towards some or all of the costs.

Background and detail of proposal

Over the last 10 months, BC has received over 10 enquiries a week from women, community organisations, local schools and Lambeth College itself to deliver pre-entry, Level 1 and Level 2 for women who are not accessing any other services as their lack of language skills prevents them from so doing. The English Breakthrough project will help these local women to settle and access services, as well as reducing isolation. The ESOL classes will provide a much-needed foundation before students move into mainstream provision in Lambeth College or beyond.

BC emerged from community need, and it has three active user forums that report to its Management Committee. In BC's experience, many local women feel more confident accessing a women only centre due to culture, faith and personal circumstances. BC is the only women's community centre in the area serving women from all cultural backgrounds, and thus, fostering real integration.

Financial Information

The Baytree Centre operates as part of the wider Dawcliffe Hall Educational Foundation. The figures presented are those for this charity as a whole. Of the budgeted 2017 income of £1,792,760, £1,134,506 (63%) had been received as at August 2016.

The charity's actual reserves policy is a target of 3 months of operational costs which was £101,231 in 2015. They anticipate operational costs will remain around this level for both 2016 and 2016. Therefore reserves are even more over target than that shown using total expenditure below.

Cost of generating funds was £997 in 2015 as the fundraising was being carried out by volunteers. For 2016 and 2017, funds have been set aside to fund a full time fundraiser for Baytree.

The charity expects in 2016 and 2017 to operate at a relatively constant level with the exception of an expected increase in activity at the Baytree Centre and some costs due for building maintenance.

Year end at 31 December	2015 Audited Accounts	2016 Current Year Forecast	2017 Budget
	£	£	£
Income and Expenditure			
Income	1,780,813	1,794,760	1,792,760
Expenditure	1,168,039	1,387,663	1,468,975
Unrestricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	577,144	316,785	313,785
Restricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	35,630	90,312	10,000
Total Surplus / (Deficit)	612,774	407,097	323,785
Surplus / (Deficit) as a % of turnover	34%	22.7%	18.1%
Cost of Generating funds (% of income)	997 (0%)	42,000 (2.3%)	45,000 (2.5%)
Free unrestricted reserves			
Unrestricted free reserves held at Year End	963,543	1,280,328	1,594,113
How many months' worth of expenditure	9.9	11.1	13.0
Reserves Policy target	292,008	316,914	367,245
How many months' worth of expenditure	3	3	3
Free reserves over/(under) target	671,535	933,414	1,226,868