

## GRANT APPLICATION 2013/14 – ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

<b>Priority Corporate Outcomes</b>	To create better life chances for children and young people To offer personalised support to enable young people who are most at risk of not achieving their potential to close the gap with their peers; make a positive transition into adulthood; and prevent later difficulties	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>CHAVERIM YOUTH ORGANISATION</b>	ref 95/E/YTH
<b>Address</b>	20 Russell Gardens, NW1	

### Relevant policy, aims and objectives

The Corporate Plan and the updated 2010/11-2012/13 Children and Young People Plan reflect a focus on improving outcomes for Barnet's younger population, creating the conditions for children and young people to develop skills and acquire knowledge to achieve their full potential and lead successful adult lives, with support targeted at 16 to 24 year-olds who are not in education, employment or training and those who have disabilities or complex needs. Strategic objectives of the Youth & Community Service include commissioning, supporting and enabling the voluntary sector to develop a wide range of provision, building capacity for vulnerable young people to engage in positive extra-curricular activities.

Development of the Big Society in Barnet seeks to make greater use of local creativity and entrepreneurial spirit and help galvanize new citizen- and community-led projects to address local issues.

### Activities / proposal

Chaverim Youth Organisation (CYO) offers a range of recreational, social, sports and artistic programmes and vocational educational support for young people from the Jewish community aged 8 to 18. It is one of the few youth clubs to cater for orthodox Jewish families by offering single sex activities for boys and girls. It also runs a supplementary school service for young people who have been excluded from mainstream education. Having over 1,700 members throughout London, CYO developed from its original base (in Tottenham) to include a satellite centre in Golders Green in 2002. Its operation in Barnet, which is separately constituted, has more than doubled its membership to 800 following a move to larger premises in 2010.

Activities, delivered by a combination of paid and volunteer youth workers, include a homework club, counseling and fitness training. Upwards of 200 young people from Barnet, mostly boys, attend the centre-based activities on a weekly basis or use them for study purposes. There are also residential summer and winter camps. With the council's help, CYO trained 60 young people from the orthodox Jewish community last year to become qualified youth mentors in response to a wish for more peer support.

This application concerns a proposal to pilot a scheme of support specifically targeting vulnerable young people aged 14 to 17 from the orthodox Jewish community with complex problems who are at risk of disengaging from the education system.

The programme, to run for twelve months, will comprise weekly one-to-one, group and team sessions, bookended by two residential courses, and will feature a range of character-building activities designed to attract young people and maintain their interest. It will have capacity for 60 young people, to be identified and selected in consultation with parents, schools and other agencies. The aim, by equipping participants with lifelong skills and channeling their energy

appropriately, is to build self-confidence and demonstrate how their abilities and strengths may be channeled in a positive way, both for their own benefit and that of the community. Completion of the programme will be marked by the award of a youth accreditation and the chance to train as a peer mentor.

CYO is recognized for the quality of its youth work and the innovative ways in which it is delivered, such as by the training of young people to be mentors, reducing the reliance on paid staff to run some activities. The application is considered to be worthy of some support on the basis of how it distinguishes from the work of The Boys' Clubhouse, which focuses on helping disaffected young men from the orthodox Jewish community into work, whereas this proposal is more preventative in nature in line with corporate priorities.

**Cost and financial need**

CYO incurs annual expenditure of c£100,000 on running a year's activities. Up to 50% of annual income derives from regular support from the Jewish community, either as individual donations or grants from charitable trusts. The balance of revenue mainly comprises income from the imposition of fees and charges, which includes residential camps charged at full cost. The latest set of accounts supplied show that CYO incurred a loss of £697 in the twelve months to 30/9/2011, when the organization had net current liabilities of £716. The pre-audited accounts for 2011/12 show little material change in the overall financial position.

In 2001/12, CYO was awarded a one-off corporate grant of £4,000 towards the training of young people from the orthodox Jewish community to be youth mentors.

The budget presented for the pilot scheme is in the sum of £12,600. This includes the provision of residential accommodation (£4,000); trainers and facilitators; travel and volunteer expenses; other venue hire; equipment; management supervision; and overheads. Three charitable trusts have collectively agreed to contribute £4,100, leaving a shortfall of £8,500, equal to the grant request. A grant is sought effectively to enable CYO to subsidize the take-up of places as it is believed that 70% of families will be unable to pay the fee proposed of £175 because of family deprivation and poverty.

The budget makes no allowance whatsoever for income from fees, which is unrealistic, whilst some of the component costs, such as overnight accommodation and catering, are not strictly eligible for a grant.

The award recommended is a maximum sum to enable a 50% concession to be offered to up to 28 young people, subject to agreement on the criteria to be adopted, and is on the basis that bids to other funders to sustain the scheme will be strengthened by the demonstrable outcomes of this pilot.

**Grant recommendation, type and conditions**

**£2,500** (max) (from Edward Harvist Charity)

Start-up grant  
One-off grant

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**Special conditions:**

Payment of the award should be made subject to (a) agreement of an implementation plan for the pilot scheme and the criteria that will determine the award of concessions to applicants; (b) the return of any unused balance in the event of a shortfall in the number of applicants that qualify for a concession; and (c) the receipt of quarterly progress reports and an undertaking to provide an evaluation at the end of the programme.

**Target grant outcomes**

To improve the self-confidence, life skills and social/academic development and achievement of young people from the orthodox Jewish community with complex problems who are at risk of disengaging from the education system.

**Date:** May 2013