



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Parks & Community Services
505 Market Street, Suite A, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3300
www.ci.kirkland.wa.us

MEMORANDUM

To: David Ramsay

From: Carrie Hite, Deputy Director
Jennifer Schroder, Director

Date: July 9, 2009

Subject: Hopelink Correspondence/Funding Request

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council review the request from Hopelink, and give staff direction.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

On June 29, 2009 a letter from Hopelink was received at the City, addressed to Mayor Lauinger (see attachment). This letter is a request for additional support for 2009 in the amount of \$20,000.00 to be used to reestablish services at their new site.

As Council may recall, Hopelink has been searching for a viable Kirkland location to continue services. They have been located at the South Rose Hill Water District Building the past 2.5 years, with their lease agreement expiring on June 30, 2009. City Council recently authorized an extension for up to 6 months at this site. After securing a new location, Hopelink opted to extend their lease until August 15, 2009.

This request is for assistance in reestablishing their services and presence at their new location. Specifically, they would like funds for client outreach, setting up the new model of food distribution, and relocating staff to the new site.

Currently, we fund six programs at Hopelink, for a total of \$85,851 per year.

Attachment: Letter from Hopelink



Helping People. Changing Lives.

Hopelink's mission is to promote self-sufficiency for all members of our community; we help people make lasting change.

16225 NE 87th St. Suite A-1
Redmond, WA 98052

www.hope-link.org

425.869.6000

A Community Action Agency

June 25, 2009

Mayor Jim Lauinger
City of Kirkland
123 5th Ave.
Kirkland, WA 98033

RECEIVED

JUN 29 2009

CITY OF KIRKLAND
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Dear Mayor Lauinger:

After several years of searching, Hopelink has been able to secure a 10 year lease on a facility, located in the Totem Lake area of Kirkland. We are very excited about being able to continue serving families, seniors, and other individuals in the Kirkland area with even more impactful services, thanks to our plan for an integrated service center. As you know, we work with clients along a continuum: we are committed to continually improving the services we offer that not only help our clients move from crisis to stability, but also to support them longer term by providing them the opportunity to build personal, financial, educational and employment assets that provide a pathway towards thriving, and ultimately, self-sufficiency.

Hopelink's new integrated service center will be located in an 18,700 square foot building that will offer many of Hopelink's existing services in one location; bringing together of so many of our services in one building will allow clients to easily learn about and access all services they may need in a more convenient and seamless manner. The center will offer adult education, literacy, access to targeted financial services, employment programs, case management support, lifelong learning, emergency financial assistance and energy assistance in addition to the food bank.

In addition, we will pilot Hopelink's first food bank based on a "grocery store" model of food distribution at this site. This model will provide clients with expanded access to the new food bank, as we will be expanding the hours of its operation. Clients will be able to select food items from shelves and refrigerated coolers rather than passing through traditional food bank lines. We are very excited to be able to offer this "grocery store" model at the new site, as it will allow clients greater choice and the opportunity to select foods that are appropriate for their families' needs. It will also provide clients access to services in a way that respects their work, family and life commitments and gives them more flexibility in navigating their many responsibilities.

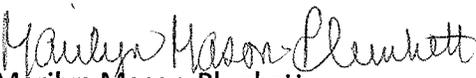
In order to make this happen, we need immediate assistance with the one-time cost associated with the current site operations in Rose Hill, to the new location. Thus, we would like to request a one-time financial assistance in the amount of \$20,000. These funds will be used to reestablish services in the new site. Specifically, we will use the funds for client outreach, setting up the new model of food distribution, and relocating

staff. If we are not able to raise the \$20,000 required for this move, we would need to use general donations, in turn requiring us to reduce the level of crisis support we provide next year. Given the current economy and increase demand for services, we are loathe to take that route.

As you know, Hopelink is committed to providing highest quality, continually improving services that best meet the changing needs of the families with whom we work. We thank you for your strong support of Hopelink programs and services during the current touch economic period and during all the past years. We look forward to strengthening our partnerships with all of you as we go forward from here.

Many thanks for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


Marilyn Mason-Plunkett
President & CEO