



# REPORT TO COUNCIL

## City of Sacramento

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915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604  
www.CityofSacramento.org

Consent  
January 6, 2009

Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council

**Title:** New FY2008/09 Ethel MacLeod Hart Trust Fund Projects

**Location/Council District:** Citywide

**Recommendation:** Adopt a **Resolution:** 1) approving the following new Ethel MacLeod Hart Trust Fund Projects for FY2008/09: a) Triple-R Sliding Scale Fee Subsidy in the amount of \$72,000; and b) Citywide Senior Information and Assistance Project in the amount of \$33,932.

**Contact:** Sylvia Fort, Division Manager, 808-8381; Rosanne Bernardy, Recreation Superintendent, 808-1590

**Presenters:** N/A

**Department:** Parks and Recreation

**Division:** Youth and Older Adult Recreation Services

**Organization No:** 19001721

### Description/Analysis

**Issue:** On April 22, 2008, the City Council approved the revised guidelines for the Ethel MacLeod Hart Advisory Committee. The Ethel MacLeod Hart Advisory Committee is responsible for providing guidance to staff and the City Council on the appropriate use of the Ethel MacLeod Hart Trust Fund that is consistent with the terms of the bequest and the intent of the donor.

As adopted by the City Council, the approved guidelines require that all appropriation of funds from the Trust Fund require the approval of the City Council. Staff is requesting that the City Council approve two new projects in FY 2008/09 recommended for funding at the November 24, 2008 meeting of the Ethel MacLeod Hart Advisory Committee.

**Policy Considerations:** Staff's recommendation is consistent with the Ethel MacLeod Hart Trust Fund Advisory Committee Guidelines.



The utilization of the Trust Fund for the delivery of programs and services to the senior population is consistent with the Council's identified strategic planning focus areas of public safety, sustainability and livability. Staff will adhere to all applicable procurement-related Sacramento City Code provisions and Administrative Policy Instructions when purchasing goods and services with the Trust Funds.

**Environmental Considerations:**

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):**

Staff's recommendation concerns administrative activities that will not have any significant effect on the environment and that do not constitute a "project", as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) {CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061 (b) (3); 15378 (b) (2)}.

**Sustainability Considerations:** The two new Hart Trust Fund projects for FY 2008/09 have been reviewed for consistency with the goals, policies and targets of the Sustainability Master Plan and the 2030 General Plan.

Staff's recommendations provide for local recreation activities for the community.

**Other:** N/A

**Commission/Committee Action:** The Ethel MacLeod Hart Advisory Committee voted to approve and fully fund these projects at its meeting on November 24, 2008.

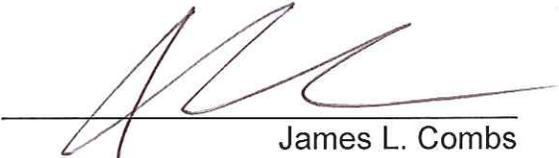
**Rationale for Recommendation:** The approved guidelines for the Ethel MacLeod Hart Advisory Committee establish criteria for projects to be recommended to the City Council for funding including:

- Construction and maintenance type projects including new, expansion and/or rehabilitation and facility upgrades;
- New, replaced or upgraded equipment and resource materials and supplies;
- Underwriting and/or subsidy for the enhancement and/or expansion of existing programs not to exceed three years in duration; and
- Underwriting and/or subsidy (seed funding) of new programs and/or projects addressing emerging or unmet senior needs not to exceed three years in duration.

The Ethel MacLeod Hart Advisory Committee is recommending two projects: (1) Triple-R Sliding Scale Fee Subsidy; and (2) Citywide Senior Information and Assistance Project. These projects are consistent with the approved guidelines, and City Council approval is required.

**Financial Considerations:** The total cost of the two proposed projects is \$105,932. The project funding strategy used for the Trust Fund is to utilize funds generated by the investment of the endowment over a five-year period to support appropriate projects during the following five-year period. The balance available for new projects during the current funding cycle (FY2007-2011) is \$233,813. Therefore, there is sufficient funding for the two projects as proposed.

**Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):** N/A

Approved by:   
James L. Combs  
Director of Parks and Recreation

Recommendation Approved:

  
Ray Kerridge  
City Manager

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**Attachment A****Background**

The Statement of Purpose and Guidelines for the Ethel MacLeod Hart Trust Fund Advisory Committee, as approved by City Council, outlines the mechanism and criteria used for funding projects by the Trust Fund. The Advisory Committee identifies and recommends various projects for funding to benefit older adults. In accordance with the guidelines, projects eligible for funding must be city sponsored and/or operated facilities, projects or services. Funds may not be used for ongoing operations.

The Hart Trust Fund Advisory Committee recommends allocating funds for the following new projects in FY 2008/09:

**A. Triple-R Sliding Scale Fee Subsidy Project Funds (\$72,000):** The Triple-R program is a fee-based program providing for the recreational and personal care needs of people with dementia while giving respite to family members in their demanding role as caregivers. The Triple-R program's extended hours Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. which allows working caregivers to continue with their careers while their spouse or parent attends the program. The program's growing operational costs have resulted in fees that many families cannot afford. The funding of a sliding scale system will allow for fee adjustments for families in need of service who do not have the financial resources to pay the full cost. An average of 22 families will receive fee adjustments each month (Exhibit A).

**B. Citywide Senior Information and Assistance Project Funds (\$33,932):** Although Sacramento has a strong network of government and community based services to support older adults, most residents have no connection to this network and, as a result, cannot benefit from it. For others who are familiar with the resources, help is often needed to sort through them all, make good decisions and arrange for services. The Citywide Senior Information and Assistance Project will provide one-on-one assistance to residents struggling with aging related life challenges. This program will provide walk-in, phone-in and scheduled appointments at several Parks and Recreation community centers each week (Exhibit B).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-**

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

January 6, 2009

**APPROVING ETHEL HART TRUST FUND PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008/09**

**BACKGROUND**

- A. The Statement of Purpose and Guidelines for the Ethel MacLeod Hart Trust Fund Advisory Committee, as approved by City Council, outlines the mechanism and criteria used for funding projects by the Trust Fund. The Advisory Committee identifies and recommends for funding various projects to benefit older adults. In accordance with the guidelines, projects eligible for funding must be city sponsored and/or operated facilities, projects or services. Funds may not be used for ongoing operations.
- B. The Hart Trust Fund Advisory Committee recommends allocating funds for the following two projects: a) Triple-R Sliding Scale Fee Subsidy in the amount of \$72,000; and b) Citywide Senior Information and Assistance Project in the amount of \$33,932, as described in Exhibits A and B.

**BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1. The following new Ethel MacLeod Hart Trust Fund Projects for FY 2008/09 are approved: a) Triple-R Sliding Scale Fee Subsidy in the amount of \$72,000; and b) Citywide Senior Information and Assistance Project in the amount of \$33,932.

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- Exhibit A - Triple R Sliding Scale System
- Exhibit B - Citywide Senior Information and Assistance Project

**Exhibit A****ETHEL MacLEOD HART TRUST FUND**  
**PROJECT ALLOCATION – 2009****PROJECT: Triple R Sliding Scale System****FUNDING PROPOSED: \$72,000**Program Description

The Parks and Recreation Department's Older Adult Services section initiated the Triple-R Adult Day Program in 1992 as a way to meet the recreational and personal care needs of people with dementia while providing respite to family members in their demanding role as caregivers. Triple-R is a cost effective community based service for people who have dementia but who are otherwise physically healthy and might instead be inappropriately placed in a medical setting or residential institution. This fee-for-service program has increased from a small twice monthly service staffed by volunteers to a 5-day-a-week program at three sites. The Triple-R programs' extended hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. which allows working caregivers to continue with their careers while their family member attends the program.

Hundreds of families have benefited from participation in Triple-R. However, the growing operational costs result in program fees that many families cannot afford. Grants and donations are continually sought to keep fees as low as possible. Families pay up to \$1440.00 per month to participate in Triple-R on a monthly basis, based on the number of days a person attends each week.

Project Proposal

It is proposed that \$72,000 be allocated from the Hart Trust Fund to support a Triple-R sliding scale fee system for a 12-month period. The system will allow for fee adjustments for families in need of service who do not have the financial resources to pay full amount. Details of the system are as follows:

- \$6,000 in adjustments to fees will be made each month to assist an average of 22 families in need with a maximum subsidy of \$500.00 per month per family.
- All families will pay something based on what they can afford.
- A Sliding Scale application will be provided to families who report an inability to afford program fees.
- The total amount of financial assistance provided to a family will be based on: 1) income; 2) family circumstances and need for respite (e.g. an elderly gentleman who is the sole caregiver for his wife vs. a family with many siblings to share caregiving duties for a parent); and 3) the severity of the dementia.

The Sliding Scale system will support Triple-R operations, allowing the program to continue as a good option for families of all income levels as they struggle to provide a high quality of life for their aging parent or other relative.

**Exhibit B****ETHEL MacLEOD HART TRUST FUND**  
**PROJECT ALLOCATION – 2009****PROJECT: Citywide Senior Information and Assistance Project****FUNDING REQUIRED: \$33,932****Project Background**

Thousands of residents of Sacramento ages 60 and above experience challenges associated with aging. These issues are wide ranging and can be related to deteriorating health, a change in housing needs, inadequate income, transportation and mobility problems, loss of family members and friends, and much more. For many seniors, these experiences are very new and their ability to cope and find resources is limited.

Although Sacramento has a strong network of services to support older adults, most residents have no connection to this network and, as a result, cannot benefit from it. For others who are familiar with the resources, help is often needed to sort through them all, make good decisions and arrange for services.

For the past ten years the Hart Senior Center has offered a program called ARMS (Assistance, Referral and More for Seniors) to provide one-on-one assistance to residents struggling with these aging related challenges. It is proposed that this model be replicated at city operated community centers as a way of making this service convenient for seniors living in other areas of Sacramento.

**Project Description**

This project involves establishing regular office hours by a trained staff member at a minimum of three locations. The staff member will have expertise in identifying needs and helping seniors resolve challenges they are facing. He or she will also be very familiar with local resources for older adults and will work with seniors on a one-time basis or for more extended periods, depending on the complexity of the client's situation. Walk-in, phone-in and scheduled appointments will be available.

Outreach will be conducted at senior residences, all city community centers, through city publications mailed to residents (utility bills, neighborhood newsletters, etc.) and religious institutions.

It is proposed that this project be funded as a one-year pilot project and thoroughly evaluated at year's end.

Funding Requirements

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Social Service Coordinator – 25 hrs/week | \$28,232        |
| Telephone                                | 1,300           |
| Office supplies and Printing             | 1,500           |
| Mileage                                  | 900             |
| Laptop, software                         | 2,000           |
| <hr/>                                    |                 |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>\$33,932</b> |

