

## Request for Decision

### Good Food Box Budget Option

Presented To:	Community Services Committee
Presented:	Monday, Sep 17, 2012
Report Date	Friday, Sep 07, 2012
Type:	Managers' Reports

### Recommendation

THAT, the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury considers the annual funding for the Sudbury Good Food Box Program in the amount of \$26,950 and directs staff to prepare a budget option during the 2013 budget deliberation.

### Finance Implications

If approved, a budget option will be developed for the Finance Committee for the 2013 budget deliberations in the amount of \$26,950.

## Background

The Good Food Box is a universal not-for-profit organization that provides fresh vegetables and fruit at wholesale prices.

Each month, customers pre-pay \$15 (large) or \$7 (small) for a box of fresh fruits and vegetables. A \$15 box contains about \$23 worth of produce, and a \$7 box contains about \$11- \$13 worth of produce.

The Good Food Box Coordinator places a bulk order through local distributors and producers. Food is then delivered to Christ the King Church where volunteers separate the variety of fruits and vegetables into individual boxes.

Each box contains the same mix of fruits and vegetables and there is at least one local food item in each box, with numbers varying by season. The boxes are always below market price.

The program has been supported by the Social Planning Council and the Sudbury District Health Unit. Boxes have been purchased by community and faith based groups as well as social service agencies for low income families, as access to low costing fruits and vegetables helps to create a healthy community.

### Signed By

**Report Prepared By**

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Director of Social Services  
*Digitally Signed Sep 7, 12*

**Division Review**

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**Recommended by the Department**

Catherine Matheson  
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**Recommended by the C.A.O.**

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The goals of the program are to:

- Ensure everyone has access to fresh, nutritious and affordable food
- Promote health and well being through food skills education
- Support local farmers and economy by promoting seasonal buying and eating
- Build a program that is economically and environmentally sustainable

The organization has come forward to request \$26,950 in annual funding to assist on sustaining the program and possibly expanding the program to improve the accessibility of fresh fruits and vegetables within the various communities of Greater Sudbury. Without the funding, the program will be at risk and may negatively affect the many individuals and families already accessing the program and relying on this food every month.

Since the inception of the program in 2009, the Good Food Box has sold 4,090 boxes taking into account that many of these boxes are shared amongst individuals and families.