

REGION OF OTTAWA-CARLETON  
RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

REPORT  
RAPPORT

Our File/N/Réf.  
 Your File/V/Réf.

DATE 25 April 2000

TO/DEST. Coordinator, Community Services Committee

FROM/EXP. Commissioner, Social Services

SUBJECT/OBJET **CS INQUIRY 26(00) - FAMSAC, AN EMERGENCY FOOD SERVICE IN NEPEAN**

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Community Services Committee receive this report for information.**

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the Community Services Committee meeting of 17 February 2000, Councillor McGoldrick-Larsen requested that staff review whether any assistance can be provided to FAMSAC, a volunteer run emergency food service in Nepean.

A letter distributed to Committee described that FAMSAC has been operating from a basement of St. Martin de Porres church in Bells Corners for 30 years. The number of families helped has grown from an initial 10 to an average of 100 hampers per month. Food hampers are generally delivered to the families. FAMSAC has been inappropriately using a handicap-access lift to help bring groceries in and out of the basement. It has become problematic for volunteers, mostly older retired individuals, to retrieve the food from the basement to then deliver it. FAMSAC needs to move to a new location that can be accessed directly by clients needing emergency food service or to a location with ground level access.

## DISCUSSION

FAMSAC currently is seeking help to find a new location and has approached the Region to this effect. The organization is actively exploring ways to access a new location and they have communicated with Nepean Housing Corporation, as well as establishing leads with a couple of realtors, and have approached the City of Nepean.

Social Services has been in contact with FAMSAC and explored ways the organization could resolve its relocation issue. Should the organization require operational funds in the future, the matter will be brought to the attention of the Community Services Committee.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

There was no public consultation for this report.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION

There is no financial consideration for this report.

CONCLUSION

FAMSAC has been in a position to operate without operational funds since it began its operations 30 years ago. The organization needs to move to a new location and may request Regional funds when it leaves its current rent free location.

*Approved by*

*Dick Stewart*