# CALIFORNIA HEALTH FACILITIES FINANCING AUTHORITY (CHFFA) BOND FINANCING PROGRAM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Applicant:** The Help Group ("THG") **Amount Requested:** \$6,000,000

13130 Burbank Boulevard Date Requested: June 25, 2009 Sherman Oaks, CA 91401 Requested Loan Term: 30 years Los Angeles County Resolution Number: 345

**Project Site:** Sherman Oaks Campus

13130 Burbank Blvd, Sherman Oaks, CA 91401

Facility Type: Mental Health/Developmentally Disabled

Community Care License

**Background:** THG is composed of seven affiliated non profit campuses that assist children and families with special needs by providing a wide range of mental health therapy. THG currently provides services in the Los Angeles area with seven specialized programs, while also providing therapy and residential programs.

**Use of Proceeds:** Bond proceeds will be used to renovate and equip a building that will provide a wide array of interdisciplinary services to children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

**Type of Issue:** Negotiated public offering with fixed rate securities

**Credit Enhancement:** Cal-Mortgage Insurance

**Underlying Credit Rating:** A/A2/A (Fitch/Moody's/S&P) with Cal-Mortgage Insurance

**Senior Underwriter:** Wulff, Hansen, & Co. **Bond Counsel:** Quint and Thimmig LLP

**Financial Overview:** THG's income statement appears to exhibit strong operating results with positive net income over the review period, coupled with seemingly healthy revenue growth. THG's balance sheet also appears solid with a solid debt service coverage ratio and growing net assets.

**Estimated Sources of Funds:** Estimated Uses of Funds:

Par amount of bonds \$6,000,000 Remodeling \$5,000,500

Debt service reserve 416,000 Bond insurance 310,000 Financing costs 273,500

Total Sources \$6,000,000 Total Uses \$6,000,000

**Legal Review:** No information was disclosed to question the financial viability or legal integrity of this applicant.

**Staff Recommendation**: Staff recommends the Authority approve a Resolution in an amount not to exceed \$6,000,000 for The Help Group, subject to a bond rating of at least an "A" category rating by a nationally recognized rating agency and final Cal-Mortgage Commitment.

### STAFF SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION The Help Group ("THG")

June 25, 2009 Resolution Number: 345

### I. PURPOSE OF FINANCING:

THG seeks this innovative project design to provide a lifeline of help, hope, and opportunity for the ever growing number of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). The creation of this center will provide the additional facility infrastructure needed for THG to offer a comprehensive and seamless system of ASD services.

Renovation and equipping building	\$5,000,500
THG plans to renovate and equip an approximate 28,000 square foot	
building located on 2.25 acres adjacent to THG's existing Sherman Oaks	
Campus. This center will house a state of the art autism facility serving	
children, adolescents and young adults with autism spectrum disorders	
that will include housing; a special education and therapy center; an	
autism research center; a training center for professionals and parents; a	
multipurpose room, and space for general administrative, therapy,	
mental health, psychiatric and counseling services. The building will	
contain 11 classrooms, 18 therapy and general administrative offices, 4	
multi-purpose rooms, and a well maintained campus with open play	
areas and landscaping.	
Debt Reserve Fund	416,000
Bond Insurance	310,000
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Financing Costs	<i>273,500</i>
Cost of issuance	
Underwriter expense	
Total Uses of Funds	<i>\$6,000,000</i>
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# II. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ANALYSIS:

# The Help Group <u>Statement of Activities</u>

(Unrestricted)

	For the Year Ended June 30,		
	2008	2007	2006
Revenue and public support:			
Revenue			
Program fees	\$ 58,148,296	\$ 54,738,473	\$ 48,630,773
Rental income	378,970	363,313	476,798
Interest income and other	1,012,215	732,308	483,429
Total revenue	59,539,481	55,834,094	49,591,000
Public Support			
Special events	1,172,385	1,152,824	1,534,970
Philanthropic support	1,476,772	1,094,705	949,914
Total public support	2,649,157	2,247,529	2,484,884
Total revenue and public support	62,188,638	58,081,623	52,075,884
Expenses:			
Program expenses			
School	33,347,649	32,362,217	28,574,260
Mental health	16,766,896	15,608,939	12,992,179
Residential	2,766,596	3,206,249	2,957,383
Foster care	-	-	146,672
Total program expenses	52,881,141	51,177,405	44,670,494
Functional expenses			
Supporting services	4,990,499	5,257,951	5,661,042
Fundraising	289,783	255,813	285,032
Total functional expenses	58,161,423	56,691,169	50,616,568
Change in unrestricted net assets	4,027,215	1,390,454	1,459,316
Unrestricted net assets, beginning of year	22,681,099	21,290,545	19,831,229
Unrestricted net assets, end of year	\$ 26,708,314	\$ 22,681,099	\$ 21,290,545

### The Help Group <u>Financial Position</u>

				As of June 30,	
			2008	2007	2006
ASSETS					
Current assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents		\$	5,053,906	\$ 3,559,176	\$ 1,403,556
Short-term investments			4,223,158	4,156,634	3,866,646
Accounts receivable			12,418,248	11,333,687	12,680,954
Current portion of assets limited as to us	e		2,046,293	2,346,943	2,318,915
Current portion of pledges receivable			135,000	145,000	157,918
Prepaid and other assets			808,767	584,686	522,724
Total current assets			24,685,372	22,126,126	20,950,713
Assets limited as to use, less current por	tion		4,278,402	4,031,154	3,837,232
Pledges receivable, less current portion			17,195	118,494	210,441
Property and equipment, net			36,753,273	36,775,176	35,822,942
Deferred financing costs, net			733,429	779,472	825,517
Other long-term assets			3,030,436	33,236	33,787
Total assets		\$	69,498,107	\$ 63,863,658	\$61,680,632
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS					
Current liabilities:					
Accounts payable and other current liab	lities	\$	2,528,789	\$ 3,281,863	\$ 3,930,450
Accrued payroll and benefits			3,670,396	3,040,027	1,798,239
Current maturities of long-term debt			1,154,244	1,123,184	1,162,369
Line of credit			2,750,000	-	-
Deferred revenue			276,904	390,317	665,833
Total current liabilities			10,380,333	7,835,391	7,556,891
Long-term debt, less current maturities			32,409,460	33,347,168	32,833,196
Total liabilities			42,789,793	41,182,559	40,390,087
NET ASSETS					
Unrestricted			26,556,119	22,417,605	20,922,186
Temporarily restricted			152,195	263,494	368,359
Total net assets			26,708,314	22,681,099	21,290,545
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSE	ΓS	\$	69,498,107	\$ 63,863,658	\$61,680,632
Financial Ratios:	Proforma (a)				
	FYE June, 2008		2008	2007	2006
Debt service coverage (x)	2.21	-	2.42	1.49	1.79
Debt/Unrestricted Net Assets (x)	1.45		1.22	1.49	1.57
Margin (%)			6.64	2.57	3.54
Current Ratio (x)			2.38	2.82	2.77

<sup>(</sup>a) Recalculates 2008 audited results to include the impact of this proposed financing.

#### **Financial Discussion:**

# THG's income statement appears to exhibit solid operating results with positive net income over the review period along with continued revenue growth.

THG's income statement appears to exhibit strong profitability over our review period with operating income remaining steady from \$49 million in fiscal year 2006 to \$59 million in fiscal year 2008. In addition, THG appears to have shown solid operating margins of 3.54%, 2.57%, and 6.64% for fiscal years ending 2006, 2007 and 2008, respectively. THG's revenues consist primarily of program fees that include various government contracts, accounting for approximately 89% of total revenues. The major government agencies are various school districts with Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), as well as Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH), and Department of Children and Family Services being the largest contributor of revenues. The remainder of revenues are provided by philanthropic support (9%), and interest and other income (1%) in fiscal year ending 2008. Total revenue increased from \$52 million in fiscal year 2006 to \$62 million in fiscal year 2008, an increase of 19%. THG attributes the increase to school program growth and contract with LACDMH growth in addition to community demand for program services. THG has demonstrated a healthy growth of interest income due to higher returns on investments. Approximately \$257,000 of the income given to THG by LAUSD was used to help defray any costs associated with updating a new computer system for data collection and billing, \$56,000 refund from insurance of THG's workers compensation carrier, and \$38,000 from over accrual of estimated expenditures in prior year associated to the collaboration with University of California, Los Angeles.

# THG's balance sheet also appears solid with a solid debt service coverage ratio and growing net assets.

THG's balance sheet appears to continue growth with total net assets increasing from \$21 million in fiscal year 2006 to \$26 million in fiscal year 2008, an increase of nearly 24%. THG attributes the increase primarily to the demand for program services. Cash and cash equivalent substantially improved from approximately \$1.4 million in fiscal year 2006 to \$5 million in fiscal year 2008 due to THG's strategic management decision to prepare for the recession. To accomplish this, THG made the decision to not fill vacant positions, increase control of expenditures, and focus on enhancing staff productivity. Long term debt also increased due to the purchase of property (approximately \$2.7 million) financed via a line of credit. Debt service coverage appears to be a solid 2.42x and with the proposed financing, will remain relatively unchanged at 2.21x, indicating that THG can likely manage additional debt.

#### III. BACKGROUND:

The Help Group comprises seven affiliated California nonprofit public benefit corporations including two non-participating agencies, Pacific Living and New Opportunity for Living. THG provides a broad range of programs and services, including mental health, therapy, counseling, special education and residential programs. The Help Group serves children, adolescents, adults and families with special needs related to autism spectrum disorders, learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder (ADHD), mental retardation, abuse and emotional problems. Programs are provided at one or more of the four major campuses located in Culver City, Sherman Oaks, Valley Glen, and Van Nuys. The individual Help Group corporations participating in the 2009 Series A Bonds are The Help Group Child and Family Center, New School for Child Development, Project Six, Summit View School and The Help Group West.

The Help Group began as a small speech and hearing center, incorporated in 1953, known as Children's Speech and Hearing Center (now known as The Help Group Child and Family Center). In 1975, Children's Speech and Hearing Center started a special education day school program as a pilot program. The pilot program was separately incorporated in 1978 as New School for Child Development. In 1980, Children's Speech and Hearing Center developed another pilot program to address the residential treatment needs of disabled youth. This pilot program was separately incorporated as Project Six in 1981. In 1995, Summit View School was established to provide special education day school programs for children and adolescents with learning disabilities. In 1999, The Help Group West was established to acquire, develop and operate the facility on the west side of Los Angeles to provide special education and therapy programs and services to young people with special needs and their families.

**Licenses and Contracts:** The Help Group's facilities are appropriately licensed by the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health as an out patient clinic and the California Department of Education. THG has a community care license and is also certified to participate in the Medi-Cal program.

#### Governance

Each of the Agencies is governed by a Board of Directors (the "Board") consisting of 12 voting members and one non-voting member. The terms of the elected directors are for one year and each Agency Board consists of the same directors. Directors may serve successive terms. The Board of Directors is responsible for the governance, policy making and oversight of the affairs of each Agency, and the appointment of the officers of each Agency.

# IV. UTILIZATION STATISTICS:

# **The Help Group**

	Fiscal Year Ended June 30,			
Agency	2006	2007	2008	
New School	464	530	538	
Summit View School	193	194	199	
Help Group West	335	368	438	
Average Attendance	993	1,092	1,112	
HGCFC				
DMH - Day Treatment Days	-	-	2,486	
DMH - Day Rehabilitation Days	13,327	10,085	9,319	
DMH - Other Service Hours	43,511	48,513	58,294	
DCFS - Wraparound Service Days	18,804	25,627	24,909	
Project Six Average Census	37.4	40.6	41.5	

HGCFC – The Help Group Child and Family Center DMH – Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health DCFS – Department of Children and Family Services

### V. OUTSTANDING DEBT:

# **The Help Group**

Long Term Debt	Original Issue <u>Amount</u>	Amount Outstanding As of 06/30/08*	Estimated Amount Outstanding after Proposed <u>Financing</u>
Existing Debt			
CHFFA Revenue Bonds, Series 1998A	\$17,275,000	\$13,020,000	\$13,020,000
CHFFA Revenue Bonds Series 2000A	17,620,000	15,060,000	15,060,000
Pacific Living Alternatives Notes Payable, 1993	241,930	349,088	349,088
New Opportunities for living Notes Payable, 1993	246,944	356,323	356,323
New School for Child Dev. Notes Payable, 2001	3,300,000	3,481,706	3,481,706
Notes Payable, 2007	1,275,000	1,275,000	1,275,000
Various Loans Payable		21,587	21,587
Proposed Authority Debt CHFFA Revenue Bonds, Series 2009		N/A	6,000,000
Total Debt		\$33,563,704	\$39,563,704
*Includes current portion.			

### VI. DUE DILIGENCE:

Due diligence has been completed with regard to the following items:

- Section 15438.5(a) of the Act (Savings Pass Through): THG properly completed and submitted the "Pass-Through Savings Certification," in addition to a narrative explaining how it intends to pass through savings.
- Section 15491.1 of the Act (Community Service Requirement): THG properly completed and submitted this certification and indicated that Medi-Cal and Medicare patients are accepted.
- Compliance with Section 15455(b) of the Act (California Environmental Quality Act): THG properly submitted documentation to the Authority demonstrating the proposed project has either complied with Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code, or is otherwise not a project under that division.
- Religious Due Diligence.
- Legal Review.