SPONSORED BY

Help Hope Live

Trusted Medical Fundraising®

NICU

Financial Hope Through the Gift of Giving

Tammy Simmons

THE FUNDING SPECIALIST

the FUNDING PROJECT

The NICU Funding Guide

Tamara Simmons

ISBN: 979-8-89443-220-5

The NICU Funding Guide, published by The Funding Guides, Inc.

Cover Artwork by Phil Studdard of flipdesignstudio.com
Layout and Design by Katie Barone, Barone Advertising and Design LLC

Disclaimer

The NICU Funding Guide does not guarantee funds will be raised or that the reader will become a recipient of any funding source; rather, I provide general information about fundraising as a service to the community. The information contained in this book is not a recommendation, referral, or endorsement of any resource, therapeutic method, service provider, or funding source. Tammy Simmons is not responsible for any information or services provided by third parties. You are urged to use independent judgment when utilizing the information provided in this book.

Dedication

I can't tell you how many times since I started writing this book that I've sat down to write this dedication. I would walk away to come back to it later, because I have so much to say about a very special man who I miss every day, my dad, Dale Joseph Honeyman. I finally decided that I really only need to say one thing: He was the best dad ever!

You will see as you read through my book that my dad and mom bought our family a bike store just about 50 years ago. My mom, Nancy Sagert Honeyman, is 87 years old and still works at our store every day. I could really write a book on all they have done in their lives, but really I just want to also say I have the best mom ever!

Now, this book is about fundraising, so let's talk about that and what my parents instilled in us about giving back to help others. I never really thought about it until I started writing this dedication.

My family formed a nonprofit organization, Project Mobility, over 22 years ago to provide adaptive cycling for those with disabilities. Through all of it, our parents never missed one of our fundraising events, and it was the only time my dad would wear a t-shirt or hoodie with words on it. If I could only take one thing away from all the events we put on, it would be the feeling of looking up during our presentations and seeing the look of pride on my parents' faces as they watched us, and later some of their grandchildren. That is something I will never forget and will always hold dear to my heart, how proud they were of all of us.

Table of Contents

Preface

A Note from the Author

It's kind of a funny thing... If you'd told me ten years ago that I'd be an author, I'd have bet you a million dollars it would never happen. Yet here I am, writing another book.

I can't say that I like writing very much, probably because I have to work so hard at it. But I know how to get **free money** and I love teaching families about money available to help their children. I especially love showing them how easy it can be to get that money once they know how.

When I was writing my first book, *The Disability Funding Guide*, I thought there was no way I could do it. Then I remembered my amazing Grandma Vaughn, who is my inspiration, and decided, "What the heck? I'm going to do this because she'd have been so proud of me.

I love talking about my Grandma Vaughn and explaining that she was one of Chicago's first female police officers, back in the day when police would walk the beat. Just being a police officer is such a big deal, but to be a woman officer back then — I'm talking 1947! How cool is that?

There are so many things Grandma Vaughn did in her lifetime. She was selected to compete in pole vaulting for the Olympics, and she was also a semi-professional bowler. To this day, I remember a newspaper article that hung, framed, in her foyer. It was a photo of her after she's bowled a perfect game. She bowled a 300!

Every time I looked at that photo of her rolling the ball down the alley; I thought, "Wow, she was one strong and powerful woman." I wanted to be just like her!

She also started a bowling program for troubled youth in Illinois. It helped so many teenagers back in the day.

Who'd have thought bowling would have such an impact on kids, but it did. it was quite a successful program.

While she accomplished many more things in her lifetime, the thing that meant the most to her was starting Crimestoppers here in St. Charles, Illinois when she retired. (Crimestoppers is a way to safely report a crime while remaining anonymous.)

The only time I ever saw her cry was when she was 86 and she'd realized that, because she was losing her eyesight, she was no longer able to write the reports. After 20 years of answering Crimestoppers phone calls, she made the hard decision to hand the role over to someone else, and it was the hardest thing she ever had to do. She'd beaten throat cancer, terrible arthritis, and more, but she couldn't beat this.

Grandma Vaughn was also quite the writer. She and my grandfather wrote for many publications through the years. I remember the Exacto knife and lining individual letters up on lined paper for print in a magazine. Just think how far magazines have come!

How I wish my Grandma Vaughn was still here. I sure could use her expertise!

I know she'd have loved hearing that I wrote a book, and now a second book. Grandma Vaughn would be so proud of me and that in and of itself is truly enough for me!

If you're wondering why I'm talking so much about my grandma in a book about funding for NICU kids, there are a few very good reasons. One is that my publisher told me that readers need to get to know me a bit so they can relate to me, and more importantly, to trust me.

Everything I've done to help families and every lesson I teach comes from the important lesson I learned from my grandma: ***Don't take No for an answer!*** *If you get a No, you keep going until you get a Yes!*

You can do it and it is possible!

The other thing I've learned along the way is that many of the parents who I've helped didn't think they could do it, and each time a parent says that to me, it takes me back to Grandma Vaughn and how she never took no for an answer.

By picking up this book, you've already taken the first step toward getting the products or services your NICU child needs that insurance won't pay for.

You'll soon see that I refer to our sponsors quite often throughout this book, on my website, in emails, and my social media posts. The reason I can write my second book is because of the support I get from those companies, and they're part of the reason that you're reading a book that can help you on your Fundraising Journey!

These generous folks have products or services that have helped many children and that your child may need, so when you're making a purchase, please check out what they have to offer.

Once you read the book and learn my 13-step process, you'll see how easy it is to get free money for a worthy cause — and just wait 'til you're successful for the first time. **You'll be unstoppable!**

I'd love to hear about your experience with *The NICU Funding Guide*. It would be great to know what worked for you and what didn't so I can make changes in future editions that will help others even more. Each month I send out a newsletter that provides a new funding source that's not in my book, so please sign up to receive those updates.

Social media is another good way to keep in touch and let me know how things are going with your fundraising. You can find me on Facebook and Instagram, and I'm always looking for new tips and funding sources so I can help more families, so be sure to post about your victories and discoveries! And be sure to share *The NICU Funding Guide* with your friends and family. Every success story I tell helps another family, so please share!

Let's all help each other. We all have the same goal,
TO HELP OUR KIDS!

Foreword

Kathi Brummet

Note from the Author

Kathi has been my biggest supporter since the very first day I showed her my first book in 2015. When I need any help she is always there and always with an answer. Over 10 years ago on a Sunday afternoon she came to one of my fundraisers and we hit it off and have been friends ever since. The most exciting part, we both started having grandkids at the same time. She now has 5 under the age of 6 and I have 4 under the age of 6. So when her last grandchild was born and was in the NICU I knew I wanted to have the baby's mom, Kelly, tell her story.

Hope - Grief - Celebration - Challenge - Fear - Support

These are all words that describe the emotions of a NICU family. Life in the "neonatal intensive care unit," the NICU, is never easy. While these precious little ones fight to stay alive, their parents are struggling too, often finding it hard to eat and sleep, always wanting to stay close to their newborn. It's a confusing and extremely stressful time with a constant rollercoaster of events. Breathing and fighting infection, maintaining body temperature, and tolerating feedings for weight gain are only some of the daily battles NICU babies face. Infants born too soon may stay in the NICU for days, weeks, and even many months. The road is seldom easy, even after discharge.

Most babies go home with feeding tubes, breathing machines, oxygen, monitors, or other scary, invasive equipment that include alarms and beeps sounding throughout the night. Parents find themselves scheduling endless appointments with specialty doctors and NICU follow-up teams. There are so many unanswered questions; will my baby ever sit, crawl, walk, breathe on his own, eat by mouth, talk, clap, and even see? And...how will we pay for all these services, specialized care, and equipment?

Life is different now.

There is HOPE! As a dedicated author with deep insight into the funding dilemma, Tamara 'Tammy' Simmons recognizes this void. Over ten years ago, I had the extreme privilege of meeting Tammy, a woman dedicated to this cause. Her first book provided a method that helped families of children with physical and/or cognitive challenges access funding for necessary equipment to ensure that these kids go beyond living, to THRIVE! Tammy has even navigated funding for many of the children from our hospital to have their very own adaptive bikes. This was a dream come true for all of us!

Now Tammy has used her personal and professional expertise to design a resource guide specifically focused on helping NICU families. "The NICU Funding Guide" and "NICU Fundraising Care Package" are Tammy's newest accomplishments. Her national support and years of research have unlocked the funding mystery and given families a roadmap to access these much-needed resources. I applaud Tammy's unwavering mission to helping our children. Tammy is always reaching for the STARS, and our lucky NICU babies are those

stars! Thank you, Tammy, for your time, dedication, passion, and many sleepless nights spent bringing this dream to fruition. You are one in a million!

Kathleen F. Brummet
(Grandparent of a 23-week NICU Graduate)
Education Specialist, Department of Rehabilitation and Development
Advocate Children's Hospital,
Oak Lawn, Il

Grandparent to Ellie,
Micro-Preemie, NICU Graduate

Proud to Partner with The Funding Project

Navigating a loved one's life-changing medical diagnosis is physically, emotionally, and financially overwhelming. When that loved one is an infant or child, the burdens can become even more overwhelming. At *Help Hope Live*, we know what it feels like to face these burdens.

For more than 40 years, we have been a compassionate source of help and hope for families facing a healthcare crisis. We want to make sure you are never alone on this journey.

As our nonprofit partners with families for trusted medical fundraising, we hear the questions that loved ones ask during a medical crisis:

- Am I alone in my experiences?
- How am I going to afford this?
- Where can I find help?
- How do I know which resources I can trust?

Knowing just how difficult it is for families and supporters to find the answers, our nonprofit jumped at the chance to be part of a solution by partnering with our friends at The Funding Project on this critical resource.

Since 1983, we have upheld a parallel mission to The Funding Project: to bring relief and resources within reach for parents, caregivers, and supporters, and to help families overcome financial barriers to care.

We know firsthand the fundraising can be life-changing. However, we also know that one of the unfair frustrations that loved ones face is researching and vetting their options for key financial lifelines, including fundraising platforms.

The last thing families and supporters should have to worry about is how to pay for care and healing—or whether the financial resources they find are truly their best options.

Like The Funding Project, we believe that life-changing and trusted resources like ours shouldn't be a best-kept secret. They should be widely available for every single family, caregiver, and medical professional to share with confidence.

It takes a village to care for an infant or child living with a life-changing diagnosis. We know from decades of experience that finding trusted resources and becoming part of a community of support can create so much more than financial help.

- It creates a sense of belonging—a feeling that you are not alone during the most overwhelming moments of your life.
- It creates an emotional lifeline—connecting you to the love and strength your community of support can offer you.
- It creates hope.

We believe in lifting out-of-pocket financial barriers that stand in the way of your child's care, healing, and thriving. However, we know that finding hope requires more than just financial help.

We've seen how caring communities and trusted resources can create a new way forward for families, offering a glimpse of a brighter, healthier, and more hopeful future.

We believe in that way forward.

That's why we are so proud and grateful to have the chance to participate in The Funding Project's efforts to bring trusted, verified, and supportive resources like our nonprofit within reach for families and supporters.

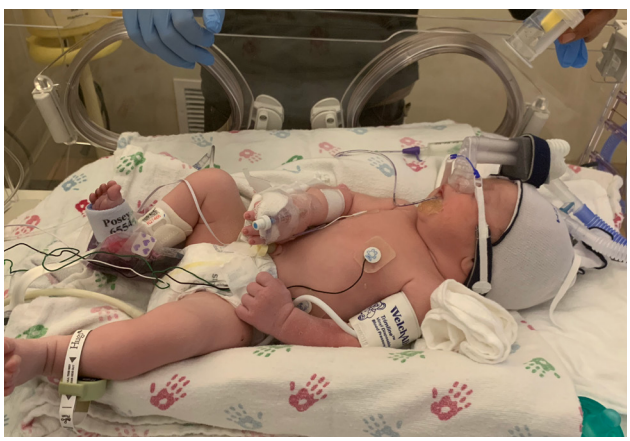
No matter what you are facing right now, you are not alone.

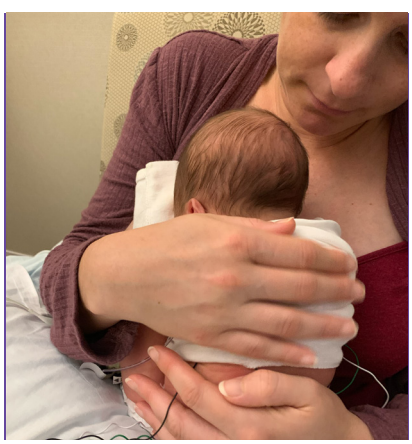
Let this guide be your first step towards finding trusted help and new hope in your time of need.

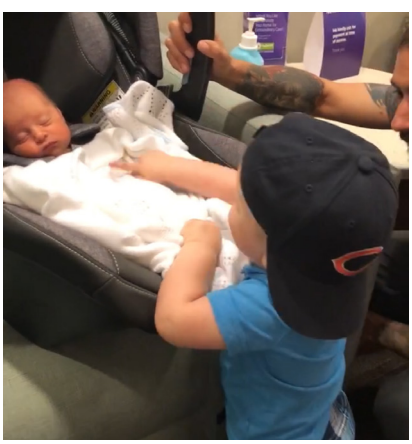
Kelly L. Green
Executive Director, *Help Hope Live*

Voices from the NICU

This book's mission is to help families facing the challenges of having a child in the NICU. Nobody can speak to those challenges better than those who've been there. The opening chapter, Voices From the NICU, contains letters, testimonials, and remembrances from a variety of NICU professionals and parents. While some of these stories come from family, others are friends and NICU partners I've met through the years. Each of these is amazing. They're included to let you know that you're not alone in this journey and that along the way you'll be surrounded by incredible, supportive people.







Katie McManigal

Note from the Author

Katie is one of my most favorite people, not only is she one of the kindest, caring people I have ever met, she was instrumental in healing my daughter from a complex medical issue. I am forever grateful to her for all that she has done for my family. Not only is Katie's story as a NICU nurse in this chapter, but she was also nominated to the Owl Award for all that she does. I am so happy she finally has her own practice, and now a second baby on the way!

My name is Katie McManigal. I'm a family nurse practitioner. I live in Naperville, IL and I own and operate a functional medicine clinic in the Western Suburbs of Chicago. Functional medicine focuses on getting to the root cause of people's symptoms and ailments and aims to achieve optimal health in patients by looking at the body as a whole unit with many moving parts that need proper nutrients and support to do their best to synergistically work together in keeping the body as healthy as possible.

I worked in the NICU as an SNA (Student Nurse Assistant) at what was then Children's Memorial Hospital when I was in nursing school. I'd always known I wanted to work with children and I had dreamed

of working at Children's Memorial. I listened to their radiothon every year as a child and was inspired by the stories of children and families who were fighting so hard for their health and wellbeing. I wanted to be part of this incredible cause, to give young children a chance at a healthy and prosperous life, and to recognize through end-of-life care the importance of honoring and respecting the lives that they lived and the purpose each of those tiny lives held when that wasn't possible.

Now that I'm a parent myself, I can only imagine what the families I served went through. Physically, emotionally, financially ... the list goes on. The NICU is a world that you can't understand until you've experienced it. Parents' reactions would range from shock to sadness. They were overwhelmed, exhausted, and often desperate. As nurses, we were privileged to help these families understand their child's diagnosis and to show them how to care for and advocate for their child. We watched their roles evolve as they became their children's biggest cheerleaders and advocates.

There are so many things you don't consider until you're in those shoes. Paying for gas to get to the hospital daily. Worrying about extra time off of work. Not having enough maternity leave left once your child comes home from the hospital. Deciding what to do with siblings while one parent is working and the other is trying to be at the bedside. Or sacrificing being at the bedside because you need to care for your other children. Not to mention, these mothers just gave birth. They're recovering from births that are often traumatic in NICU situations. Recovering from birth is difficult in and of itself with the pain, decreased mobility, hormonal changes, and recovery that the body is going through. You then throw immense amounts of stress, exhaustion, and being overwhelmed into the mix.

I imagine for parents, the hardest part is that there are so many unknowns. You have to sit back and trust the process, hoping that things will work in your child's favor and knowing that if they don't, you have to roll with those changes and face them head-on. It's a helpless feeling to sit at the bedside and know you don't have control over keeping your child safe and healthy and having to put your trust in people you've just met who you hope can fill that role. Some families had amazing support systems, while others were single mothers with no support in sight. That said, the hospital support systems were fantastic. The social workers especially worked hard to ensure that families had what they needed when it came to financial support, transportation support, emotional support, and philosophical support.

The whole experience was inspirational. Most importantly, watching the fight in those tiny babies and seeing what they endured really changed my perspective on life. To this day, when I am stressed or overwhelmed, I think of some of my primary patients and how incredibly strong they were, how much they endured, and the grace their families carried through those incredibly difficult situations.

Transportation, finances, parental leave, and support systems: these are all challenges that NICU families face. Additionally, being in the NICU can be very isolating. People don't know what to say or how to help. Sometimes it can feel like people abandon you, or even that you just don't relate to people the way you used to now that you've had this perspective change in life. One big challenge is leaving the hospital with a child who has significant medical needs. The hoops that needed to be jumped through to get insurance to adequately cover home care, the overwhelming burden on a parent having to learn to do the job of the nurses and doctors at home —administering med-

ication, changing trach ties, performing medical procedures. And then finding adequate nursing care at home for these children. Those are some very challenging issues that families with medically complex children face.

Our hospital provided counseling, support, and resources for families when it came to financial support. They really did an amazing job of this. It didn't take away the challenges, but it gave parents a road map for how to navigate the challenges.

My perspective in life is forever changed by the babies I cared for. Things bother me less, and I value each and every moment with my healthy child ... even the hard moments. Because I know how many parents would give anything to have those same kinds of hard moments with their baby. It made me see the world differently. Nothing is promised or guaranteed, and when life throws challenges your way, the only choice you have is in how you respond. Doing so with grace and gratitude can make a difficult situation more bearable. Working in the NICU also contributed to what I do today. It made me want to understand what in our society can contribute to illness, birth defects, preterm birth, etc. My shift to functional medicine was about how we can change the family unit to set people up for optimal health and help them navigate the environment full of toxins that we're exposed to daily.

The changes that I saw in parents from their first days in the NICU

were amazing: the empowerment, the education, watching them learn how to care for their children, and how to advocate and ask the right questions. Watching them grow to understand how to connect with their child was really special. It can be difficult to form an initial bond when you don't get that 1:1 connection, and honestly, when you don't know if your child is going to survive. It can be a survival mechanism to be detached. So watching that bond form was really special.

You can't change or control what life presents you with, but you can control the way you respond to it and the positives you create; to do your best to continue to focus on your own needs when you can because you can't pour from an empty cup.

Kathryn (Katie) McManigal
Co-Founder and Medical Director
Functional Medicine and Health Optimization
Peak Health Institute, Warrenville, Il

PEAK HEALTH
INSTITUTE

Letter Honoring the NICU Nurses

Note from the Author

I had just found out that Katie McManigal used to be a NICU nurse at Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago at an appointment with Katie. I asked her if she would like to tell her story in my NICU guide. She was excited to do that for me. Then I needed a picture of Katie for the book for her chapter and someone in her office saw the letter nominating Katie so they sent it to me. It was honoring Nurses in the NICU, being these nurses are heroes to these families I knew I had to put the letter from Audra in this chapter, first honoring the Nurses and because she wrote a book to help parents with the loss of a child. I had a great call with Audra and learned so much about how they were able to get through their grief, hopefully her book can help anyone who needs it.

Being admitted to the NICU is terrifying and life-changing. We have much greater respect for every Neonatal Intensive Care Unit worker after having seen what they truly do for patients and their families. There's a unique relationship that's formed between nurses and the families, patients, and doctors they work with. This can be emotionally draining, as they serve as a buffer between families grappling with things beyond their control, and it's physically exhausting too: it's a tough job that requires hours on their feet tending to numerous patients on the floor.

In recognition of these challenges, I am nominating Katie McManigal

for the Owl Award. Katie is an exceptional nurse who handles her tough job seamlessly. She is a true leader and one of those people who changed our lives. We cannot thank her enough for all she did for us and our son.

Our son Aidan was born with a diaphragmatic hernia in November 2015. A diaphragmatic hernia is when there's a hole in your diaphragm that causes the intestines to move into the chest cavity. It causes problems with the lungs and heart because they have no room to grow. Aidan spent five months in the NICU. To say it was intimidating when we first saw him in the NICU is an understatement. There were at least nine different medications administered through various IVs. He was intubated, received Nitric Oxide, and hooked up to blood pressure and heart monitors. I felt helpless, scared, and alone.

No one outside the NICU knows what you are going through. The worry about whether my child was going to make it, how I could afford all this, and how I could manage taking care of my other child while also being in the NICU, was constant. But when I looked past the wires, I saw Katie gently caring for my baby. She had a way of making me feel calm, capable, and involved. She gave me some control in caring for Aidan, which is amazing because so much of what happens in the NICU is out of your control. She had me changing his diaper, doing his oral care, and in time holding him skin-to-skin. Words cannot describe what Katie means to our family. She's an amazing nurse. She is compassionate, smart, patient, and dedicated. Leaving the hospital without your child is difficult, but Katie tending

to Aidan made the experience easier. I never worried when she was around because I knew how much she loved him. She answered our endless questions, comforted us on the bad days, and celebrated with us on the good ones.

Katie possesses humility. As C.S. Lewis said, “Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it’s thinking of yourself less.” She would go hours without so much as a bathroom break if Aidan needed her attention. This is more than a job to her, and he was more than a patient. I remember Katie went out of town at one point during his stay and she gave me her number because she said she needed updates on her “little rockstar.” It was then that I realized how much our son was loved. She recruited other nurses to sign on to be his primaries so Aidan could have more consistency in his care. If Aidan got fussy or struggled at the end of her shift, she would hold him while giving reports. She constantly stayed after her shift ended if she thought he needed extra attention.

Katie is very respected by her colleagues and would offer suggestions at rounds of different things we could try: She knew what he was capable of when others weren’t sure because his needs were atypical. Katie thought critically, observed keenly, and practiced skillfully, but most of all she loved Aidan like her own. Even after discharge, she kept in contact to check his progress.

In 2019, Aidan's health was declining. He developed pulmonary hypertension caused by his diaphragmatic hernia. The hypertension medications he was on weren't enough anymore and he required more oxygen. I remember his final week in the hospital, messaging Katie to let her know. Once again, she was there for us, just like she was from Day One. She prayed with us, offered advice, and comforted us when he passed on September 14, 2019. To this day, I emphatically believe that he survived for three years because of her. She advocated for him in the NICU and ultimately gave us the determination to provide him a life without limits and time so he could live fully.

Aidan's story cannot be told without mentioning Katie. We thank God every day for her and the nurses like her on the floor, but I am nominating her for this award because she served as our shepherd in a dark time and went above and beyond her nursing duties.

When Aidan transitioned to heaven, we were left as grieving parents to three children. We prayed intensely to God for strength, understanding, peace, and comfort. As we grieved and worked to understand God's plan, we began seeing signs from Aidan all around us. These visits helped us understand the everlasting life of the soul.

I felt Aidan's story wasn't over and there was more we could learn from him and share with others. I found profound comfort and healing while writing my children's book, *Wherever I Go*, which is meant to provide comfort to anyone who has experienced inconsolable loss. Its simple lyrical text reminds readers of all ages that if they look at nature's splendors, they'll see that their loved one's spirit is always with them, tucked safely inside their hearts forever. It is available on Amazon.

Wherever I Go
Written by Audra Cronauer
Mom to Aiden

Kristi, Mom to Jaxon

Note from the Author

My family's nonprofit organization, Project Mobility was having our annual Adaptive Bike Giveaway contest. At that same appointment I asked Katie if she knew of any children that were NICU graduates that could use an adaptive bike. She said I have the perfect child. "I had him in the NICU when I was an nurse at Lurie's." So Kristi, his mom called me and I gave her the information to enter her son, Jaxon. When I found out that he had been in the NICU for 3 years I was beyond excited for him to have a chance to ride a bike for the first time. Let's just say, Jaxon who got his very own adaptive bike at the age of 10 was smiling from ear to ear riding a bike for the first time. It was awesome being part of that special day for Jaxon and his family.

My name is Kristi. I'm a teacher and my husband Ray is a machine operator. We are the parents of Jaxon, who is 10 and is currently homebound for school, and his sister is nine and her name is Aireanna.

Complications with my pregnancy with Jaxon started early on, but by the time I was 21 weeks pregnant, I went to the hospital for bleeding and was told that my water had ruptured. I was told they would not take lifesaving measures for my son before 24 weeks and was sent home on bed rest.

At 23 weeks, I was admitted to the hospital due to contractions.

Each day a doctor would come into my room and tell us Jaxon's odds of survival if he was born on that day. On April 14th, the doctor said I had lost so much blood that I needed a blood transfusion; if I were to go into labor, it would not be safe. Shortly after the transfusion, I became ill. The nurse called for the doctor, and that's when they prepped me for an emergency c-section. They started me on a magnesium drip, and shortly after I was whisked away to the delivery room.

Jaxon was born at 24 weeks, weighing 1lb, 15oz. He was rushed to the NICU, where he was intubated and put on a ventilator and oxygen. The doctors informed us that his chance of survival was slim, and at three days our little fighter underwent his first of nine surgeries: that one was for a bowel blockage that needed repair and led to him needing an ostomy bag for three months. From that day forward, Jaxon faced numerous obstacles and many surgeries. At 5:30 a.m. on August 28, 2013, the phone rang. It was the doctor, telling us Jaxon was not doing well and that we should get to the hospital ASAP because they weren't sure he was going to make it.

We rushed to the hospital, but as we arrived, they were preparing him to be transported to Lutheran General: Jaxon had pulmonary hypertension and needed nitric oxide, which his current hospital didn't have. Upon his arrival at Lutheran, Jaxon coded. We watched and prayed as they resuscitated him. During his stay at Lutheran, he

received a tracheostomy along with other surgeries. He coded constantly, showing no improvement. We fought to get him transported to a children's hospital in Chicago, and on December 5, 2013, that finally happened. He was transferred to the Children's Hospital NICU, where he continued to receive extreme interventions. The doctors couldn't figure out why Jaxon was not improving — why his lungs weren't growing or healing — so they decided to complete a Positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP) study that showed the doctors the amount of PEEP he would need to keep his lungs open. He went from a Positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP) of 8 to 22. With a PEEP that high, his body couldn't handle the increase in pressure: it needed to be dropped to 21. While we were hopeful the increased peep would help, it brought a new set of challenges. His lungs were overinflated, and this caused more damage to his lungs.

Jaxon's first birthday was quickly approaching, and we had been told that most kiddos go home around their first birthday, but not Jaxon. We would celebrate his first three birthdays in the hospital. Shortly after his first birthday, he was transferred to the PICU. While there, he continued to require extremely high ventilator settings, and that prevented him from being able to be weaned from ventilator support. His lungs were getting worse. He coded frequently and was on heavy sedation. Jaxon fought infection after infection, and shortly after his second birthday we were pulled into a room and told it was time to think about letting him go — that he would never leave the hospital, he would have no quality of life, and he was suffering. My husband and I were devastated. No one wants their child to suffer, but how could we stop fighting when Jaxon was still fighting? The doctors said there was nothing left for them to do and that his body would outgrow his lungs. We asked for second opinions but got no better prognosis: we were told he was just too sick.

We reached out via social media and shared our story, and a lady reached out and gave us the number for Dr. Hanna at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). I called and he picked up the phone, then talked to me about his work with kids like Jaxon. He told us that if we ever wanted our son to leave the hospital, we needed to implement an elaborate plan that he had used on other patients, but we needed a doctor at his current hospital who was willing to implement it, as Jaxon could not be transported. Many of the doctors in Chicago said they would not implement this plan because it wasn't published in a book, but when you have no other options, what's the harm?

By the grace of God, one amazing, loving, charismatic doctor came in and said he would do it: he would take Jaxon under his wing. Dr. Smith and the doctor from CHOP discussed what needed to be done. Jaxon was paralyzed and sedated for a little over a month to allow his lung tissue to heal. He would lay prone for half of the day during which time they would allow his oxygen saturation to stay at 82. While sedated they were able to wean his ventilator settings for the first time ever, and on September 1, 2015, Jaxon was finally able to transition from the hospital ventilator to the LTV vent (home vent), something that he had never been able to tolerate before. Home vent meant the possibility of home. Though Jaxon was maxed out on the home vent, he was on it, so we decided it was time to take him home.

We told his team we were going to prep to get him home. We began our home training and searched for nurses. On May 17, 2016, we took Jaxon home for the first time ever. The doctors and nurses lined the hall to wish us farewell. Jaxon was taken home by ambulance. He was very ill, on strong medications, and still weaning off sedation.

The doctors didn't think he'd make it at home for more than a day, but he has been home for seven years.

Jaxon has been through more obstacles than any child should have to face in their entire life, and he's overcome them all. He is a fighter, a miracle, and our hero. While he continues to face many obstacles, he continues to defy the odds and persevere through difficult and tough times. Jaxon has met many milestones that they said he would never meet. He eats baby food by mouth, he crawled, and now he's walking. He has recently been able to get off the ventilator and is not requiring oxygen at all despite continuing to be diagnosed with chronic lung disease, but in the years since he came home, Jaxon has required nursing care, medical equipment including a trach, a ventilator, oxygen, and a g-tube. He receives homebound tutoring, PT, OT, and speech. He is delayed and requires a communication device as he cannot talk.

Thinking back to when Jaxon was born, we didn't know much about the NICU. It's a place you can't understand until you're there. We were in shock. We didn't know what to expect, and when they tell you it's a roller coaster ride that's exactly what it is — full of ups and downs. You never know when things are going to change. While Jaxon was in the hospital for three years, my husband and I made sure that one of us or a family member was with him every day.

One of the biggest challenges of having a child in the hospital for three years, and then needing 24/7 care when he came home, was our financial situation. The first three months after his birth, he was close to home, but then he was transported to hospitals that were an hour and a half away, more than two hours with traffic. Parking, gas, traffic, and caring for our daughter when she was born; these were just some of the challenges we faced. We were blessed to have two fundraisers thrown by family and friends. They supported us financially and helped with bills, food, gas, as well as other necessities, but since Jaxon needed 24/7 care and therapy and a night nurse wasn't available, one of us couldn't work. We had to move in with my parents when he came home, and my husband had to quit his job; he was Jaxon's nighttime caregiver for 5 1/2 years before finally being able to return to work. Even worse, Jaxon needed feeding therapy because he didn't know how to swallow or suck from a bottle, but insurance wouldn't approve it and we couldn't afford it. Feeding therapy could have made a significant difference early on.

Our family was our rock and supported us in every way possible, and Jaxon's primary nurses were our saving grace. They loved and cared for Jaxon like he was their own and fought for him and our family when others wouldn't listen. They walked us through everything, cried with us, decorated his room, they tried to give us some normalcy in a time that was anything but. We are forever grateful for them.

Today, Jaxon requires nursing care. He needs medical equipment including a trach, a ventilator, oxygen, and a G-tube. He receives homebound tutoring, PT, OT, and speech. He is delayed and requires a communication device as he cannot talk.

We have developed a different perspective on life since Jaxon was born. We appreciate and celebrate all the little things. We went through the unthinkable. It makes you stronger and changes you in many ways, but also gives you some lingering post-traumatic stress.

If I were to give advice to a new NICU parent, it would be to never give up. Follow your instincts and challenge the doctors if you feel they're not doing what's in your child's best interests. Believe in miracles because they happen every day, and Jaxon is living proof of this. He faces challenges, but he is happy, silly, and thriving. It's not easy. It's a rollercoaster of emotions and things can change at the drop of a dime, but the storm will pass, and you'll come out stronger.

Amy, Mom to Ivy

Note from the Author

I met Amy through my family's nonprofit organization Project Mobility, she was our Presenting Sponsor for our annual adaptive bike ride fundraiser, Everybody Rides. Amy is very supportive of many nonprofit organizations in the Fox Valley area and St. Charles. She also owns a few pre-schools named after her daughter, The Ivy Academy.

When it comes to understanding the challenges faced by NICU babies and their parents, Amy Hitchinson is one of the most engaged moms I've ever met. Amy has dedicated her entire professional career to childcare and early learning. Known as both a motivator and a problem solver, she takes a no-nonsense, direct approach with parents, employees, industry peers, and government agencies. She's always been a take-charge person when it comes to the best interests of the children and families she serves, but there was little she could do when a pregnancy nearly two decades ago took an extremely traumatic turn.

Amy explains that she'd only been married a year when she learned she was pregnant "in the worst possible way." She developed significant, life-threatening complications early on that persisted throughout her pregnancy, requiring full bedrest and hospitalization for months followed by being airlifted to another hospital that could manage the high-risk birth she would eventually have.

When her daughter Ivy was born at 23 gestational weeks of life, she weighed just 510 grams and measured 11.5 inches long. Unlike most mothers who are forced to leave their preemies shortly after their birth, Amy's postnatal needs were so severe that she was hospitalized for another seven weeks, which she recalls as great because she "could spend hours each day in a wheelchair, next to my daughter." Still, while she was recovering, things with Ivy were touch and go. She remembers feeling that her micro-preemie was her hero as she faced the challenges of a ventricular septal defect, patent ductus arteriosus (PDA) heart surgery within the first week, and placement of a Rickham Reservoir due to swelling of her brain. She recalls needing to address Grade III scar tissue from the delivery and having a neurosurgeon flown in from a children's hospital in Ohio for consultation, then having her insurance company attempt to deny their claim for the costs.

Amy fought hard for Ivy throughout her ordeal, advocating on her behalf to physicians, nurses, and other hospital staff as well as with the hospital's accounting department and her insurance company. In the face of over $4 million in hospital bills, she has learned how to ask for help and get it, including working with the Odd Fellows organization that you'll find listed in the Community Service Organizations section of the book to settle a single $9,000 bill.

Today, Ivy is 29 years old. Amy consults with her about involvement in the many charities and projects that she is involved in, and Amy has founded the Ivy Academy of Early Learning, a non-profit child development center serving Elgin in Cook and Kane counties. Her goal for their business is the same as it has been throughout Ivy's life - to help all children reach their optimal development.

Katelynn, Mom to Baby S

Note from the Author

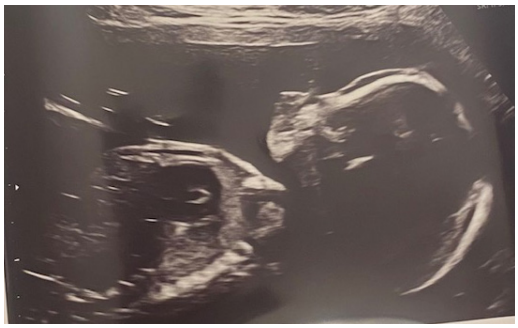
I met Katelynn a little over a year ago when I was out with my mom one evening. I was in the middle of writing The NICU Funding Guide and had my work with me. She asked me what I was working on, and we started to chat.

As so often happens when I start talking about this topic, she told me about her experience with having a baby in the NICU, and about the issues her son had with his heart. We hit it off instantly and became fast friends. I knew I needed to tell her story because she'd focused so much on the questions she'd had, and not knowing what to expect. She told me she speaks with a lot of NICU moms from a group she's in, and that not knowing what to expect and learning how to ask more questions was a common problem. I'm so glad she shared her story for my book, as I know it will help other parents who are going through the same thing.

Katelynn is the mom of a baby who spent 43 days in the NICU after having been born with multiple heart problems. Her advice about speaking up on behalf of your baby will be invaluable to parents as they navigate the intimidating NICU world.

Katelynn has lived in Saint Charles for 30 years, and her immediate family all live in the area. Her story will be familiar to many parents of children who've received care in the NICU.

Katelynn, Mom to Baby S



While at my weekly prenatal visit, my doctor noticed some non-reassuring fetal heart tones were present and sent me to labor and delivery. They decided I needed a C-section. After my son was born, he didn't cry at all for a while, and I instantly knew something was very wrong. He was taken to the NICU on CPAP with 60% oxygen and eventually intubated. They figured out he had Persistent Pulmonary Hypertension of the Newborn, or PPHN, as well as Perimembranous Ventricular Septal Defects, or Perimembranous VSD. He required increasing oxygen support and was started on antibiotics due to his high degree of clinical illness, he was also given a blood transfusion the first night. He was also treated for persistent hypoglycemia.

I had to meet my son via FaceTime, and the second I saw him with all the machines it was a feeling I'd never felt before. For a long time, I blamed myself: maybe it was something I ate or something I took, or that my body did to him. The first thing out of my mouth when I finally got to see him was, "Oh my god, what did I do" I will never forget saying that. Even though I was told it wasn't my fault, any mother would blame themselves, because for 9 months you're where they grow, and you're supposed to protect them from anything and everything. Seeing him like that showed that I hadn't.

I blamed myself for a long time. It took me talking about it to help me get past it. I'm not a person who talks about my feelings, but

something inside of me knew I needed to, so I did. What was going on with my son was just awful is the only way I know how to explain it. I was so disappointed in myself, and I asked why God had done this to us. Why me? Why us? What did I do to deserve this or what did he do to deserve any of it?

After two days of being in recovery and listening to all these mothers having their children with them in their rooms crying for two nights straight, I had to get out. I spoke with my doctor and told him I couldn't be in that hospital room any longer. I wanted to go home and shower and get the hospital smell off of me and start advocating for my son with a clear and clean body and mind.

Everything on the outside of the hospital to me was on pause. We were in the middle of closing on our new house, trying to get our apartment ready and packed, having two dogs and people with so many questions. Thankfully, my husband was amazing, supporting me and making sure I had whatever I needed. I didn't want people to worry about me. In my head, I was out of the hospital, so I was fine and didn't need anything. I overdid it from the start, and got very sick: it wasn't COVID-19 thankfully, but I was afraid of giving what I had to the baby, so I wasn't able to go and see him for three days. I'm sure the nurses were so sick of me calling hourly looking for an update. I tried sleeping while I wasn't at the hospital, but I wasn't able to because I was constantly wondering about my son. It didn't matter what time it was, I called.

It took over a month to get him off the oxygen and going in the right direction. That was when I started to worry about what his life was going to be like outside of the NICU. Honestly, I didn't think the day would EVER come. I worried about whether he had any brain dam-

age, if he would have to have heart surgery, or if he'd ever be able to play sports. During my son's time in the NICU, the nurses were amazing. They were so helpful and answered questions, and if they didn't have an answer to one of my questions, they'd get it for me.

Once we got the baby off the oxygen and breathing on his own, feeding became a challenge. He'd been on a feeding tube since birth, and once we tried to get him to drink from a bottle, he was not having it. In the NICU they expect the babies to eat every three hours, but he didn't want to drink from a bottle because he knew he could get fed through his feeding tube and wouldn't have to work to get the formula. He was very stubborn, and he still is to this day. We had some amazing nurses while we were there — Tina, Amy, Emily, Michelle— I can't remember all their names. Our son was in the NICU for 43 days, so we got to know the staff very well, even the nurses who weren't his. It was so hard watching babies come in and get discharged before he was. It was so frustrating. I felt bad for getting upset when another baby got to go home. It should be exciting, but I didn't understand why we couldn't be going home. We did meet a lot of nice people there, moms and dads going through the same NICU hell.

Our son was born with two holes in his heart. Thankfully one fully closed before he turned one, but the second one took a little bit longer. We will be following up with his cardiologist at Lurie Children's Hospital in the next couple of months to make sure it's closing or is closed. The only thing that we have to watch for is his lungs. With him having issues from the start, he's more prone to getting pneumonia than other children.

My parents and sister are very overprotective of him. Mind you, my

sister has three kids but is more protective of my son than her own. I think a lot of it has to do with his start in life having been a lot harder than most kids. I think that's the only way that my family has changed if at all. They're always worried about something that he does or doesn't do, as if he is going to break when he falls like any normal toddler.

One thing I wish I would have known about was all the resources that are out there. I didn't know anyone who'd gone through having a child in the NICU. I didn't know the staff or feel comfortable asking them for help because they were already helping my son medically, so I didn't want to ask for more. After being in the NICU with my son for over a month, I finally came across a Facebook page for parents with NICU children and what they were going through.

I wish I'd known then what I know now. I've always put my faith in our medical system. I always thought they were doing what was best for us and our health. I never questioned anything they did or were doing. I just figured they knew best and that was the best for what was going on, but I started finding things out like the night nurses weren't even trying to feed him through the bottle because they didn't want to wake him up so he was getting it through a feeding tube, and that would set us back even more. Then the wrong formula was given to him, which upset his stomach and then he wouldn't eat again. I started to stay at the hospital, sleeping there. I refused to leave him for more than a meal because I was afraid that a nurse wouldn't do something correctly and then we'd have another setback.

On day 43, the doctor was doing his morning rounds which is something we always made sure to be there for. The doctor doing rounds that morning was the head of the NICU. He'd seen our son occasion-

ally when he was covering for another doctor. The morning of September 17, 2021, was the day I finally stood up for my baby and family. He had hit the goal that had been set for him to go home with his feedings; he was taking in 3 ounces in each feeding without throwing up and hadn't lost any weight in the last 48 hours. My husband and I thought this was it — we'd finally made it — today is the day! Well, the doctor had other plans. He wanted to keep the baby in the NICU over the weekend to make sure he was still progressing as he should be, and because the doctor wasn't working during the weekend, he wanted to make sure the other doctor had cleared him to go home. I finally spoke up and it made a real change.

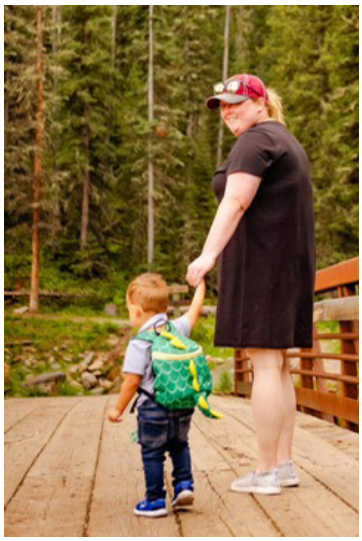
I had never questioned any of the doctors or second-guessed what they were doing. Now it makes me wonder if I should have been stern from the beginning. Could he have gone home a lot sooner? This time I asked the doctor why. "Why does he need to stay longer? Why won't you just let us take our child home?" My husband had done a lot of research on what would happen if we signed our son out of the hospital. He found things that said that DCFS would then get involved and an investigation would most likely occur, which is something we didn't want to deal with or put our son through — God forbid he was taken away for whatever reason. The doctor left and the nurse came in, and I had just had it. I wanted to go home. I wanted my son to go home. I was done. He was no longer in "danger." He was eating and growing and thriving. Finally, after a couple of the nurses spoke with the doctor, they discharged him. Thank God for the nurses who were there, not only to advocate for these little people but because they are the ones with them daily for 12-hour shifts, not a doctor who comes in once a day. I knew the longer he stayed in the NICU, the less time I got with him at home.

Unfortunately, my maternity leave didn't get spent with my newborn at home, with me enjoying bonding like most mothers get. I got two weeks with him and then he had to go into daycare. Let me tell you, it was so scary. I was an emotional wreck. I couldn't even drop him off because I knew I wouldn't leave and would end up losing my job if I didn't get back to it. I hated dropping him off at daycare, but we made it work. I pretty much never left the house for the first six months because I was afraid that I'd miss a milestone or that he'd think I was leaving him again.

Whenever I meet or know someone who has a child in the NICU, I typically tell them the same thing. If you have a question or concern about your child's care, ask. Don't be afraid to question the doctor and the care that your child is getting or not getting. You are your child's voice because they don't have one yet, and there is nothing wrong with letting people know you need help understanding. Also, and this is really important — there are resources out there that can help you mentally, financially, and emotionally. The hospitals all have social workers who are there to help you or to find the help you need, and if you don't feel comfortable speaking with them, your nurse or nurses have resources to help you or will put you in touch with people who can help. Getting help or needing help while you're going through this awful situation doesn't make you less of a person. We had the nurses investigate our insurance covering a feeding tube so we could do it from home, but the company wouldn't cover it, and we couldn't afford to pay it out of pocket. I wish I had known about the information in this book at that point, and many times since. In fact, when I first met Tammy, she told me about resources and groups that could help me, even two years after our son was born.

Out of all we've been through as a family and I've been through as

a mother, the one thing I want to get out there and make sure more people know is that they're not alone. No matter how much you might feel like you are, you're not. There are so many people going through being a NICU parent or that have gone through it, so there is always help somewhere, from someone.



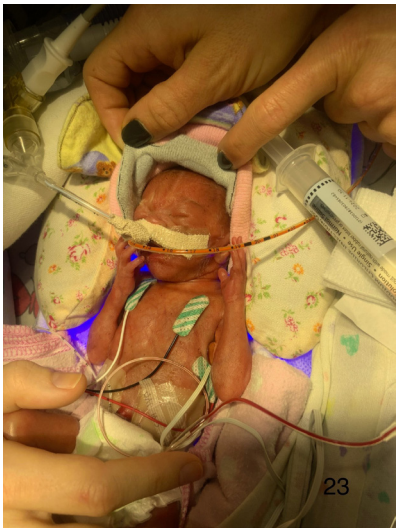
Kelly Obbish, Mom to Ellie

Note from the Author

After all that Kathi Brummet has done to support me all these years as I am writing this book her son and daughter in law, Kelly and Ryan had a micro-preemie baby at 23 works. I really wanted them to tell their story in my book I was able to follow their journey and I will never forget what Kathi said to me one day during one of our conversations, "we had a code word that we said the very first thing so we knew baby Ellie was ok before we started talking." When she told me that it really put in perspective what a parent goes through just from that one sentence, as a parent myself, and a grandparent of a baby that was in the NICU I get it, but that level of fear has to be one of the worst feelings a parent can have.

There was nothing that could have prepared us for the rollercoaster of events that started one day before our 20-week ultrasound. Pregnancy has many emotional ups and downs as it is, but after a completely normal start, we were suddenly thrown into a terrifying world of discussing survival rates, potential disabilities, and the medical treatment options that might boost the chance of me staying pregnant and keeping her inside for as long as possible. It was hard enough to process that I'd be staying at the hospital while we had a 2-year-old at home.

I remember celebrating making it to 23 weeks, and then three days



later, after a long night of contractions that seemed to be subsiding in the morning, I was suddenly rushed to the operating room for an emergency c-section. I remember that the last thing I said to my husband was, “She’ll be okay.” That was the start of a 5-month stay in the NICU.

It still feels surreal to say that our daughter Ellie was born at just 23 weeks and 3 days gestational age. She weighed in at a mere 1 lb., 7 oz. It is impossible to sum up the NICU experience, The first time I saw her in the incubator she just had her skinny little leg sticking straight up – she was beautiful, but we knew she had a long road ahead. I’m proud to say that Ellie’s nurses and neonatal team identified her as a fighter from Day 1. There were so many terrifying days, weeks, and months when we didn’t know what would happen. For the longest time, we weren’t even able to hold our daughter, and that was really painful.

The best advice we were given was to just take it one day at a time. Things could change dramatically from one minute to the next. We tracked every stat for Ellie and anxiously waited for the results from every x-ray, every blood transfusion, every blood gas, and every weight check.

We could not have survived without the help of our families and friends as we juggled life in the NICU and life at home. The nurses, therapists, consultants, doctors, and other staff in the NICU became our second family – they were always giving Ellie the best care, helping us feel connected to her, and taking care of her when we could

not be there. They truly supported us as parents.

We are so lucky to be able to say that Ellie fought through all the ups and downs and is now a thriving 2-year-old who is still full of energy and silliness and that feisty spirit that got her through her toughest days. She brings so much joy and love to our lives and to everyone she meets. She loves trying to keep up with her big brother Jackson, who equally impressed us with his resilience through all the chaos.

Rae Strong

Note from the Author

I began researching NICU nonprofit organizations I came across the Rae Strong Foundation, as I was reading Dan and Lorelee's story about their daughter, Rae I wanted to stop reading it because I was afraid to turn the page, and there she was this adorable little 6 year old girl. I think I smiled from ear to ear. I could not believe what they had been through. I knew then I had to reach out to Dan to talk to him about what I was doing. It was a great conversation and they became my first official partner, and Dan said to me, "could you use some funding," and of course my answer was yes! Then he said, "You need to talk to Mike from The Little Giraffe Foundation." So I did and now he's my second partner. So if you are reading this and want to join us in a partnership just let me know!

Lorelee and I are blessed to share the story of how Rae decided to join us a little early.

Lorelee was 23 and ½ weeks pregnant, or 23.4 days, as I learned in the beginning because each day is so crucial. It was the evening of June 1st, 2016 and I was returning home from a volleyball event on June 1, 2016, knowing I would be heading out the next day to another event. When I got home, Lorelee was in the bathroom. She was upset, bent over, and in pain. She said she was bleeding a little, and I said we needed to contact the doctor right away. We couldn't believe she was having contractions already and thought maybe it was Brax-

ton Hicks but we called the doctor's office and they said we should come in right away.

We packed the car and rushed out the door. The hospital is about 45 minutes to an hour away. I started out speeding, but Lorelee said it was not going to help if we got in a wreck, which was very true. We arrived at the hospital and everything was a blur until we met with all the doctors. Lorelee was set up in a room. They started an IV and an ultrasonographer came in. There were all sorts of people doing different things, and I was thinking, "Can't they just stop the contractions?" It seemed so easy to me. Little did I know there's no way to stop contractions .... you can only attempt to slow them down. The next conversation I remember having was with a group of doctors and nurses talking about the viability of life, how they were not required to do anything by law, and what the percentages were for survival, not to mention all the issues our newborn could face if she did survive. Discussions about the physical, mental, and social expenses for us, and all of the other challenges our baby might face. I think the success rate of survival was around 40% if she was born that day and if we made it to Sunday —24 weeks — it would jump to 65% to 70%. It took us less than a second to say please do whatever you need to do to help our baby survive. They started Lorelee on magnesium, which makes you feel like you are burning from the inside out, but this was going to help slow contractions. They also administered a steroid shot to help with the brain development and lungs of the baby. Lorelee ended up receiving three magnesium bags

and a second steroid shot to help with Rae's development. This was the max that they could administer for both medications. Lorelee was amazing throughout this whole process with everything that she had to deal with in terms of pain, not only physically but mentally as well. Each day had its ups and downs as she tried to make it to Sunday.

Sunday arrived, and things seemed like they were calming down a little. In the morning Lorelee's nurse came in and said, "I think your water broke." We were both surprised and the doctor was immediately in the room to check things out. On a side note: we saw so many people and doctors over those 4 days that I'm not sure I could pick any of them out of a line-up. The doctor examined Lorelee and said the baby's head had dropped and the cord was prolapsed. Rae would have to come now. Lorelee was immediately rushed into delivery with the doctor on the gurney with her, and I was left wondering what the 'bleep' was going to happen. Over the next hour, I paced back and forth, checked my messages and emails a hundred times, stared at my phone, and scrolled through the internet and Facebook.

It seemed like an eternity. After about an hour, a nurse came in and had me come outside. They were rolling an incubator box from the operating room. I felt a flood of emotions ranging from "Wow, I can't believe this" to "She's so tiny" to "What are all these lines" to "I'm scared to death" to "Can I look in the box?" This was my first opportunity to see my daughter Rae. It lasted for only a few minutes because they needed to get her into the NICU

and hooked up to the breathing machine and all the other necessities needed to put her in a good position to be healthy. Rae was born at 1lb and 8oz, 12 inches long, and her journey was just beginning.

We spent endless hours just watching the box that held our daughter, hoping things would be okay for her. There were a few scary moments: one where she stopped breathing for a bit, and another where they found out she'd broken her arm during delivery and they had to put it in a sling. The doctor who did Rae's delivery was very apologetic, but there was no need. She'd saved Rae, and we knew it would heal. A few days later, we were able to feed her from a Q-tip and touch her for the first time. Both were exciting and extremely scary moments, but we came to learn that each of these small things was a milestone that we needed to look forward to. There were so many unknowns, and though we couldn't focus on what we couldn't control, that didn't stop both of us from going through a range of emotions each day.

The day came that Lorelee was able to leave the hospital and we'd made our plan for how we were going to see Rae each day. The NICU was about 45 minutes to an hour away from our house, but we'd decided we were going to visit two to three times a day and stay for a few hours or longer each time. We knew it would be tough, but it didn't matter. We were lucky with work because it was the summer, and our schedule was very flexible. Outside of keeping up with some emails, our focus was entirely on Rae.

Over the next 115 days, we faced a multitude of challenges and surprises, sad and extremely joyous occasions. We took things in stride and tackled them as they came. One of the first challenges Rae faced was jaundice. While it was common, it was still scary to see her under a special light. It lasted a week or so and she eventually got past it. Transfusions were a big part of the beginning as well because she couldn't make enough blood cells yet and needed help. She needed so many that the NICU had to use a few different bags, and this meant risks each time. She was constantly monitored for infections because her immune system wasn't built up yet and Rae had several instances when she needed medicine to help her through. There was the time when they told us she had a small hole in her heart that had not yet closed. The doctors gave us a few options, including medicine or surgery. We opted for the medicine and after a few weeks, they felt it had worked.

One of the biggest challenges Rae faced was breathing. She was incubated for a long time, and she went through phases where she needed more help. As a parent, you stare at the numbers on the monitors several times a day hoping they'll slowly improve, only to be depressed when they don't. It doesn't matter how many times they tell you not to stare at the monitors — you still do. Rae would have good stretches and bad: it was an extremely slow process. Eventually, about 70 days in or so, she moved on to another machine called an oscillator, which represented an improvement. The last phase was the nasal cannula, which was great because it meant she was finally progressing toward getting off of breathing assistance.

It was explained to us many times that she could fight respiratory problems for the rest of her life. Nobody knew for sure how she would develop in that area. Another big challenge was brain bleeds. They

would do ultrasounds weekly to make sure things hadn't changed and that they didn't see any blood on her brain. I remember when they saw an enlarged area on one side and thought she had a small brain bleed. There was nothing to do but monitor it to make sure it didn't get any bigger. The size of the bleed would determine whether she'd need surgery and/or have cognitive function problems down the road. As time went by, they felt the area had decreased and it should be okay.

Another area of concern was her eye development. Because she was on oxygen, Rae was at risk of popping blood vessels or even having eye retinas detach because of the exposure to extra oxygen. She would be checked once a week, and even after we left the NICU she was checked once a month for a while. One of the last challenges she faced was after she'd just left the hospital and had been home for a few days. It was the evening, and I was at home and Lorelee was at work. Rae went into a choking or aspiration attack. Her lips squeezed on her tongue, her face turned blue, and she looked like she was choking. I turned her over and did the baby Heimlich maneuver and called 911. This might have been the longest 30 seconds to a minute in my life. I thought Rae was dying right in front of me. Thankfully my neighbors are firemen and the paramedics were there in minutes. By the time they walked in Rae was doing better and her color had come back. They checked her out and things looked good. We called the hospital and thought it was best if we returned and had her looked at for a few days. We were only admitted

for two days and then were able to journey back home.

Rae has been the strongest little fighter I could have ever imagined. Managing multiple appointments and checkups, breathing complications, and development were tough, but along with these challenges, there were numerous milestones she achieved. The first time we got to hold her or kangaroo her, when she was laid on my chest for a while. The first time we fed her through the tube. The first time I was able to give her a bath and she felt so tiny in my hand. The first time I got to change a diaper ... it was the smallest diaper I'd ever seen. When my family got to meet her for the first time. When I got to change her clothes for the first time. When she moved out of the incubator into a crib. The first time we got to feed her using a bottle. The first time we held her with only a few lines or wires. When she did her first car seat test because she was close to coming home. When we left the NICU with Rae the first time and were scared to death. Then the second time we left the hospital because we were hoping it would be the last time.

Rae went through very different developmental stages. When she was first born, she looked like an alien, but then in a few weeks she looked like a tiny old lady. Then she became a tiny baby with weird features, and then finally just a small baby. We continue to work on small milestones now that she's come home. I believe all parents do this with their kids, and we're no different — we're just on a different timetable for a while.

The whole experience within the NICU was incredible. They saved my little girl and my wife and opened my eyes to a world that I had no idea about. The doctors, nurses, staff, specialists, and everyone else in that department and associated with them have jobs that impact so many lives. Even after we left the NICU, we became part of a program called Early Intervention. Over the past few years, they provided specialists in every area you could think of, which has been critical in Rae's overall development.

Lorelee and I are enjoying parenthood with our daughter. Rae is learning, growing, and thriving each day. Her kind, confident, spunky, imaginative, and bold personality is a daily joy.

We formed the Rae Strong Foundation to raise funds and awareness for people who are facing the challenges of having a micro-preemie. Our website is **www.raestrong.org.**

This is our way of saying thanks. Hopefully, our story and mission impact you.

Dan Fruend
Founder and Executive Director

The Little Giraffe Foundation

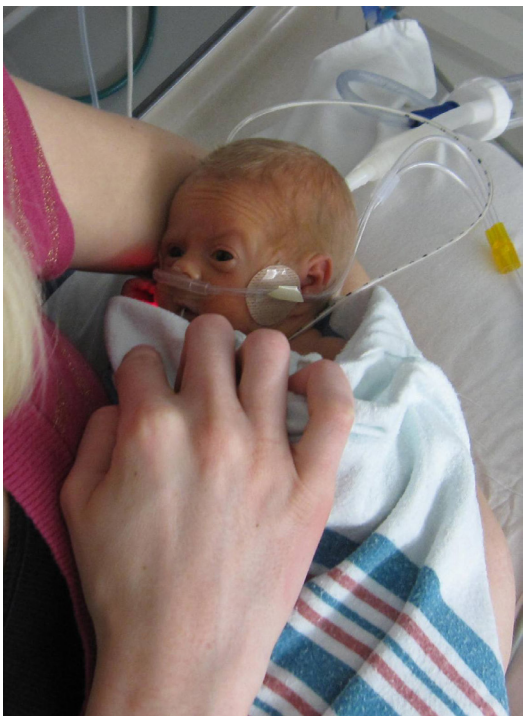
Note from the Author

I was first introduced to Mike by Dan, from Rae Strong Foundation. We had a great conversation about all that they do, from raising money for medical research grant to giving out Care Packs to parents in the NICU. I'm so excited to have partnered with Little Giraffe and looking forward to attending their future fundraisers in Chicago.

In March 2011, Mike and Amanda Santoro's twins, Evan and Cheyenne were born at just 25 weeks old. When Cheyenne died, the couple formed The Little Giraffe Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to both funding neonatal research and supporting patients and families of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). They have been valuable partners to The Funding Project.

When our twins, Evan and Cheyenne, were born 3 ½ months early in 2011, my wife Amanda and I had no idea what lay ahead. The children were born at 25 weeks weighing just 1 pound each, and shortly after their birth we learned that Evan needed heart surgery and that Cheyenne's kidneys were experiencing difficulties. Evan's surgery was successful,

but Cheyenne's condition became worse. She passed away after six weeks in the NICU, while her brother lived in the NICU for four months before being able to come home.



To honor the spirit of our daughter and to help families experiencing the same fear and trauma that we did, we decided to found a charity, the Little Giraffe Foundation. It is dedicated to funding neonatal research and supporting patients and families utilizing neonatal intensive care units (NICU).

In addition to our work supporting research, we have funded grants connected with NICU care, and perhaps most important of all, we've connected with thousands of families going through the same emotional rollercoaster that we did 13 years ago. When we were at the hospital, trying to find hope in that difficult situation, an anonymous donor brought in a pair of socks for the babies. That generous and selfless act gave Amanda hope for that day and gave her the idea to start the foundation. Since then, we have connected with thousands of families, providing holiday gift bags filled with books and toys.

When an infant is placed in an incubator and is too sick for a parent to hold, reading a book to the child may be the only way to connect. We hope that the toys and books we provide remind parents that there is hope for tomorrow and that they haven't been forgotten. We

want to make life better for other families going through what we did.

Amanda says, “When we lost our daughter, Cheyenne, we were devastated by the feeling that the world had lost a great person. She was tough and determined, 590 grams of fight, but also a kind and caring little girl. She seemed to constantly worry about her twin brother, Evan, even at the expense of her own health. Cheyenne was destined to do great things and when she left us, we wanted a way to realize that potential. We know that Cheyenne would have dedicated her life to doing something to better the world. We wanted to see that happen.”

As of 2024, our foundation has delivered over 30,000 gift bags to an array of neonatal intensive care units (NICUs), awarded nearly 150 support grants to dozens of hospitals across the country, and funded over $300,000 in medical research.

We were very lucky to have our twins in a hospital that was near our home. Our parents were always available to babysit our other child while we were in the hospital. And we had jobs that were flexible when we had to be away from work. In our work for the Little Giraffe Foundation, we’ve found that this is not the case with everyone. We’ve met folks who have to move their babies to a higher-level NICU and find themselves hours from home. That means expensive driving and possible hotel stays. Being away from home can mean expensive babysitters and feeding your family becomes a challenge. And we’ve heard stories from others who have had to quit or who lost their jobs because of their need to be with their child struggling

in the NICU. In all these cases it creates immense financial hardship and a need for funding for these parents.

I think most caregivers in the NICU will be able to use this book. You see medical bills start coming in and you're facing a very tough situation without a good place to turn.

Financial assistance can be critical, and I think many folks in the NICU can benefit from advice on how to find funds to support their families.

Mike Santora - Founder and Executive Director
The Little Giraffe Foundation
Non-profit organization

Preemie World Foundation and the Alliance

Note from the Author

I was recently introduced to Deb after someone told me about her book, The Preemie Parent's Survival Guide to the NICU. When I was told how good it was, I knew I had to put her story here for any parent who could benefit from her book. Then I had the chance to speak to Deb and learned about the two foundations she started, and that just sealed the deal. Though this book was in the final editing stage when we connected, she immediately stepped up and worked hard to make it happen. The resources she provides are so important, and I know that she will be an invaluable partner in the future.

My life changed irrevocably on a late summer day in September.

"Gregg, I need to get to a bathroom right now."

My husband looked at me in a puzzled fashion, wondering if I had lost my mind. "You could have told me that ten minutes ago," he noted hinting to the fact that we had just left a family outing an hour outside of town. But he did what all good dads-to-be do for their pregnant wives—he complied. What I did not want to tell him was that I had felt my bladder let go in the passenger side seat. Embarrassed, I was hoping to get into the bathroom and clean up without a lot of ribbing from the other people in the car.

All alone in a Food Lion bathroom an hour away from home, I dis-

covered that this was not at all an accident. My water had broken at 30 weeks' gestation. I sobbed, apologized out loud to my unborn daughter and did the best I could to clean up. More fluid, more tears.

Desperate cell phone calls to a couple of people in the car did not work and went straight to voice mail. I made a plan to clean up quickly and get to the car. On my way out of the store I stopped at the front office and clearly stated that I believed I was in preterm labor and asked where the nearest hospital was. Their jaws dropped open and they stammered out responses that they weren't from this area, so I asked to borrow the phone and promptly called my doctor.

As I did this the nice store people ran out to the car and grabbed my husband. Both he and my brother-in-law rushed in as I was leaving "a message with the answering service. I was in no mood to wait around for a call back. We got in the car and Gregg drove like a maniac through snarled traffic back to the hospital where I had planned to deliver. On the way, the OB on call responded by cell phone and after quizzing me said I should probably come in and get checked. Probably? Good grief.

I was checked into Labor and Delivery and spent the next 30 chaotic hours fending off labor. Two lung development shots, numerous anti-labor drugs, and a five-second Lamaze lesson from an OB nurse later, Becky decided she had had enough and made her dramatic entrance into the world. I heard a tiny kitten cry and the entire team of professionals erupted in a joyous "Ohhhhh." A second later, Becky was held up to me, the only part vis-ible was her head. For a 2 lb, 15 oz baby she somehow looked huge to me. Maybe it was my Proud Mama Hormones? We both looked at one another with a sense of "Whew!" Then she was whisked to the NICU with Gregg in tow.

A short time later I was wheeled down to the NICU on a stretcher

to see Becky. I was in total shock. There on a warming table was my daughter, hooked up to all sorts of equipment and really pissed off. Exhausted and not allowed out of the stretcher, I felt unable to do anything for her. I stared with a panic stirring within me. Next thing I knew I was taken to my room, put in my bed, and told to rest.

Rest? After watching my daughter in distress and wondering if she would live? I fought off sleep as long as I could and worried endlessly. Finally, I could no longer stay awake and sent a silent prayer up to God and to my daughter's namesake before I collapsed.

The next day family and friends came by to visit. I planted a smile on my face and did the best I could. Everyone had a comment to make and it was not always appropriate. I knew they meant well and were often stymied as to what to say, but in my mind I just rolled my eyes and kept my focus squarely on Becky and Gregg.

At one point a hospital staff member came in with paperwork for me to fill out for Becky's birth certificate. As I completed it I found myself briefly hesitating at filling in Becky's intended name. Should I give her the name Gregg and I had planned on? What if she didn't survive more than a few days? I put the name down anyway. She was my Becky and nothing would ever change that. Later on that week, my rabbi came into the NICU to do Becky's naming at bedside instead of at the synagogue. A service devoted to her naming would happen much later, but right now we needed to focus on the present.

48 hours later, I was discharged from the hospital and walked out under my own power since I didn't want to wait for a wheelchair ride. Gregg pulled the car to the front door of the lobby of the women's center and loaded all of the flowers and other items from my room. Then he helped me walk down to the car. On the way, I was behind

a new mom being wheeled out with her baby on her lap. With every step I found myself holding back tears as I realized that nothing was normal about this situation. As we both got into the car, Gregg and I headed home, crying all the way as we left our daughter behind in the hospital. The NICU Nurses had warned us that we would be back later that day even though we said we would not. Sure enough we went back that evening.

Visiting the NICU as the Mom was tough since I felt more like the Visitor. After scrubbing to my elbows for 2 minutes, I had to poke my hands through the portholes of the incubator just to touch my daughter. And then there was medical equipment to work around. Monitor alarms would sound and I would scream for the nurse as I watched my daughter turn blue day in and day out. Then there were the scares with heart issues as well as potential infections and more. And tests, endless tests.

Within a week, Gregg and I got to hold Becky for the very first time. Being so used to holding the huge nieces and nephews in the family, it was surreal holding my own Preemie daughter. Bundled in her blankets and medical equipment snaked around the rocking chair so I would not disconnect her, I stared down at this tiny, tiny baby. She was so light that I could barely feel her. Be heavy, Becky. Please stay with me and be heavy. My heart ached. She was so fragile. What had I done? And more important, what could I do for her?

During this period, my mother-in-law wondered aloud when I would be able to do Kangaroo Care. I stared vacantly into space. Had I heard that right. Kangaroo? Where was the kan-garoo? Regardless I started pestering the nurses and they finally set up me to kangaroo Becky. I was set up in a special black lounge chair and was tilted backward, the nurse then put my daughter onto my chest. I'm sure

it would be appropriate to say that I was instantly enthralled. But in reality, Becky first felt like a huge cold grasping insect. Slowly she warmed and was very still. I tried to crane my head to the side to see her face but no luck. Gregg, who was sitting beside us, had the biggest smile on his face. “Deb you should see this. The look on her face is amazing, she is sleeping so peacefully.”

Life became an endless treadmill for me as I pumped breast milk, visited Becky in the NICU, pumped breast milk, went back to work part-time one week post-childbirth, pumped breast milk, recovered from childbirth, pumped breast milk, had an ER visit due to severe postpartum bleeding, pumped breast milk, got trained on medical equipment, took a CPR class, prepped for the discharge, pumped breast milk, and lived through the chaos and aftermath of Hurricane Isabel. I also pumped breast milk.

Becky emerged from the NICU after 38 days and was sent home on oxygen and with an apnea monitor as well as a number of medications. We had a whole team of specialists and therapists for Becky and I still laugh at people who told me to relax because Becky was out of the hospital. If anything, I was terrified. I had to work with medical equipment and the loud alarms in the middle of the night, and watching my daughter turn blue on a dime freaked me out to no end. I had to make sure her oxygen was at just the right level and that she did not take the prongs of the nasal cannula out of her nose. Regularly, I ran through the steps for Infant CPR in case Becky had a breathing spell she couldn’t shake and I was constantly afraid I would forget the steps. And when there weren’t medical appointments we were basically on lockdown for the winter so Becky wouldn’t get RSV. I felt less like a mother and more like a nurse.

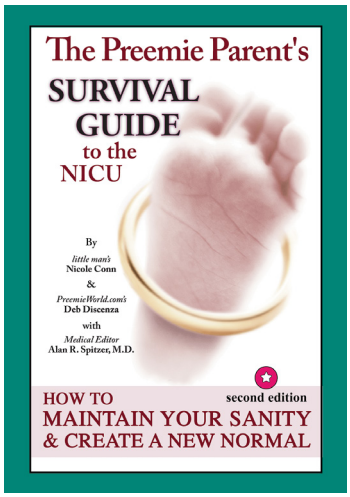
Though Becky endured a readmit to the hospital, she slowly started to stabilize and thankfully shed the equipment. Life did become a bit easier. Bit by bit the doctor's appoint-ments were shed too, but now life was filled with developmental issues and evaluations. Becky went into Early Intervention, later Child Find, and after that Special Education. Along the way there were the "normal" moments such as birthday parties and the first day of preschool. It was a joy to watch these moments, but also a thrill just to see Becky smile. Life was not normal. But, as with the NICU and then the discharge period, we rolled with it and created our new normal.

Very quickly I found other local Preemie parents and was amazed at how quickly each of us connected. We told our stories and knew the others understood without too much effort. There is no pretense among Preemie moms and dads. We've been through hell and back and we tell it like it is. And I found that many of us had connect-ed with a number of professionals in the community, especially the nurses. In a way, the professionals had taken on a family-type connotation because they witness every day the parents' stress. In talking to both parents and professionals, I have heard one common refrain: no one was prepared for this experience, and during the ordeal they were at a loss to find any sort of comfort. Mainstream parenting magazines were useless and offered no real sense of empowerment to the Preemie parent.

Life changed with Becky's early birth—and I quickly found within myself a need to help other families navigate this truly bumpy ride in the NICU and beyond. Six months after Becky's birth I left my well-paying job to conceptualize and create the hugely successful Preemie Magazine, a free print publication for parents and profes-sionals. I also began providing regular speeches to the professional

community and public. In the wake of this success, I found myself trying to find other ways to help families. A while later, Nicole Conn, an amazing director and author, connected with me and we excitedly discussed this book. I am proud to be continuing the much-needed work within this special community of families. Preemie parents stick together. Preemie parents need each other. And that is why we are here for you.

The above is an excerpt from Deborah A. Discenza's book, The Preemie Parent's Survival Guide to the NICU. It was written after Deborah gave birth to her daughter Becky ten weeks early, in 2003. After Becky's birth, Deborah became an advocate for preemies and their parents and wrote the guide, distributing cases of books to underserved populations. In 2020, she and two colleagues formed The Alliance for Black NICU after the murder of George Floyd, and after seeing the impact the Alliance had, she realized that she was not having the impact needed to make real change as a for-profit. She founded the Preemie World Foundation, a powerhouse foundation that seeks to create and curate equitable access of underserved populations to patient education, advocacy tools, and outcomes data specific to the preemie population. They are working to provide preemie family assistance grants to help with short-term emergencies.



You can get your own copy of The Preemie Parent's Survival Guide to the NICU here: preemieworld.org/preemie-showers

One Final Thought

With every story I've read and told, I've come to realize one important truth, and that's the remarkable strength of the NICU moms, the nurses who care for the babies, and the scores of women who are working to make the road a little easier for those who have yet to go through the NICU experience.

I have been working on this book for a little over three years now, and it's amazing how things came together. I met Kelly Green and partnered with Help Hope Live. A mom named Renee reached out to me eight years after I gave her my card at a show where I was distributing my disability book — she has been helping me ever since that recent call. I called Carolyn TenEyck of Angel Eye Health about sponsoring the NICU Guide and she introduced me to Deb Discenza of Preemie World. What an amazing time I've had, getting to know all these amazing women. My Grandma Vaughn would have fit right in with all of these powerhouse women, and she would been so proud to work with them, and proud of me for doing so. I'm looking forward to working with them going forward, and helping as many NICU parents as we can.

Chapter One

Let's Get Started

It's truly exciting when children with special needs receive the products or services they need. There's nothing better than the smiles that come when their lives have been transformed by something that makes things easier or gives them freedom. I know these feelings first-hand, as I've worked for more than twenty years helping families raise money to obtain equipment or services that brought joy to their lives.

This book will teach you how to raise thousands of dollars for products and services for your special child!

What's Inside the NICU Funding Guide?

The NICU Funding Guide contains all the information you need to guide you in applying for financial support from funding sources that assist infants who are receiving or who have received NICU care. This process has been tested and proven time and time again, and this book features tips and advice designed to give you the greatest chance of being chosen as a funding recipient.

This book also includes a Funding Source Directory featuring over 300 funding sources. They're divided into several categories, including Wish, State, and National Funders. In addition to providing instructions for obtaining funds, I'll also teach you to successfully run other types of fundraising projects. Following this guidance, you'll be able to raise whatever amount of money you need, no matter how much.

I firmly believe that with the right knowledge, everyone who needs funds can raise them. Armed with the information in this book, all you'll need is motivation,

dedication, and a belief that ***it's possible and you can do it!***

It's my sincere hope that *The NICU Funding Guide* helps thousands of families get their children the products and services they need to reach their greatest potential.

The *NICU Funding Guide* is for you if...

You're a parent or caregiver of a baby who has received care in the NICU.

This book will teach you how to raise funds and reach goals to improve your child's life.

You're an organization that serves children who've been impacted by their critical first days.

You're invited to join our ever-expanding list of Partners and to share *The NICU Funding Guide* with all those you serve.

You're a manufacturer of products or you provide therapies needed by the NICU community.

These valuable products are out of reach for many families. By sharing this book, you can support their ability to raise the money they need to obtain your products or services, as well as those from others. You might also want to consider becoming a sponsor or champion of our program. To learn more, visit www.thefundingproject.org/support-us and register to become one of our valued partners or sponsors.

Note: I'm often asked whether this book can be used to help adults.

The answer is yes: The processes are the same, but the funding sources included within *The NICU Funding Guide* are focused on children. The most important thing that an adult should take from this book is found in the final section of Chapter 4, which teaches how to find your own funding sources. The 13 steps are the same no matter who the beneficiary is, so please don't let the title of this guide stop you from using it.

. . .

My Grant Writing Journey — And Yours

Sometimes, fate steps in, and it sure did with me. Many years ago, my brother Hal told me he'd just read about grant writing. Looking back, neither of us can remember why he thought of me when he read it, or why he told me about it, but we're both grateful that he did because grant writing was the foundation for everything that's happened since.

At the time I had no idea what grant writing was, but it sounded interesting, so I did some research. I was intrigued enough that I went out and bought a grant-writing book the next day, and once I started reading, I couldn't put it down.

It turned out that grant writing is telling a story on behalf of an organization and doing it well enough that the foundation gives you money that you don't have to pay back. How cool is that?

I bought another book, and another. With each book I read, I became more excited. By the time I was halfway through the third book, I'd decided that this would be a great job for me. I was hooked.

I took some online classes and attended a few week-long workshops. I quickly became pretty confident that I could do it. I'd officially become a grant writer!

The next question was how to get a grant-writing job.

I started looking for grant-writing jobs on the internet and saw an ad for a job that seemed made for me. They were looking for someone new to grant writing. They didn't have a lot of money to pay me, and I didn't have much experience and didn't know what I was doing. This is what the grant research world calls a perfect fit, so I began my new career.

Each and every person reading my book is about to become a grant writer. You are doing exactly what I did, except that you're doing it for your child instead of for a nonprofit organization. Other than that, it's the same thing! You're going to tell your child's story and why you need the funds to help improve their quality of life.

Remember, we're talking about free money that you don't have to pay back!

. . .

A Bit More Background

In 1975, I was 15 years old, and my brother Hal was in college and working part-time at a bike store called The Bike Rack in St. Charles, Illinois. I'll never forget the family dinner when he told my dad and mom that his employer was selling the store and asked if they could possibly buy it. My dad already had a full-time job, working at Hoffer Plastics in South Elgin, Illinois, but after much thought, they decided to buy this store, and that decision changed our lives forever.

Mom quit her job to work at our new store, and my dad continued working his full-time job and then went to the Bike Rack each day after work to manage the financial side of the business. That was the thing about my dad: He was great with money and very detail-oriented, and he turned a seasonal business in the Midwest into a successful operation.

Just a Bit More About My Dad

My dad was a teenager in 1945, one of 11 kids. At that time, their family was the largest in all of St. Charles. He quit high school to get a job so he could help his father and mother save for a down payment to purchase a home. He was always a hard worker, and he not only helped raise the money for the deposit, but also paid for his own private school and graduated after doing so. Not bad for a kid who was just 15 years old.

I'm beyond grateful for what my dad and mom instilled in me and my brothers. He bought a business for our family and still worked a full-time job. I have to say what an amazing man my dad was, and how very proud I was and still am of him. Oh, and when he was in the Army he used to jump out of airplanes in Germany. How cool is that?

. . .

The Triplets' Birth and Our Next Chapter

In 1992, Hal became a father to triplets born very prematurely. He was told that the babies, weighing between 1.5 and 2 pounds, might not live. Miraculously, they did, but Jacob had a brain bleed the day after they were born, and he ended up having Cerebral Palsy.

Jacob fought so hard, and he not only survived, he went on to change the lives of so many people living with disabilities. Jacob is the reason that thousands of children, adults, and wounded veterans can experience the freedom of mobility through adaptive cycling. You see, when the triplets were about 6 years old, Jacob's sisters, Clare and Emily, started riding bikes. Jacob couldn't walk and was also unable to join them on their rides.

Hal made it his mission to find a bike that would work for Jacob. It took some time, but he found a three-wheeled bike in Canada, a Freedom Concepts DCP 16 bike that let Jacob ride with his sisters. Hal had accomplished what he'd set out

to do for his son, but when we all realized what the bike had done for Jacob, we decided we needed to make it available to others.

We began selling adaptive bicycles, but quickly encountered a problem. The bikes were very expensive. Back then, the average price was about $4,000, too much for many parents to afford.

Hal and I wanted to do more, so in 2002 we formed Project Mobility, a nonprofit organization to help children experience the same freedom of mobility through adaptive cycling that Jacob enjoyed.

Fifty years ago, when my parents bought **The Bike Rack**, they never dreamed we would be inspired to start a nonprofit that would help thousands of children and adults and see us participate in a special program for wounded veterans invited to the White House twelve times.

We take our equipment to schools and rehab hospitals to let people with disabilities experience adaptive cycling, many for the first time. We've hosted and supported hundreds of camps and events, collaborating with hospitals, therapists, rehabilitation centers, schools, park districts, and others.

In an average year, Project Mobility's accomplishments include:

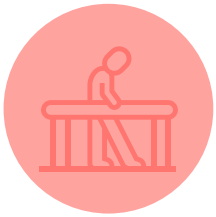
12

Adaptive bikes given away through Adaptive Bike Giveaways

Over $60,000 worth of equipment!

15

Wounded veterans' rides hosted



17

In-service days with physical therapists

47

Adaptive Bike Days hosted

Our adaptive bike rides average 50 participants, and our in-service events average 15 therapists. **It all adds up to an average of 3,355 people served each year.**

. . .

How Jacob Helped Me Become an Expert on Getting Free Money!

While it's true that my fundraising skills can be traced back to a conversation with Hal, becoming a fundraising teacher really came to be because of my nephew Jacob.

Around the same time that we established Project Mobility, medical experts

were talking about a new treatment using a hyperbaric chamber that was said to offset some of the effects of CP. Our local Lions Club was bringing one up from Florida to Illinois for the summer, and with hopes that it might improve Jake's quality of life, Hal scheduled him to participate in the program.

Though the Lions were bringing the chamber here, the parents still had to pay a portion of the cost which, at that time, was very expensive. Hal had submitted all the paperwork to his insurance company and, based on his correspondence with them, thought they'd be paying for three rounds. I'll never forget walking into the store on a Monday morning and seeing the look of devastation on Hal's face as he told me that the insurance company had denied his request to cover Jacob's treatments, which cost over $12,000.

I asked Hal why he didn't just ask for help, but he immediately rejected the idea. When he said, "I'm not asking anyone for help," I said, "Fine. I will."

I had no clue how to get money from other people for something like this, and he wouldn't let our mom and dad pay for it, so I had to figure it out. There had to be a way to get financial help for my ten-year-old nephew without taking out a loan.

I sat down at my computer and started researching funding and disabilities. I was amazed at what I found. It turned out that there were organizations set up specifically to provide funds for needs like these, and the more I read, the more I realized that getting it would be just as easy as grant writing. You tell your story, and you get money for your child's needs.

Long story short, in just a few weeks I was able to raise more than enough for all three rounds of Jacob's treatments, and none of it had to be paid back.

My success in raising funds for Jacob made me realize that I could use what I'd learned to guide and coach the parents who couldn't afford an adaptive bike for their child. I put together a 27-page fundraising packet detailing the steps I'd taken for Jacob as well as a list of the funding sources I'd found.

That little packet helped hundreds of families get adaptive bikes, and the more I worked with them, the more I became aware of how little they knew about the

existence of funding help. Even experts serving the disability community were in awe of what I'd learned and was teaching others about getting the funding they needed.

I vividly remember receiving a thank you letter from a parent who told me how — with the help of my packet — she'd been able to continue raising funds for her child after he'd gotten his bike, and that it had helped her get many other items her child needed.

. . .

That was what I call a "lightbulb moment."

It was then that I realized that I was the only one talking about the available free money and that I needed to go beyond my packet and write a full-length book.

So that's what I did.

The information I put together is my step-by-step process, and it's what you'll learn as you read this book.

I had never realized how much time and work goes into writing a book. It took three years and over 10,000 hours of research, but I finally published *The Disability Funding Guide* in 2015. It was my first official book, and since then I've written others including The Autism Funding Guide, and The Cancer Funding Guide is coming soon.

In 2019, I formed my own nonprofit organization that's a natural progression of what the book had started. The Funding Project has the same purpose as the book to provide help to as many people as possible.

The idea for The Funding Project came to me after a phone conversation with a mom after a conference in Florida. She told me that if she'd been handed my book in the NICU when her daughter was born, it would have changed their entire lives. She said the parents were given a packet about resources to help their

child but that it was a "joke." Nothing it contained would benefit their child, and there was definitely nothing to help them financially.

She told me that if she'd had my book from the start, it would have changed their lives: they wouldn't have had to struggle to afford to live and get their daughter the products and therapies she needed and that insurance wouldn't pay for.

She told me that I needed to get my book into every NICU in every children's hospital throughout the country. She said, "These families need your book."

It was another lightbulb moment! It was time for *The NICU Funding Guide*, but also to take our efforts a step further.

"She told me that if she'd had my book from the start, it would have changed their lives: they wouldn't have had to struggle to afford to live and get their daughter the products and therapies she needed and that insurance wouldn't pay for."

The plan was to work with children's hospitals throughout the United States, teaching their professional staff as well as parents how to get their children the products and services they need, using the funding guide.

We had workshops scheduled with Shriners Hospital in Chicago and Beaumont Hospital in Michigan, but as with so many other things, the pandemic put them on hold. In the meantime, we continued to make plans for how to maximize The Funding Project's reach and help as many kids as possible.

Chapter Two

The Most Important Thing I Can Teach You

It's Okay to Ask for Help!

It's been over 20 years that I've been helping families find funding for their children, and I've heard many details about their daily struggles. Each time I hear a new story, I'm in awe of how strong they are in the face of relentless challenges, and I wonder how they do it.

It took a while, but I finally figured out that they had won half the battle when they realized that it was **OKAY TO ASK FOR HELP!**

One father I worked with was struggling with immense family needs. I gave him a great funding source and explained what he needed to do for success.

The first step was getting a denial from the family's insurance company. That took far longer than it should have (and got a bit frustrating for him), but we kept at it, and he finally was ready for the next step, which was submitting the application.

A short time later he got a "no" letter stating the funder he'd applied to would not be funding the adaptive bike he needed for his child.

He sent me an email with the denial attached and said that he didn't want to apply to any other organizations. I was surprised, and couldn't understand why he wouldn't want to keep trying to get the money just because he'd gotten one "no."

I emailed him back and asked why he didn't want to continue. I pushed to understand why he was ready to throw in the towel, and he finally told me his entire story.

His family had gone through a multitude of hardships. I was shocked at how

much one family could endure. None of our previous conversations had given me any idea of just how bad things had been.

After I'd listened, I told him it was not unusual to get a "no" response, and that he needed to send out more applications — quite a few, in fact — to increase his odds of getting funded.

I told him about my brother Hal, and how he'd refused to ask for help until he saw me raise over $12,000 for his son. Hal began sending out applications on his own, and I'll never forget how excited he was to show me that he'd successfully gotten $10,000 for an above-ground swimming pool to take pressure off of Jacob's spastic muscles and improve his strength and confidence. Now Hal tells everyone, "IT IS OKAY TO ASK FOR HELP!"

I explained to this father that he needed to tell his whole story in the "ask" letters he was sending to funding sources. I explained that getting a "no" was okay, that it was eventually going to happen for him and that, in time, he'd get a "yes."

I explained that the people he was asking for help were giving money because it was their mission and they wanted to help. And it's true. They raise money to give to children who need it, to help improve their quality of life.

About a week later I got an email from this dad. He had attached the letter he'd written to include with his application, and it was almost three pages long. By the time I got to the last page, I had tears in my eyes.

I would like to share the last few paragraphs he wrote:

> ***"Given what we have been through, and as hard as it has been, nothing is harder for me than to write this letter and to realize that I can't do it all for my son. The master plan for his life has fallen apart and I cannot afford to provide the best life for him. All along, my pride and love for him have stood side by side to make it all happen. I always found a way. Somehow, some way, I managed to do it. All it takes is hard work, determination, and effort and it will happen, right?***

> ***The hardest part is admitting I have come up short. I fought for months with pride about asking for help. I am not that type of person. We are not that type of family. I mean we conquered raising a special needs child to become an incredible person; we conquered cancer, depression, financial loss, the loss of our home, the loss of a job, and a career. We did it all, without help, on our own. We give help, we do not ask for it. Well, up until now.***
>
> ***We need help, we need help to get our son a bicycle to ride, to engage in the only real physical activity he can do. We need help to put that smile back on his face, to have him ride with his sister. We need help to show us that there is hope; that everything we have been through has not been for nothing. This is the hardest thing I have had to do, ask for HELP. Can you help?"***

. . .

It Happened to My Own Family: My Son Christopher

One of my very own family members had his own lesson on why IT'S OKAY TO ASK FOR HELP. Without this lesson, he would have had to pay a medical bill of over $8,000.

My son had a health insurance policy with a very high monthly premium, so he decided to lower his monthly expenses by switching to a policy with a higher deductible ($10,000). Less than two weeks before he made that switch, he ended up in the hospital for a minor issue and I told him, "You really need to change your insurance back." He told me he wasn't going to because he didn't want to pay that higher monthly amount.

I expressed concern about his policy having such a high deductible, but he said, "That's fine. I won't need to use it."

A short time later, out of the blue, he needed an emergency appendectomy. Thankfully, between me and his fiancé (at that time) convincing him that it was

serious, he got to the hospital in the nick of time.

Christopher recovered and I am beyond grateful he listened to us and went to the hospital. But of course, he hadn't listened about that high deductible, and he got a bill totaling over $8,000.

I reminded him that it was just money and that the hospital had saved his life. I had lost my dear uncle, just a few weeks earlier, to the same exact medical emergency. Uncle Ron had been a Purple Heart and Bronze Star recipient, and he had waited too long to go to the hospital.

Christopher was concerned about paying off such a high bill, so he asked me for help. I did a bit of research and I found out that the hospital had a program that paid all or part of some patients' bills.

The income level to qualify was very low, and if you were in prison or homeless, the acceptance was automatic. I didn't understand that, nor did I think it fair, so I decided to call and ask some questions. I said my son worked every day and was not homeless or incarcerated, but at his income level, he could not afford to pay such a high bill.

Long story short, the customer service agent said, "You can always apply for the grant money. You never know what they'll decide."

I told Christopher that I would help him with this. He was skeptical, but I sent in all his documentation along with my ask letter.

It took a few months, but we finally got an answer, and it was worth the wait! They gave Christopher a grant of $6,500 toward his bill: He only had to pay $1,500! I was so excited to tell him the great news!

With this accomplished, I thought back to my earlier conversation with Hal, and how he hadn't wanted to ask for help, but then he did and got what he needed for Jacob. I considered the father who had almost given up since he had gotten one "no," and then thought about my own son not wanting to ask for help and

ending up having most of his bill covered.

At the time, I had said to Christopher, “The whole premise of my book is that it is OKAY to ask for help! You will get one answer, either a “yes” or a “no,” but if you don’t ask, you will definitely never get a “yes.”

We asked and he got a huge yes. He was married soon after, and not having that huge medical debt hanging over him was an amazing gift. It only happened because he realized it was okay to ask for help!

These situations are more than just nice stories. They’re important lessons that anybody reading this book needs to learn and take to heart.

There are organizations that want to help you. They want to give you money for your child, but they’re not going to come looking for you. You have to find them for yourself, and then you need to tell them your story, and why your child deserves their money.

*“The whole premise of my book is that it is **OKAY** to ask for help! You will get one answer, either a “yes” or a “no,” but if you don’t ask, you will definitely never get a “yes.”*

The Bottom Line

It’s not only okay to ask for help. . .
It’s important to ask for help.

Chapter Three

A Few Things to Know Before You Get Started

How to Use This Funding Guide

The NICU Funding Guide is a comprehensive how-to resource book. I've identified all the necessary steps, provided sample letters and documents, and assembled an exhaustive collection of over 300 funding sources from which you can request free money for the products, services, and care your child needs.

The tips that you'll read as you go through this guide represent what I've learned over the past twenty years. There's also a section containing comments and helpful hints from some of the funding sources.

I've spent over 10,000 hours researching funding sources and assembling the directory that appears at the back of this book. I've spoken to representatives and staff of many of them to verify the accuracy of the information, but details can change over time as organizations expand, modify, or shut down their programs. I encourage you to learn how to uncover new funding sources on your own, as there are far more out there than the ones I've listed in this book.

I had one goal in mind when putting this book together, and that was to make it as easy as possible to use. Most of the funding sources that are included have websites you can visit for more information, but I've provided each one its own dedicated page that summarizes who they are, what they fund, their application process, and all their contact information.

In addition to that information, each funding source's page includes a section where you can jot down notes, as well as a checklist to make sure you don't miss a step.

Funders have told me that on many occasions they've had to throw out applications because instructions were not followed or required documents were missing.

Don't let that happen to you!

Some examples of what a funding source grant can provide for a NICU infant or graduate with special needs.

- Sleep Safe Bed (visit sleepsafebed.com)
- Bassinet
- Crib
- Car Seat Rated for 4 lbs
- Camera System
- Smart Oxygen Monitor
- Smart Heart Monitor
- Electronic Breast Pump
- Hospital Grade Breast Pump
- Stroller
- Sound / Noise Machine
- Play Yard
- Swaddle Blanket
- Sleep Sack
- Baby Monitor
- Hands Free Pumping Bra
- Baby Swing
- Feeding Pillow
- Smart Changing Pad
- Electronic Specialized Diaper Bin

A Few Things to Know Before Getting Started

Definitions of Words Used Frequently Throughout This Book

Funder - Individual, corporate, or government donors, investors, and shareholders. You'll find funders in many roles in many kinds of organizations, from nonprofits and state agencies to start-ups and large companies.

Funding Source – Funding sources can be federal, state, and local government, but more often they are private businesses, corporations, and charitable organizations and foundations.

Grant – A grant is a term for funds that are not expected to be repaid. To receive a grant, you must compete against others for funding.

Community Fundraiser – A community fundraiser is an event that mobilizes your community to support your cause. Most of the fundraising is done by volunteers.

Crowdfunding – Crowdfunding is funding a project by raising many small amounts of money from a large number of people, typically via the Internet.

Letter of Medical Necessity (LMN) - A written explanation from a treating physician, a therapist, a teacher, or other involved professional describing the medical need for services, equipment, or supplies to assist the claimant in their treatment, care, or rehabilitation.

Chapter Four

Creating a Successful Funding Plan

Creating a funding plan is just another way of saying you're coming up with a plan of action on how you're going to raise the money. You'll find everything you need in this book to guide you through the process and keep you on track, but you'll need to customize the steps based on your goals.

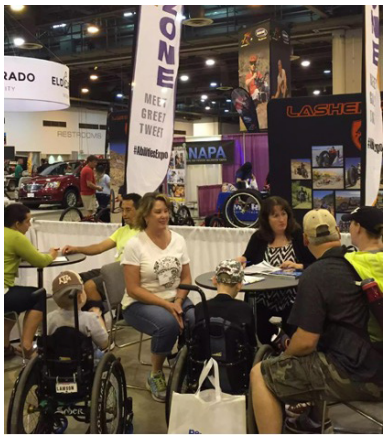
For example, if you've set a big goal of raising money to get an accessible vehicle, your plan might include all three of the fundraising methods you'll be reading about; Reaching out to funding sources, starting a crowdfunding campaign, and planning a community fundraiser.

Alternatively, you could focus on following just one path and doing it in a really big way.

. . .

A Story of Inspiration and Success

Melissa Copp and her husband Jody represent one of the most amazing fundraising success stories I've ever been privileged to be a part of. Though I can't take credit for the full scope of her success, I am happy to say that her journey got a big boost from a meeting we had at the Abilities Expo, when I helped her create her first fundraising plan. Whether your goals are as big as Melissa's were or you're working on a more modest goal, I'm sure you'll find her story inspirational.



Melissa Copp and her family are AMAZING. Her story is one of my BEST successes EVER, and I hope it in-

spires you to get started and know that **YOU CAN DO IT!**

In 2016, one of my sponsors asked me to set up a booth at the Abilities Expo their newly formed Meet-Up Zone. If you're not familiar with the Abilities Expos, they're free, three-day events for the disability community, where you can see the latest products, attend information workshops, learn about adaptive activities, and meet with other families. They're held all around the country. The Meet-Up Zone where the sponsor wanted me to set up was an area they'd set aside for attendees to help each other — in my case, parents could sit down with me and come up with a funding plan to help them purchase the products they'd seen at the show, many of which were not covered by insurance. The families really needed my help.

Melissa Copp came over and introduced herself. She told me that she and her husband were trying to raise over $100,000 to make their home fully accessible for their two young boys, who used wheelchairs to get around.

My first reaction was a bit of shock. I was a bit thrown back by this huge goal, but I also knew it was possible to raise the money and I recovered quickly. It would just take a lot more work than anyone or anything I'd come across before. We sat down and came up with a funding plan to raise the $100,000 they needed.

I mentioned earlier that my family has a nonprofit organization. Each year, we do a few big fundraisers that are very successful. I described our program and suggested that Melissa should recreate what we do each year where she lived in Texas. My publisher at the time, Melanie, also lived in Texas, and I asked Melanie to help.

They started raising funds, and a few years went by without me speaking with them to see how things were going. Then one night, I was watching one of my favorite television shows, Fixer Upper on HGTV.

There were Melissa and Jody Copp, with their sons Calan and Lawson. Melissa had applied to the Magnolia Foundation for funding, and they were on the show because they were being given a fully accessible home.

They got that home for one reason — because Melissa didn't give up. When someone told her "no," she just kept going until she got a YES. And she got her biggest YES when she applied to the Magnolia Foundation.

When I first met Melissa, she already had some fundraising experience. She later told me that what I'd done for her that day, when we'd met in Houston, was to give her the confidence that she could do it.

So many amazing things have happened to the Copp family since they were chosen to get their dream home, which they named "Hope." They've formed their own foundation to help others and to raise awareness about accessibility for those in wheelchairs.

. . .

Melissa Copp's Story, In Her Own Words

It all started with Tammy's book, the Disability Funding Guide. Once we read it, we could not have been more excited about the future of our family knowing we were armed with the best resource to get what our boys needed.

It took several companies, nonprofits, and millions of fans of the very popular TV show, HGTV's Fixer Upper to accomplish this, but it taught me a lesson. **NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE!** You don't get anything you don't ask for and that's exactly why the Disability Funding Guide was so important in allowing me the confidence to ask for what I needed. You never know what you might get until you ASK.

My husband Jody and I

are raising two boys who live life on wheels due to a rare genetic mitochondrial condition that affects their ability to stand or walk on their own. They have relied on assistive devices from the very beginning and their needs grow exponentially every year.

We started to feel the burn of not getting adequate support through private health insurance to cover all their medical necessities and needed to arm ourselves with information.

We decided to go to our first Abilities Expo in August of 2016 in Houston, Texas after finding the event online. We had just been denied approval for my youngest son's first wheelchair even though it was deemed medically necessary, and I was determined to fight.

When looking at the vendors that would be present at the expo, I was excited to see that Tammy Simmons, the author of the Disability Funding Guide, was going to have a meet and greet during the expo. Not only did I think that the book would be a great resource for me, but I also wanted to pick her brain about our situation. After all, I had already successfully fundraised for a new van. However,

the biggest task lay ahead, which was how I was going to continue writing grants for our children's medical needs as well as a fully accessible home for my two boys on wheels. They already needed round-the-clock care, and my husband and I both worked full-time, so the funding sources in Tammy's book were at a premium for our family. We needed to know about these desperately to survive.

Not only did I purchase a copy of her book, but I was able to meet Tammy and let her know about our situation. We discussed strategies, opportunities, and potential fundraiser ideas for our families' ongoing needs. It gave me the confidence to speak up to people about our situation and be okay with the fact that our needs were bigger than what I could provide. The biggest thing I learned from Tammy's book: it's perfectly okay to ask for help!

As soon as we returned home from the Abilities Expo in Houston with my new book full of resources, I was ready to create a strategy to carry out the dream of funding a fully wheelchair-accessible home for our family.

The determination to carry out this mission fueled my persistence and to keep finding a solution until I reached our goal. It was good to learn the benefits of all the types of funding sources listed in her book. I had already learned a good bit about crowdfunding but wasn't familiar with community fundraising. This book really allowed me to see which one would better fit our needs. Our goal was over $100,000! This was a really big goal. So, I reached out to the biggest opportunity I could find.

Since I live in Waco, Texas, I knew I needed to reach out to a fast-rising and up-and-coming company to support our goal of a new home. The incredibly popular HGTV show "Fixer Upper" was in its fourth season and run by the talented Chip and Joanna Gaines of Magnolia.

I decided to create a portfolio of all the funding attempts and efforts I had made to get my unique family the home they deserved. I reached out to Magnolia to see if they had any grant opportunities because why not? It doesn't hurt to ask for help! To my surprise, the Executive Director of the Magnolia Foundation

reached back out to me. He told me our story compelled him to see what they could do to help.

This eventually led to not only my family receiving the accessible home of our dreams, but our home was completely paid for after our episode featuring Tim Tebow aired in January 2018!

We are thankful for the experience Tammy's book has brought us and excited to say that we have become experts in grant writing ourselves. We can pass along our knowledge to other families so we can help them get the funding they need as well.

Many Thanks,
Melissa Copp
Mother of Calan and Lawson (two boys on wheels)
Executive Director
Raising Wheels Foundation®
PO Box 23234 | Waco TX 76702
www.RaisingWheelsFoundation.org

Raising Wheels FOUNDATION

Today, the Copps are paying it forward through The Raising Wheels Foundation.

So many great things have happened to many of the families my book serves, so to hear that one of those families turned around and formed a foundation to give back and help families in need like they were. JUST AMAZING!

> *You also need to anticipate how much time you'll need to raise the money. The more funds you're trying to raise, the more time you'll need in your plan.*

Once you've figured out your approach for each of the three fundraising methods, it's time to lay out a more detailed plan.

Remember, this is just a guide. Nothing is set in stone; you can change things up as you go along. You might find that you're able to raise all the money you need just by applying to funding sources. That's totally fine, and definitely the easiest of the three processes: You'll just have to apply to numerous organizations.

If you decide to do a crowdfunding campaign, to be successful you'll need to work on it every day until you reach your goal. If you don't, your odds of being successful go down dramatically.

The Community Fundraiser is the most work of all three methods, but it's also the most effective way to raise a lot of money. The best part of this approach is that those who attend your event will donate money to your cause and have a great time while doing it! It's a true win-win!

. . .

My 13-Step Process

To prepare your funding plan, read through this section and follow every step. Don't skip any of them; they're all very important to the process.

Once that's done, go through the Funding Source Directory and find the funders who are the best fit for your situation. You could also do a Google search for additional funders, as there are far more out there than I could include in this book.

I can't emphasize this enough: To be successful, you need to take the time to put together a good funding plan. If you follow all the steps listed below, you'll have a GREAT funding plan! I highly recommend following the steps in the order listed. This will ensure that you keep the process moving along, which will increase your chances of reaching your goal.

The Simple Steps Are:

1 Identify the products and/or services you need.

What is the item you need that will help your child, whether physically, socially, academically, recreationally, vocationally, or by increasing their independence?

Where can assistive technology assist you in any of these categories? This will determine your need.

2 Get a cost estimate for the product or service you need.

You need to get the cost of the item from the equipment or service provider. This can be done by requesting a price quote. It's common for a Funding Source to require a discount, so when you call for the quote, let the store know you may be purchasing the product through a funder and ask if they'll offer a discount. Most funding sources are 501(c)(3) organizations and require a discount to provide funding.

3 Take a picture of your child with the item you're requesting funding for.

The best part of your ask letter will be a picture of your child on or using the product or service that you're asking for. The item your child needs may not always be a device: It could be a service like horse therapy. In this example, a photo of your child participating in a session with a horse would be the best thing you could possibly put in your ask letter. The point of the photo is to show what this device or service means to your child. That photo will say more than your words could ever convey.

4 Get a letter of medical necessity.

It's always best to get a letter of medical necessity from a physician, but if that's not available, you can get one from a therapist or teacher. This letter will explain why your child needs this product, assistive technology, or service. I've included a sample of an often-funded letter of medical necessity in the appendix; you can use it by filling in the blanks with your information.

5 Gather important documents for your applications.

There are certain important documents that some funders may require. Every funding source is different; some require additional financial documents and others don't require any documents at all. To prepare for this process, I suggest putting multiple copies of the items listed below in your file for easy access:

- Previous year's W-2
- Most recent pay stubs for each parent
- Insurance information for your child
- Medical History Sheet including diagnostic codes, list of surgeries, etc.

6 Submit a claim for the item needed and a price quote to your insurance to get a denial letter.

Most often, the product, assistive technology, or service you are requesting is going to be denied by your insurance company. If this weren't the case, there would be no need for this funding guide! You want to submit a claim as soon as you've collected all your documents. The point is to get the denial letter. It usually takes some time to get a response, so get this step done as soon as possible. Some funders require a denial letter before they'll consider giving money and others don't, but the funder you've identified as your top match may need it. You want to have it in hand when you're ready to apply, so get that letter, just in case.

I suggest calling your insurance company before you submit anything. Explain what you're doing because they may suggest the best way to submit your information to get a denial letter more quickly.

7 Write a high-quality Ask Letter.

To me, this is THE MOST IMPORTANT STEP. Please take your time here. You don't have to be a great writer; you just need to tell your child's story. Pull at their heartstrings with this letter. You want it to go to the top of the application pile. Be honest and don't hold back. Most of the people you're requesting financial assistance from have a funding program specifically because they want to help where there's a need. They are there to help

you, but you're not the only one who needs assistance. These organizations often have more people asking for help than they're able to support, but don't let that deter you. It really is easy to get the money, just tell your story and clearly show them how much their funds would change your child's life. It truly works.

8 Research funding sources to find the best match for your child.

Now comes the fun part. Maybe not for you, but this is the part I like best: Finding the perfect fit! A perfect fit can be defined by if they're set up to give money for what you need, for where you live, and for your child's specific disability. That's a perfect fit. If they don't give money to people who live in Illinois and that's where you live, that's obviously not a good fit. Look at the geographic location where they fund first, then see what they fund for.

9 Call and talk to the funders that you select.

I tell everyone I work with, "It is extremely important to call the funders and ask any questions you may have." I also tell them, "Even if you don't have a question, come up with one. It can't hurt for them to have heard your name, so always call a funder if you can." Now keep in mind, not all funders want a call. Out of all the funders I've worked with in the past, there's only been one that doesn't want calls from any of the families. Very seldom do funding sources say, "Don't call."

10 Complete any forms required by the funder.

Some funding sources have their own application. Please use it exactly as they have it laid out. Do not change the order of their questions. If a question does not apply, never leave it blank. Enter N/A (not applicable), that way they know you did not miss a question. All the funding sources listed in this manual will have the application included with their information if they have a form you need to fill out.

11 Make sure to follow up with the funder after 30 days.

I always follow up with a funding source if I haven't heard back after a

month. Most of the funding sources in this manual meet once a month or on a rolling basis. If you haven't received a response in a month, I would call to check in and see if they need anything else from you.

12 If you are funded, send a Thank You letter!

This twelfth step is almost as important as Step Seven. You must send a Thank You Letter to the funder. I can't tell you how many times I've heard from funders that they never got a thank you letter. They understand that most families with special needs children are busy and often overwhelmed, but the thank you is not for them: They want to give it to the donors who gave them the money to give to you. This is SO VERY IMPORTANT! Don't just send a thank you, but also send a picture of your child with whatever it is they funded for you.

13 If you receive a NO, keep going and get a YES.

If you get a "No" letter, don't give up. You will get some denials, but you will get a YES if you keep at it. Just ask someone else! Be sure to also send a thank you letter to those who've taken the time to review your application, even if they sent you a "No." This may seem unnecessary, but they will remember those who thanked them regardless of their decision, and you may want to reapply someday.

Sometimes High Cost Items Need to Be Explained

There may be times when you are requesting assistance for a need that funders are not familiar with, or for which they may question the amount you're seeking. For example, if a funder is not familiar with service dogs, they may see it as nothing more than an expensive pet. The cost of just one animal may seem exorbitant to them and put you at the bottom of the pile of applicants as they question whether you're asking for too much money. In your Ask Letter, it's important to provide some justification behind the cost of the need. To show how this can be done, below is an explanation written by Ty The Dog Guy, an expert in dog training, about the cost of service dogs:

Service dog pricing typically reflects three different areas:

Purchase of the dog. When we're talking about finding a dog who is stable, confident, and friendly enough to handle the pressures and stress of going into public and being surrounded by hundreds of people, cars, distractions, loud noises, etc. We must choose the right dog. Finding the right dog requires a great deal of manpower in talking with breeders, working with contacts, and otherwise scouring the local area for a suitable dog. Upon finding the right dog we normally expect to pay from $1,000-$3,000 for the dog.

Time in training. There are a great deal of man hours and expertise that goes into training a dog. It takes two months of hard work to train a dog to track down a lost child. That's just one component of the training. When you add in an obedience level ready for public access, and the various tasks associated with a service dog, it can be from 200-500 hours of training to get the dog ready. Our core team of three service dog trainers has a combined experience level of 25 years of training high-level dogs and possesses a great deal of expertise. Our two junior trainers hold a combined seven years working in the dog industry and also bring a great deal of experience to our service training efforts.

Follow through. A trained dog is only trained so long as the owner maintains the training. It's not enough for us to get the dog trained. We typically have 10-15 private sessions following the training to acclimate and customize the training for our local clients. For out-of-state clients, we require up to a week on location to show them how to maintain the training.

Each phase of acquiring the service dog is heavy in man hours and real costs. For that reason, a typical service dog will range from $10,000 to $25,000, depending on the tasks the dog is trained for.

This is a great example of the detail you need to include to justify a big, unfamiliar expense.

Letter of Medical Necessity (LMN)

A Letter of Medical Necessity (LMN) is an official document justifying the medical need for a product or service you are seeking for your child. Many funders require you to have someone substantiate why your child needs the specific product or service they need, stating why this is medically necessary and how it will help improve your child's health or quality of life. This person should be a certified professional in the healthcare industry such as a teacher, physician, therapist, or other involved professional.

Most health insurance companies require an extensive, lengthy, and very detailed Letter of Medical Necessity (LMN), but for fundraising purposes, the LMN that I ask you to include in your Funding Plan should just be one page. You will only be submitting your LMN to your insurance to get a denial. If you think there's a chance that your insurance company might pay for any or all of what you're asking for, then you need to have a much more detailed LMN written up for you.

Most, if not all, of the funding sources listed in the Funding Source Directory don't require an LMN, but I like to have you include one anyway. It shows that your child's therapist or doctors feel that the product or service you are asking for will improve your child's health and quality of life, medically. That will improve your chances of being successful in your funding efforts.

Just because the product or service is ordered on a prescription by a doctor does NOT automatically mean it is medically necessary. You need a letter written and signed by a certified medical professional that states exactly WHY it is medically necessary and what the benefits are for your child.

I have included a sample letter that I give to parents who need help getting an adaptive bike. This was written by a doctor, not by me, and is very simple, clear, and to the point. Over the years I have seen many different letters, and this has

been the best one for our customers' purposes. It is easy, quick, and very effective. I recommend that you model your letters after this one. All you have to do is take this letter, change "bike" to the equipment or service you're asking for, change the bulleted points to fit your child's situation, and fill in the blanks.

A few things to keep in mind when your LMN is written:

- Use words that anyone who is not in the healthcare industry will understand.
- Don't use acronyms. For example, don't say CP. Say Cerebral Palsy.
- The person who is looking at your application or grant request most likely won't know what the product or service can do for your child or may not even know what it looks like. Describe the item in detail but in layman's terms.
- When waiting for your denial letter (which is often required by funders), you need to communicate with your health insurance company. This part of the whole process is usually the most frustrating, so if you stay on top of it, you can keep it moving along. Call and check on it and then follow up again. Don't let too much time go by.
- Get the Letter of Medical Necessity started at the beginning of the process. That way it will be in motion while you're working on the other steps. It's just a great timesaver to keep things moving.
- You can write the LMN yourself and ask the recommending professional to sign it. If you have to wait for someone to write the whole thing, it could take a very long time. Most healthcare providers are very busy, and your request could easily end up lost in someone's stack of work. It will save time to write it yourself and have them sign it, but don't do that without first asking if it will be okay.
- I like numbered or bulleted sections for listing the diagnoses. Most children have more than one, and bullet points make it easy to understand and see clearly. Do this for your child's diagnosis, condition, list of limitations due to

those diagnoses, and the list of benefits or ways the product or service will help improve those limitations.

Here is an easy-to-follow list of the things you should include in the Letter of Medical Necessity:

- Your child's name, age, DOB.
- Your child's diagnosis; all of them if more than one. You can also include their diagnostic codes, but that is not required.
- Explain your child's condition. Remember to explain their diagnosis in terms that anyone can understand. Remember to put these in bullet points.
- List all the limitations your child has because of their diagnosis. Remember to bullet these. This is the most important part. NO NEED MEANS NO PRODUCT OR SERVICE!
- Make a list of how that product or service will help improve those limitations.
- In the last paragraph, write just a few sentences on "the why" of your child's needs for that product or service and the benefits from it.
- Get the signature of a professional and include their typed-out contact information and full name.

Tammy's Tip

Most funders don't know or understand all the limitations that a child may have, so don't assume that they do. Explain them clearly. Also, keep in mind that if there is a similar product that costs less than another, you will need to explain why that less expensive item won't work for your child.

Sample Letter of Medical Necessity

This is one of my favorite Letters of Medical Necessity. It is simple and clear. All you need to do is change the wording to the product or service you're trying to get. This is only a guide: You will have to make changes to match your needs.

Sample Letter of Medical Necessity

Date:
RE: Name
DOB:
Equipment Requested:

To whom it may concern:

(Name _____) is a (Age _____)-year-old girl or boy with a medical (diagnosis of _____). With the proper support of her trunk and feet, she can move her legs reciprocally on a therapeutic mobility device and move independently! We are recommending a (brand and model of bike _____) Therapeutic Mobility Device for several medical reasons.

- **Cardiovascular Health:** The therapeutic mobility device will give (Name) the opportunity to strengthen (his/her) cardiopulmonary system by using (his/her) larger leg muscles for repetitive motions. This activity will also promote better breathing and respiratory activity.
- **Joint Range of Motion:** Pedaling action will be especially helpful for (his/her) hips and knees and will prevent lower extremity contractures and orthopedic deformities.
- **Muscle Strengthening:** Will provide resistive training of anti-gravity muscles by pushing the pedals repetitively.
- **Coordination:** Improving hand/eye activities with the need to brake at the appropriate times.

The (name and make of the bike) Therapeutic Mobility Device is also being recommended for its long-term benefits of:

- **Self-Esteem:** Allowing (name) to participate in activities (his/her) peers can do, giving (him/her) confidence, increased social opportunities, and opportunities for cognitive growth.
- **Independence:** (name) is able to pedal this therapeutic mobility device independently and when doing so experiences great success and freedom.

If you have questions regarding this recommendation, please contact me. Thank you for promoting a healthy lifestyle for (name) by giving (him/her) a safe and healthy way to move.

Sincerely,
Name and Affiliation

Ask Letter: The Most Important Document

The most important document you will write in this whole process is your "Ask Letter." This is where you tell your child's story, and you need to tell it from your heart. Be honest and open about everything, including your financial condition, your child's challenges and weaknesses, and anything else that is affecting your life. The most important part of this letter is your explanation of why your child NEEDS what you are asking for. It's important to be clear and concise, but you also need to explain what the product or service you're asking for will do to benefit your child's quality of life (that is a buzzphrase among funders). Keep it simple. What you most need to do is effectively answer how and why having this request granted will improve their quality of life.

More often than not, parents spend a lot of time discussing the physical improvements that what they're asking for will deliver, but it's really important to also include social benefits such as your child feeling like they fit in with their peers, improvements in self-esteem, etc. For example, one of the biggest things that an adaptive bike can do for a child with special needs is to improve their self-esteem — it lets them do something that other children can do and they feel like they belong. There's nothing like being able to participate in the same activities as your peers to feel like you fit in.

Make sure that you include some of the information that's in your Letter of Medical Necessity — in fact, you can easily write this letter by entering the contents of your Letter of Medical Necessity into a Word document, and just add a bit more background and storytelling. This is an important way to make sure that your Ask Letter justifies the cost of what you're purchasing, as the funders may not be familiar with some items and their prices.

Just remember, you want to **pull at their heartstrings.** It is okay and even a benefit to be honest about your child's situation and to tell the story for your child, but don't make things worse than they are. Be sure to tell the funder your complete financial situation. If the funder has an income limit and you aren't completely honest, they will find out. I know one funder who actually visits ev-

ery single family before she makes a decision. She once told me about a time when she went to visit a family, saw their house and cars, the big fancy ring on her finger, and didn't even consider their application. Whoever you're writing to might check, so be honest. Besides, it's good Karma!

Once your letter is written, share it with a friend or family member to ask for their opinion. See if your letter was written in a way that they say made them not want to put it down until they'd read it all the way through. You want it to be compelling enough to stay at the top of the pile of applications the funder receives.

Sample Ask Letter - Template

Although there are real benefits to sitting down and writing a heartfelt letter to a funder, not everyone has the time, desire, or emotional energy to compose a highly personal letter about their child. If you have identified a funder that matches you geographically and whose giving mission is relevant to your need, you can use the template we've provided below. All you need to do is fill in the relevant information and send it off with the appropriate documentation, which should include:

- Letter of medical necessity from your child's healthcare provider
- Rejection of claim from your insurance company
- Any relevant information on the service or product that you're asking for help buying
- A photo of your child

Sample Ask Letter

Funding Organization Name
Street Address
City, State, Zip

Date:

To the Giving Committee:

My name is _____, and I am writing on behalf of my son/daughter (____ Name_____). _____(Name)_____ was born on ____(Date of Birth)_____, ___# of weeks early) and weighing just ____(weight)____. He/she has a diagnosis of _____, which has had a significant impact on him/her and our family. He/she is unable to _____.

We have recently been told about (product or service) by (child's name)'s physician/therapist/teacher/other, who has explained that it will help him/her immeasurably by (explain the benefit of product or service). We have applied to our insurance company, but they have denied our claim and the (cost of product or service) price tag is simply out of our family's reach when combined with all of the other services that (Name's) condition requires.

We understand that your organization provides funding for the needs of children like (child's name). I am writing to you on (his/her) behalf, as well as on behalf of our entire family. Being able to provide (child's name) with (product or service) would immeasurable improve his/her quality of life.

I have attached for your review a letter of medical need from (child's name)'s (physician, teacher, therapist, other), as well as the letter denying our claim from our insurer and information on (product or service). I have also attached a photo of (child's name). Your assistance would mean the world for (him/her).

Sincerely,

Your Name

Sample Ask Letter

St. Peters
1891 Kaneville Road
Geneva, Il 60137

Dear Giving Committee;

One of my greatest heartbreaks as a parent of a multiply disabled child has been not being able to give my son everything he needs. Jacob is a triplet who was born 13 weeks prematurely. While his sisters are fine, Jacob has cerebral palsy, hydrocephalus, and a seizure disorder. He is legally blind, uses a G-tube for nutrition, and has scoliosis. His needs are astronomical. We are confined by family finances and what our insurance will cover. Unfortunately, this isn't always enough.

Jacob is now ten years old. We started researching Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy when he was 4 years old. The articles and anecdotal stories sounded promising, but the therapy was very expensive, and our insurance would not cover it. We added it to the long list of things we wanted for Jacob but couldn't afford. But we recently heard about an opportunity and we are hoping that you can help.

A local charity is bringing a portable chamber to our area. This means that a hyperbaric chamber is not only within our physical, geographic grasp, but it is going to be much more affordable than it would normally be.

Unfortunately, we still aren't in the financial position to pay, even at the much-reduced costs, and our insurance company still refuses to pay. but with the cost being much more reasonable, we are reaching out to your foundation for help.

There have been countless times in Jacob's life that we have counted on the generosity of others, and we are hoping that in this unique situation, we can count on you.

With a contribution from your foundation, we will finally be able to get Jacob into the chamber and see the changes in level of alertness that so many others have told us they've achieved. People in our disability community have seen immediate changes in their children's level of alertness: they became more vocal, were able to answer questions with shorter processing times, and actually initiated conversations on their own. We are hoping that, given the opportunity to use the chamber, Jacob will experience the same elevated level of animation.

We did not want to ask for assistance when the chamber's costs were so high, but with the reduced costs we are reaching out to your foundation for help: we hope you can make our dreams of improvement for Jacob a reality. Through your generosity, he will be given an opportunity to develop faster and further.

I have attached a few documents for your review, including information on the reduced cost hyperbaric chamber opportunity; a study on the benefits of hyperbaric chamber treatments for children with cerebral palsy; a letter from Jacob's physician, recommending the therapy; and most important of all, a photo of Jacob.

I look forward to hearing back from your organization and hope that you can make this amazing opportunity possible for us.

The Honeymans, Mom and Dad to Jacob

Sample Thank You Letter

Joey's Friends Too
P.O. Box 301
New Hyde Park, NY 11040
Attn:

Dear _____:

On behalf of Jaxon, Andy, Mia, and our entire Project Mobility community, thank you, thank you, thank you!

We have always said that we have the most amazing, generous donors, and you have proved our point. When we started planning our 2023 Holiday Adaptive Bike Giveaway, we were afraid our goal was a little too ambitious, but you really came through for the children.

Because Joey's Friends Too stepped up to pay for Jaxon, Andy, and Mia's bikes, we were able to give each of these deserving kids an adaptive bike that will provide them with the gift of mobility, freedom, and self-confidence.

At Project Mobility, our mission is to change lives one bike at a time ... and thanks to you, we kicked off the new year by changing more lives than we thought we could!

So, we'll say it again ...

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

We've attached photos of the kids enjoying their bikes.

With true gratitude,

Katherine Reda
Event Director, Project Mobility

Sample Thank You For Your Consideration

Agency name
Agency address
City, State, Zip

Date:

To the Giving Committee:

Thank you for taking the time to review our application for funding for early intervention for our son Adam, and for the careful consideration that you gave to our family's request. Although we were disappointed by your decision, I know that you receive countless requests from people who are in dire situations, and we appreciate how difficult it must be to choose from among so many deserving causes.

If there is any way that you could provide us with feedback on our application so that we can get a better understanding of where we fell short of your criteria for giving, we would truly appreciate it. Even if that's not possible, we want you to know how much we admire and value the good work that you do, and your thoughtful response.

Sincerely,

Chris and Katie Anderson

Find Your Own Funders

There are over 300 funding sources listed in the Funding Source Directory, but there are many more out there, so you should know how to seek out and research funding sources on your own. Every funding source in this book was found on the internet. If you don't have a computer, your local library has plenty readily available for your use. Finding funders requires persistence, but if you keep at it, you'll find them. One lead often directs you to many others, so just keep following the leads.

It's actually quite simple to find a funding source. Here are some useful tips:

- Start by visiting the website of the product you're looking to purchase. Many of them offer suggestions on funding sources they've found.
- Through all the years I've researched funders, I've found that one search leads to so many more. I've also found that the special needs community is full of sharing people who constantly share tips about great resources, whether for money, services, or items like camps, service dogs, and more.
- There are many lending libraries and loan programs that have equipment you can borrow.
- Each term you enter in a web search should be relevant to your situation. If you change the keywords you use in your search to something similar, you'll get a lot of new results.
- I usually pass the first few pages of websites associated with a search word, clicking to at least five or six pages back, and sometimes more. Doing this helps you find funders that others haven't because they only search the first page or two before typing in a new keyword.
- Take care while you search. There's a lot of information out there about free money, grants, and such, and not all of it is good. Make sure you only choose legitimate funding sources.

- Never ever pay someone for a funding source. If they ask for money, get out of there quickly. There's only one exception to this rule, and that's The Foundation Center. They offer a monthly subscription service for funding for individuals, including a lot of education scholarships. I know they are an awesome resource, but I would suggest that you make sure they're a fit for your purposes before paying them.
- As you research funding sources, you'll find a lot of useful information along the way. Make sure you save any funding sources you find by copying and pasting their website into a separate document, then go back later and research each one in greater depth.
- Be careful when using any search terms that have to do with money: there are a lot of people out there who are looking to take advantage of people. Use your common sense.
- Look for recent activity on each website. If a site comes up but contains old information and hasn't had activity for quite some time, it may be an indication that the organization isn't around anymore. Look for the last update to the website by the organization, dates of upcoming events, and recent posts from people visiting the site for clues about this.
- Check eligibility requirements first. There's no sense in wasting your time researching an organization that is not a match to your situation.
- Keep a separate list of funders and organizations for which you're not a match but may work for someone else you know. Email or post the information where those others can find and make use of that source. You might just open the door for someone else, and they'll do the same for you if they can!
- If you're not sure you're a match with an organization, send an inquiry. You can also use this as an excuse to make a call.
- Make sure the website you're visiting is a safe one. Back out if any warnings come up!
- Make sure your search words are typed correctly.

Creating a Successful Funding Plan

- You do not have to pay for research. If a website asks for money, move on and search elsewhere. Also, never give out financial information when searching for grants or funding sources.
- Be persistent! Don't stop after the first couple of websites that come up. Keep reading and researching!
- Change the order of the keywords you're searching, or use different words with the same meaning: grants/funding, children/kids, etc.
- Remember that a great fit and resource may not have its funding information right up front. You might have to dig deeper into the website to find what you need.
- I can't tell you how many times I've found what I thought was a great funding source and gotten really excited, only to find out after spending half an hour on their website that they weren't a fit because of geographic location. I repeated this mistake more times than I like to admit, so now the first thing I do — before I even look to see what they fund for — is check for GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION. This tip will save you a ton of time!
- Don't give up. It took me a long time to learn how to research effectively. I've learned to get in and get out; if you have to spend too much time trying to find their funding information, save the link to call them later and just ask. Some websites are just not easy to navigate.
- If you're not sure, call and ask about their funding policies.
- If a source says it will only fund a 501(c)(3), do not apply. It means they only give to nonprofit organizations and won't fund individuals. They are not going to be a fit for you.

Suggested key search words: NICU, preemie, neonatal intensive care, premature infant, autism, disability, children, grant, funding sources. Also, type in your child's specific diagnosis and funding for the product or service that your child needs.

Here's a list of criteria to determine whether you are a good match for the funding source:

- **Geographic Location —** If you don't live where they fund, you're out.
- **Age —** This guide is for children — that could be any age up to 21. Every funder is different; some think a child is an adult at 16 or 18, and some even think of them as a child through the age of 22.
- **The product or service you need funding for —** They may not fund a service dog (or another product or service) so it's not a match.
- **Income might matter —** This is not the case for most, but it's possible.

. . .

Tips from Tammy
My Favorite Quick Tips for Funding Success

- The very first step in the funding process is to choose the most appropriate products or services needed.
- Always try before you buy.
- Save time and get more than one price quote for the same item from different vendors. Most funders will require three quotes from different vendors.
- Take a photo of your child with the product or service that you're trying to get funding for. The adorable image of your child enjoying an item or service that will improve his or her quality of life will go a long way toward getting you the monetary assistance you need.
- When researching a funder, the first thing you should consider is geographic location; you must be a match.
- Submit all required paperwork to your insurance company right away; they need time to process your denial letter. Some funders require this and some don't, but you should have it in hand in case you need it.

- Follow instructions! If the funder asks for only three typewritten pages and you give them four, they will file your inspiring story under “G” for garbage.
- Go big or go home. Applying to multiple funders for the same item will drastically increase your chance of being funded.
- Don’t forget to donate any products your child has grown out of to a friend, a neighbor, a school, a therapy center, or even a lending library. If you plan to do this, mention it in your application. Funders love to see people paying it forward, and it increases your chances of getting that same item in the future, in a larger size, from the original funder.
- Attend conferences and expos that focus on special needs families. This is where you’ll find DME companies, therapy clinics, vendors, and other exhibitors who will bring incredible knowledge and support to your family during this journey.

Connect with local nonprofits by having face-to-face meetings. Meet with the executive directors or program managers of nonprofits and organizations that specifically cater to special needs or NICU families. Establishing a relationship will benefit you in the long run.

- Ask for help! You won’t get anything you don’t ask for. Be specific when you ask. If your child needs a specific therapy or piece of equipment, put together a small informational sheet that says what it is you need and how much you anticipate it costing (out of pocket). Don’t forget to include pictures of items you need or the therapy clinic you’re going to.
- Join parent support groups. Support comes in all forms ... monetary, physical, and emotional. Support group members not only offer encouragement during frustrating times, but those other parents are also the BEST resources for product recommendations, therapy options, and specialist feedback.
- Create a medical summary sheet with photos of your child. This will come in

handy when you're talking to organizations or making new connections: it will help them remember you and what your family's needs are.

- Try, try again. If you apply for a grant and don't get it, move on to the next one. Don't give up. There is support out there: you just have to keep going until you get what you need.
- Check with therapy clinics to see if they have a loaner closet. If there's a specific piece of equipment you need for your child, they may have what you're looking for and let you borrow it for a while.
- Advocate for your child's needs by talking to local civic organizations. Most clubs have money set aside for grants to benefit local families. Set up a meeting with their president and tell them about your child's needs to see if they can help.
- Join adaptive leagues. There are plenty of them set up for hobbies and sports across the nation. These programs are usually free or low-cost, and they're also a great way to connect with other families and find out about other support systems you may not have heard about.
- Speak up. Don't be afraid to appeal a decision, fight for additional benefits, or advocate for your child in every setting. Whether it's an IEP meeting in school or a charge on your provider bill, make sure you're being a voice for your child. It might end up saving you money in the long run or help you find additional resources.

. . .

Tips from Parents Who Have Received Funding

- Don't apply for grants you KNOW you don't qualify for! Don't waste the funder's time or yours!
- ALWAYS send a thank you - no matter what the outcome. If you were funded, mention what the funding was used for and include a picture of your child using/enjoying it.

Creating a Successful Funding Plan

- Provide the most up-to-date info possible, i.e. medical summary/info.
- Let the organization know about any in-kind donations you can contribute. If you or a friend or family member can build, donate, or source supplies at a discount, offer it.
- Follow instructions EXACTLY as stated! Put the info in the order they want, attached or stapled. You don't know what happens to your application when it is received, but the organization's staff does! Make your application as easy as possible for the funder to work with and understand.
- Tell the truth. Honesty is ALWAYS the best policy!
- Research the organization before you contact them. Know who they are and understand what they have gone through to build their organization and why it was started.
- When I am writing the Ask Letter or explaining about my child's life, I watch her while I'm doing it. (She doesn't know this!) It really helps me focus and tell the story from my heart!
- When writing to the organization, use phrases from their mission statements and other sections of their website. Show a direct relationship between their beliefs, your situation, and what you are trying to accomplish with their help!
- Don't forget why you're doing this. Your inspiration is always your child.
- If you have a big project that you're trying to find, you can make it easier by identifying the total amount that you need and then breaking it down into smaller amounts. So if you need to remodel your bathroom to make it accessible, you get a quote from a contractor - say the cost is going to be $24,000. You can submit grant applications to several charities at once so they each fund a portion of it. You'll find that most of the applications you fill out will ask you whether you've asked other organizations for help.
- Never send an email or letter without a picture of your child attached.
- Once you get a person on the phone at a charity, ask if they know of any other charities that you can reach out to.

- Ask the charities that help you how you can help them. If they want photos of your child, or a video telling how much they've helped, always take the time.
- The hardest part of asking for money is the first step – gathering all of your information and applying for the first few grants. But once you get your first one you'll be so excited that it will feel easy after that.
- **Charities want to help you, so don't be intimidated. They want to give.**

. . .

Important Tips Directly from Funders

- Read our guidelines carefully. If you don't meet each and every requirement, don't apply.
- If we only fund for children who live in California and you live in Florida, please don't apply. This is often the biggest mistake that is made on applications.
- Never type using less than a 12-point font unless the guidelines state you can do so. We know you want to squeeze in more information, but it's too hard to read.

If you don't get funded the first time, you can usually apply again. Sometimes we just have more applications than money, but that could change at the next meeting. Make sure you check our guidelines on how much time you need to wait before you apply again.

- We read through a lot of applications, so please be as clear and concise as possible. Sometimes less is more.
- If you are not sure of something, give us a call. We don't mind helping to clarify and it will save us both time.

- A picture really is worth a thousand words. Include a photo of your child with your application.
- If we have requested additional items to complete your application, please get them to us right away. We can't complete your application until we have all the items we need. I can't tell you how many requests are sitting on my desk waiting for more information.

Chapter Five

All About Community Fundraising

Fundraising for Bigger Needs

(Higher Dollar Amounts to be used for big items, like accessible vehicles, home renovations, service dogs, etc.)

As I've shared earlier in this book and always say, it's okay to ask for money and it's likewise okay to ask for help in raising that money.

In addition to teaching you how to successfully receive grants by applying to funding sources, I want to empower you by providing information on raising funds in other ways.

Larger dollar items like accessible vehicles or home renovations may cost more than one of the Funding Sources listed in this guide can pay for one child. A Community Fundraiser may be the best way to raise the funds you need.

There are plenty of creative fundraising ideas you can make your own, but Community Fundraising is the surest way to raise the most money in the shortest amount of time. It can be done anywhere, at any time, and you don't have to wait for selection or approval from a funding source to get started.

"The biggest thing that brings you success in a crowdfunding campaign is to be sure to have a captivating video that tells your story, including a heartfelt plea of why you are doing it and how it's going to help."

Example: Raising Funds for an Autism Service Dog
Saxton and his service dog, Sam

Saxton's mom raised $9,000 through a community fundraising luncheon for Sam.

Carrie Snowball's son Saxton has Autism. He also has epilepsy, which is common for children with Autism. Carrie discovered that there are service dogs trained specifically for children with Autism, and she learned that they have a profound positive effect. She decided she needed one for her son and found the perfect dog — Samantha. But Samantha cost $12,000 (which is actually a very reasonable price for a service dog.) The fundraising process to obtain Samantha started with the most elementary version of community fundraising; a lemonade stand!

Carrie's children worked together to create a stand on the front lawn, complete with a thermometer poster showing the amount they needed to raise. They colored the thermometer's 'temperature' in as money was raised from selling cookies and lemonade to neighbors, and they promoted their efforts on Facebook. In one day, they brought in $250. Carrie exclaims, "We don't live on a busy street, but people would give money as they passed by, even if they didn't want

anything to eat or drink."

After that first fundraiser, I was introduced to Carrie as a coach. I helped her create a crowdfunding campaign that brought in around $3,000. She emailed the campaign link to everyone she knew and asked all her friends to share the link on Facebook.

. . .

Sometimes You Need Larger Community Events

As Carrie moved closer to her goal, I helped her organize a larger community fundraiser. We decided to host a lunch at her local Texas Roadhouse. Carrie says that working with them was an incredible experience. Texas Roadhouse gave her three fundraising options and offered to hold as many fundraisers as needed to achieve her goal. As it turned out, all the money they needed — the missing $9,000 — was raised in just one luncheon.

The restaurant had a Public Relations person who met with Carrie and worked with her through every step of the process. Once Carrie decided on a lunchtime event, she selected a few items for the menu. The price of admission was set at $15 per person, which included the main course, a roll, a vegetable, and unlimited drinks. All Carrie had to pay for was the food and a few employees at a total cost of about $3.00 per person, and all additional funds taken in would go towards the goal of buying Samantha for Saxton.

Carrie was told the restaurant could only handle 300 guests, and the Texas Roadhouse representative encouraged pre-selling tickets so they'd know how many guests to expect. Carrie and her friends and volunteers sold 170 advance tickets, and in the end, another 130 arrived on the day of the lunch, selling out the event.

In addition to ticket sales, people made separate donations when they learned about the cause, including monetary gifts and items to be included in baskets that were raffled off. The raffle alone brought in $2,000.

Carrie had ten raffle baskets in all. She recommends going directly to individuals or businesses and asking for specific items rather than putting out a general call for help. Her event's raffle items included a fitness basket with a free month's gym membership, a free personal training session, and supplements. One donor provided music lessons, while others donated dog grooming and art lessons. A Beachbody coach donated a Shakeology basket including samples of shakes, a workout DVD, and a Bluetooth speaker. There were some bigger baskets, one of which included a signed jersey by Jimmer, BYU's popular basketball player, along with tickets to a Utah Jazz game. Carrie emailed The Piano Guys to see if they would be interested in doing a benefit concert. While they were unable to do the concert, their marketing director responded quickly to Carrie's email with tickets to their Christmas concert, and a hotel donated a one-night stay which was combined with the concert to become the biggest fundraising basket of the raffle.

Once people heard that Carrie was looking for raffle items, they volunteered to help with contributions. They collected gift cards and donations from stores, and people ended up buying $200-$300 worth of raffle tickets each. When I asked Carrie whether she'd considered doing a silent auction instead, she said that it wouldn't have worked for her event because people were popping in for lunch and leaving quickly, but she agreed that silent auctions have been known to bring in as much or more for just one basket as she collected for all of her raffles combined, and so they should be considered for other types of events.

On the day of the luncheon, the restaurant opened at 11 a.m. and people began lining up for entry at 10:30. Texas Roadhouse was constantly busy for her luncheon until it ended at 1:00 p.m. Ty the Dog Guy was Samantha's trainer, and he brought her to the lunch so people could meet her, learn about the service they were supporting, and ask him questions. Connecting with the cause they're helping means a lot to people.

. . .

A Few Marketing Strategies

To help people learn about Saxton, Samantha, and the importance of this event, I created a Facebook page where Carrie posted updates on her progress. She included information about the raffle baskets as they were being collected along with pictures and videos of Saxton when he met Samantha and went through training. The page allowed people who were donating to see exactly how their support was helping Saxton.

Carrie recommends building your event around something people need anyway. Everyone who came to her event needed to eat, and they were happy to spend their lunch break supporting a child with Autism. Another key to her success was working to explain the need, including educating people about what a service dog can do and why the cost is so high. Most were familiar with service dogs but hadn't known how much they cost, and everyone walked away with a greater appreciation for the therapies available for Autism.

A few other strategies that contributed to this event's success included handing out flyers and visiting nearby businesses and schools and inviting people there to attend. Friends sold tickets where they worked, and this led to many businesses supporting the event by purchasing tickets for their employees. A few that couldn't leave work to attend ordered take-out, and one company spent $500 to treat nine employees, then bought $200 in raffle tickets. As a result of reaching out to so many people and businesses, Carrie received many offers to cover whatever she was short.

Carrie says advertising is important, and that if she'd had more time, they would have done more. Even without it, with just a month of planning, they were able to hit capacity and reach their goal. She recommends reaching out to different audiences in the community. She told me about a friend of hers who's trying to raise funds for a dog, and who feels like she's begging for money from the same people. Carrie told her to try to reach different circles. She told her that the school community holds two fundraisers to serve others each year and that if she went to them, she'd likely be selected. "I've given her great ideas for fundraisers that I know work every year at my school. They raised between $7,000 and 9,000 dollars for leukemia, and the kids love it."

> ***Big Tip from Carrie:*** *People want to know how much of what you raise is going directly to your cause. Fundraisers should have no administrative cost or as low a cost as possible. Supporters want to know that the majority of their money is going directly to the need, and are more likely to support an event where that's the case.*

What's Harder — Putting on a Big Community Fundraiser, or Living Without the Products or Services You Need?

How many of you are reading this and thinking, "Wow, that just sounds like way too much work!" Carrie said her friend keeps complaining and asking for ideas, then never takes her advice. Are you going without what your child needs because fundraising feels too daunting?

Putting on an event to raise thousands of dollars can definitely be a lot of work. But stop and think about how hard it is to live without the item or service your child needs. Before they got Samantha, Saxton had seizures every day. Since she arrived, Saxton's seizures have nearly disappeared. (See Carrie's telling of

Saxton's story below for more about how Samantha has changed Saxton's life.)

Was the work Carrie put into that luncheon worth it? Wouldn't any amount of work be worth it? I hope that as you read this book, rather than feeling overwhelmed at the idea of raising money, you'll be motivated, inspired, and excited. Nothing is stopping you from reaching your goals. I hope that, as you learn more about fundraising, you'll decide that you too can raise what you need, no matter the amount.

. . .

Samantha and Saxton

by Carrie Snowball

Samantha has drastically improved Saxton's life! Saxton has several types of epilepsy: He'd been having over 100 myoclonic seizures a day and grand mal seizures a few times a month. We tried numerous medications that only seemed to help with his grand mal seizures. We even tried the modified Atkins diet, which he didn't tolerate at all, and lost 10 pounds in one month. At our final neurology appointment before bringing Saxton home from the hospital, the doctor had wanted to discuss Vagus Nerve Stimulation surgery in hopes that it would help, but I was not yet ready to discuss brain surgery!! The first weekend we had Samantha stay at our house for a "sleepover," we'd noticed that Saxton had very few seizures. When we took Samantha back to her trainer, Saxton's seizures gradually returned. We brought Samantha home for good on December 4th, 2014, and as of May 23, 2015, we haven't seen Saxton have a myoclonic seizure, and he made it almost 4 months without a grand mal! There's no scientific evidence that Samantha played a role in this new seizure pattern, but we are believers!

Samantha was trained in search and rescue because Saxton likes to run away ... or just run — we haven't figured out which. But he won't answer when we call for him, which presents another problem. Sam has had to find Saxton several times. They both think it's a fun game and Saxton squeals with excitement ev-

ery time Samantha finds him. If he goes out our door, Sam will come get me. On one particular day, I had put Samantha in her place while I ate lunch. Saxton was supposed to be playing. Sam kept whining and whining. I thought she just wanted to get out of place until I looked at her. She was facing the opposite direction and whining towards the room that Saxton was supposed to be in. I quickly let her out of place and she ran to the "escape route." Saxton had gone out the sunroom door and the garage and was running towards our gate. I stopped him and brought him back in, then started to put my lunch away. I had just gotten to the refrigerator when Sam came trotting into the kitchen staring and whining at me. He had gone back out the sunroom door, figured out how to open our slider, and had run right back outside. He didn't get quite as far that time.

Apart from these huge differences that she is making, it's often the small changes that bring tears of gratitude to my eyes. Saxton speaks so much better now that he is not having seizures and he's in "control" of something. He listens better. He doesn't run in the parking lot. He will walk beside Samantha in the grocery store or hang onto the back of the cart instead of having to be kept in the basket so he won't run away. She has given him freedom that he's never been able to experience before and opened up a whole new world for us. These seemingly small things mean the world to me.

Tammy's Tip

If you're going to do a fundraiser, GO BIG! It takes just as much effort to put on a small event as it does to put on a big one.

Chapter Six

Tammy's Tips for Community Fundraising

- Consider the age of the funding recipient. If the program benefits a child, have kid-appropriate activities: games, prizes, food, dunk tank, etc.
- Contribute whatever you can. If you have a musician in the family, have their band perform at the benefit.
- Have flyers with you wherever you go, and be ready to strike up a conversation with people! Don't be afraid to give a flyer to someone you feel might be interested.
- Contact local groups to help with the benefit: 4-H clubs, student councils, Operation Snowball, local high school bands, ANY entertainment and free help you can think of. Also ask whether any high school seniors need community service hours, Lion's Club, Jaycees, church youth groups, etc.
- An easy way to raise money is to put out donation cans at local stores, banks, gas stations, etc.
- Put a big container (like a milk jug or something with a lid) in each school classroom and have a contest as to which class can collect the most change. Give the winner a pizza party, ice cream social, or something similar as a prize. Use a slogan encouraging the students to "Be part of the CHANGE" that you're raising money for! Even the youngest kids love to collect change; it teaches them to donate to those in need and they feel good about helping.
- NEVER, EVER hesitate to answer questions when you know people are afraid to ask them! People feel uncomfortable with disability, and their hesitation to ask questions may lead to them opting out of getting involved. Talk with the benefit committee so everyone is on the same page, has all the same information, and the facts are all on the table.

Tammy's Tips for Community Fundraising

- Give back when you can! Show the community how much you appreciate their hard work by giving of yourself at the next benefit. It doesn't have to be something huge, just help out! Things you can do include baking items for a bake sale or folding/separating tickets, and if it's hard to get out of the house because of your situation, think of what else you might be able to do from home. Make phone calls or flyers. There are always things to be done behind the scenes that pull these events together!

- Contact the local newspaper to have them write a story about the benefit to spread the word for free.

- Remember to post a thank you in your local newspaper when the benefit is over letting people know how much their support means to you and your family.

- If you think it would be too much work to put on a community fundraiser with the potential to raise thousands of dollars, stop and think to yourself, "How long would it take me to make that much money at my job?" Now it sounds like a lot less work, doesn't it?

- When forming a team for your community fundraiser, make sure you have at least one or two people you KNOW you can count on. You may find that you lose a few along the way. Some won't be quite as committed as you'd hoped, so make sure you keep that in mind as you organize your team.

- From all the benefits that I've organized so far, I've learned that the most important part of the event is at the beginning, when everyone shows up at once. The registration table really has to be ready to go. Run through this part of the event with the people working at the table a few times beforehand because it often gets backed up until everyone gets the flow going.

- There's a lot of discussion among community fundraisers about whether offering a raffle or holding an auction (usually a silent auction) is better. I've found it's far better to sell raffle tickets, especially for higher-dollar items. For example, I did a fundraiser for my niece who was recently diagnosed with MS. We had a heated debate about whether to go with a raffle or an auction. I wanted it to be a raffle, but others wanted an auction. Since I was not the

one who'd rounded up all the prizes, I let them decide, but made my thoughts very clear: most people can come up with 10 or 20 dollars for those Chicago Blackhawks Hockey tickets, but only a few can come up with $300.00. If we sold just $10.00 worth of tickets to even half the people who came that day, we'd have made $2,000, but instead, they went to auction for less than $200.00! With that said, you really need to know your environment and your audience when you're choosing between an auction and a raffle: black tie gala = auction and sports bar = raffle.

- Make sure you have a microphone at your event. The first year we put on Project Mobility's Everybody Rides Annual Community Fundraiser, we discovered how much we needed one. It adds a level of excitement and fun, and when someone is talking at an event with hundreds of people, everybody needs to be able to hear. Not having one was a big mistake; most people couldn't hear and missed out on some great things being said.

- If you're putting together an outdoor event, plan for rain. At the first Everybody Rides 10 years ago, it rained from the moment I stepped off my front porch at 6 am until the event ended at 3 pm. Have an alternative location in the event of rain if possible, and if not, be prepared. We had many tents and a great turnout, but an alternative location would have kept a lot more people there. Although it poured all day, it did stop raining for about 45 minutes, which was just enough time for us to surprise three children with their very own adaptive bikes. As soon as that was taken care of, it started raining again! (put a photo of rain here the one where it looks like a sheet of ice with Gibby)

- Don't force people to be present to win a raffle. Many don't want to stay that long, and if it's required, they won't buy tickets. Better to collect a phone number or email address on the ticket and let them leave.

- If it's more of an adult event, like a run or a bike ride, make sure you have activities to keep kids entertained too. Face painting, sand art, spin art, and limbo contests are low-cost, high-reward ideas.

Chapter Seven

Crowdfunding as Another Way to Raise Money for Big-Dollar Needs

A Bit about Crowdfunding

Crowdfunding doesn't require a large amount of time to plan and organize the way that a big community event does. Still, there are things you can do to make a crowdfunding campaign even more effective. A successful crowdfunding campaign is still work, it's just a different kind of work. It's time spent asking individual people to participate and spread the word, especially people with lots of followers to post and share your crowdfunding link.

The crowdfunding campaigns that raise the most money do so because the organizers treat it like a full-time job: they're continually working to share and spread the campaign in as many creative ways as possible, throughout the fundraising period.

There are things you can do to make your campaign go viral, which means that it is shared and supported widely, with less effort on your part. This requires a well-designed and planned campaign that includes the following:

Select the best crowdfunding platform for your specific cause.

There are the big ones everyone is familiar with, like GoFundMe, but there are hundreds of other platforms to choose from, many of which target niche groups. Some of them are set up to be purely charitable, meaning they won't keep a percentage of what you raise, though they will ask your supporters to donate at the time of payment. People have the option not to donate.

One of these crowdfunding platforms is YouCaring.com, which is one of my personal favorites because I like the format and that it allows you to place a video at the top of your page as your main image, should you choose to make one. YouCaring charges a 3% transaction fee, but all crowdfunding sites charge a transaction fee. There's no other charge unless your donors choose to also donate to the site.

Tell your story.

This is probably the most important element of any crowdfunding campaign. The better you tell your story and demonstrate your need, the more people will be drawn to help, especially those who wouldn't know you otherwise. Be sure to include photos and videos.

Set your fundraising goal for what you actually need.

Don't try to make a profit: people will know and be less inclined to help if you're asking for more than is reasonable. Be sure to share specifically how the money will be spent.

Get the word out in as many ways as possible.

The link to your crowdfunding page can be shared on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, blogs, other social media sites, and of course through email.

Reach out for shares.

Message Facebook page administrators and Instagram influencers who may have a heart for your cause. Reach out to bloggers who are willing to write a post about your story and share your link. Ask your friends to share and to reach out to their favorite Facebook pages and bloggers as well. You want to build your community of share supporters, in addition to those who will donate.

Stay active.

Set up a Facebook event or page where you post updates on your story and crowdfunding progress. If you only share your crowdfunding link and don't have a page where more of your story and updates can be shared, it will die out quickly. People need fresh new information to promote to those who've already shared, so give them a reason to continue doing so.

Be sure to send "Thank You" messages.

Reach out to those who've made a contribution and show your gratitude on the Facebook page you create.

. . .

Crowdfunding Don'ts

- Don't use a platform that charges you: there are so many options that don't, so why would you?
- Keep in mind that there will always be transaction charges; it's just the crowdfunding platform itself that you don't have to pay if you select a free one.
- If you're sent a check for your campaign, it can't be added to the crowdfunding platform without making the payment yourself with the money you've received, and doing so will incur a transaction cost, so keep check-based contributions outside of your crowdfunding platform totals to eliminate unnecessary expenses.
- Timing is key. Don't run a campaign during major holidays. November to January is the worst time to run a campaign unless someone is dying or there's some other urgent need.
- Update your followers every day; if you just post once, you won't make money. You can't expect your campaign to go viral without work.

Champion Charlie
A Crowdfunding Success Story

by Michael Krupka

In 2007, Charlie was born four months premature, at just 24 weeks gestational age. Termed a “micro-preemie,” Charlie was one of the smallest babies at the Advocate Good Samaritan Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. He spent 97 days there, fighting for his life. He weighed 1.6 oz at birth and his tiny body suffered severe medical issues including two massive brain hemorrhages, collapsed lungs, and perforation of his intestines. For four months, we sat with him, watching him in his incubator, struggling to survive. He was so tiny he could fit in the palm of our hands! He was critically fragile and we came very close to losing him a few times — so close that the chaplain came to give him a bedside blessing. Finally, we were able to bring Charlie home! We were THRILLED that our NICU journey was over, but a new journey was just beginning.

Given his extreme prematurity and extensive medical complications, doctors warned us that Charlie’s future was very uncertain: they said that we’d have to just “wait and see” how he would develop.

Around Charlie’s first birthday, it became evident that he was missing some major milestones. He couldn’t sit up or crawl, had feeding/swallowing difficulties, and avoided using his right arm. At 18 months, Charlie was officially diagnosed with spastic quadriplegic Cerebral Palsy. Charlie’s Cerebral Palsy causes “over-firing” of his muscles when he sends a message from his brain to his body to move. This affects EVERYTHING!! Not just crawling or walking. It affects vision, swallowing, digestion, arm movement, dexterity, balance, and even sleep! The spasticity causes an extraordinary amount of muscle tension which also wreaks havoc on bones and joints. Charlie eventually developed the ability to commando crawl, but standing and walking began to seem like an impossibility.

Charlie’s condition improved after we discovered an innovative surgery called Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR). We had the most world-renowned surgeon

operate, followed by 5x per week therapy for many months. Charlie worked hard, harder than any 6-year-old should ever have to, and it paid off. He began standing and walking with the support of a walker; this was an absolute miracle for a boy who just a few months earlier was confined to a wheelchair!

Unfortunately, our health insurance plan does not provide anywhere near what is needed for Charlie's continued progress. As a solution, we set up a fundraising campaign on the crowdfunding website Crowdrise to give Charlie the chance to achieve what only his spirit can. He needed many things, including more therapy, specialized training to follow his surgeries, and an adaptive bicycle to improve his quality of life.

We chose the Crowdrise platform because it provides the ability for people to set up their own fundraising page where they can share their reasons for supporting Charlie and invite others to join their efforts to help. It's free to set up, but they do take a higher percentage of the funds raised than other fundraising pages due to the unique nature of the subpages and team concept.

As part of the campaign, those fundraising with us were encouraged to participate in a culminating event, the Naperville Marathon, to add a team-building activity and visual show of support to the virtual fundraising experience. For this reason, we titled the fundraiser: Champion Charlie.

For four months, friends and family made donations and shared the link to the Facebook page I'd set up. I posted regular updates for them to share, and they directed people to their customized Crowdrise pages. The result was $6,460 raised.

With this support, we were able to get Charlie much-needed additional therapy services, as well as a new bike so that he can ride faster, have more fun, and more importantly, get stronger. We got Charlie new AFOs (leg braces) that help his gait so he can walk faster and farther. Charlie was fitted with a special suit called a DMO, or Dynamic Movement Othosis. We call it his "Super Suit." It looks like a shortie SCUBA suit. He wears it every day, under his clothes. The suit is constructed of many small panels of Lycra. It is designed to fit his body

exactly. The suit helps direct Charlie's muscles to move in the manner in which they were intended, as opposed to what his CP directs them to do. Because of this suit, we have seen incredible improvements. He stands taller. His muscle movement is more precise, and his leg scissoring has been decreasing daily. The goal of wearing the suit is that his muscles will learn the proper operations we all enjoy and will allow him those same freedoms.

Crowdfunding campaigns can be remarkably successful. I remember that one time, my brother asked me to help a mom who was running a crowdfunding campaign to raise $5,000 for an adaptive bike for her son!

Just as I was about to call her to help her get set up, my daughter Katherine saw on Facebook that she'd already raised over $3,000 towards her goal in less than 24 hours, so I told my brother, "I don't need to help her if she raised that much money in 24 hours: she certainly doesn't need my help!" I knew she'd be successful, and she was. She'd raised it all by the next day!!

When that mom came into the store to pay for her son's bike, another young boy was there, getting an evaluation and trying out the adaptive bikes. She watched him for a bit, then went over to his mom and said, "We just had a successful crowdfunding campaign and raised more than we needed We'd like to give you the extra $100 and put it towards your son's new bike!" How cool was that?

Another great crowdfunding success story involved a dad who was a customer at The Bike Rack. He raised all the money they needed, over $5,000, in less than 24 hours.

"Just as I was about to call her to help her get set up, my daughter Katherine saw on Facebook that she'd already raised over $3,000 towards her goal in less than 24 hours..."

have worked with many parents to help them set up campaigns for their kids, but most of the time it's been the mom who I worked with. This was the first time I ever worked with a dad, and he did an awesome job!

Before You Start a GoFundMe, Check Out Help Hope Live

Safe and Supportive Fundraising

Please, read this BEFORE you or someone you love starts a GoFundMe or some other crowdfunding campaign. What you and your loved ones don't know can be detrimental to your financial future.

We are all familiar with crowdfunding sites: You've probably contributed to campaigns for people in need yourself. Now you're the one who needs help, and your friends, neighbors, and family members are trying to figure out what they can do.

Before they – or you – turn to the crowdfunding site whose name has become synonymous with raising money, I want to tell you about a different way to crowdfund that I think makes a lot more sense. It's called *Help Hope Live*, and you can find them online at www.helphopelive.org.

Help Hope Live is America's only charitable platform for medical fundraising. Ranked in the top 1% of all charities in the country by Charity Navigator for the last 18-plus years, *Help Hope Live* provides powerful benefits you can only get from this nonprofit.

GoFundMe is a tool we are all familiar with—but *Help Hope Live* pro-

vides a safer and stronger alternative with a boutique platform that includes one-on-one support from true medical fundraising experts.

Without guidance, you may find yourself making the wrong choice of fundraising platform, and ending up with additional burdens including losing asset-based medical benefits. For-profit fundraising platforms like GoFundMe share the same burden: All funds received count as assets and are potentially taxable.

Help Hope Live is different from other crowdfunding sites in a lot of ways, but the most important one is that they are a nonprofit charitable organization, and they have built a trusted platform and process that operates in a way that maximizes the benefit to you and your cause.

They provide one-on-one fundraising help, a customizable campaign page, and bill pay support, all designed to help you maximize the amount of money you raise and minimize the amount of work you have to do. That means you can focus on your baby, your family, and yourself.

These benefits also include the powerful option to pay it forward when you no longer need to fundraise, extending financial support to others in your region who are facing overwhelming medical and related expenses.

When you set up a crowdfunding campaign through *Help Hope Live*, you get a customized online campaign page to share your story and post photos, videos, and text updates.

You can include an interactive guestbook for people to send you notes of support, create custom event registration pages through

which you can sell tickets, collect RSVPs, share event information, and track your success.

Perhaps most important of all, donations made through *Help Hope Live* are tax deductible for contributors and are managed directly, so monies raised in your honor generally won't jeopardize your eligibility for asset-based assistance programs like Medicaid or SSI. And the money raised on your behalf is administered by *Help Hope Live*, so you don't have to spend time writing checks or paying bills.

One of the truly different things about *Help Hope Live* is that they take the time to get verification of your situation from a medical provider. This, combined with the fact that *Help Hope Live* administers all funds raised, provides an added layer of confidence for the people contributing to your needs.

Unlike other crowdfunding platforms, *Help Hope Live* is truly interested in your success. They will work with you to launch your fundraising campaign and guide you or your supporters through establishing a volunteer network, writing appeal letters, and planning fundraising events. Their team will even design flyers and materials and provide media and social media support.

There are a lot of options for fundraising online out there, but we think *Help Hope Live* is truly the best.

Community Service Organizations

There is another great funding source right in your local communities, quite a few as a matter of fact. They are Community Service Organizations. I actually call them “Grand Poobahs” or “the Water Buffalos.” If you know what that means, then you’re old enough to have watched the Flinstones cartoon.

Fred and Barney were members of their local Water Buffalo club. They wore these really cool furry hats that were huge and meant to make them look like big deals. Fred Flintstone was the head of the organization and they called him “The Grand Poobah.”

When someone asks me what is a Community Service Organization, I say, “Oh they are like the Grand Poobahs.” I just always thought that was funny!

There are many community service organizations in the town where you live. You may have a few of them or may even have them all. They are a great resource as most of them help those with special needs. They help people dealing with challenges in their communities, and they all fund for different things.

A helpful tip: If you know someone who is a member, ask them for help. They can approach the board of directors of the organization on your behalf. It’s always better to get help if you personally know an actual member. The other tip: become a member if you know they fund for what you need; and besides it really is a great way to give back to your local community. You will also meet a bunch of really giving people.

Call your local Chamber of Commerce or your Visitor's Bureau and ask them if they have a list of fraternal orders or social service organizations. Scan your local paper and look for stories on organizations that have helped people in your community. Don't forget another great funding source could be your own church, or another church in your community may help too. Most have a fund that is just for helping family members of churches.

You need to call or research each one, look at the national level first and call. They will give you the local chapter in your area. Most of these types of organizations have a national office. Some of these organizations have a National focus on a particular disability. Others will fund devices for a specific child that is known to the local club. Some of these groups will do an actual fundraiser just for your child as well. These types of funding sources are also great because they usually meet on a monthly basis or more and that helps your chances of not having to wait months to find out if they will fund your child's Assistive Technology.

COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Jaycees

Lions

Rotary

Kiwanis

Eagles

Sertomas

Loyal Order of the Moose

Elks

Pilot Clubs

Zonta

College Student Organizations - Sororities and Fraternities

Telephone Pioneers

Hospital Auxiliaries

Local Unions

Catholic Charities

Lutheran Social Services

Knights of Columbus

Masons Grotto

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Soroptomists

High School Groups - Like the Key Clubs

Special Interest Groups

Churches

NICU FUNDING SOURCES

NATIONAL

Friends of the NICU
GLO Preemies
Graham's Foundation
Lily's Hope Foundation
Project Sweet Peas
Rae Strong
NICU Helping Hands
Silvie Bells
Triple Heart Foundation

FRIENDS OF THE NICU

WWW.FRIENDSOFNICU.ORG
PURKIS@FRIENDSOFNICU.ORG

ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE NICU

Founded by Elanie and Tim Purkis, Friends of NICU has one simple mission: to help families with sick babies in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit spend more time with their babies. NICUs aren't a staple of every hospital and often times families travel hundreds of miles to their respective NICU. During their own stay in the NICU, Elanie and Tim met a number of parents who struggled to visit their kids due to financial struggles, and wanted to do something to help.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Our goal is to help families in need with gas cards, food vouchers and hotel vouchers so that they can spend more time with their sick babies. We do not give money to hospitals, medical clinics or any other health related institutions. We are simply a means of families helping other families.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PO BOX 581268, ELK GROVE, CA 95758
WWW.GLOPREEMIES.ORG
213-603-7989

GLO PREEMIES

ABOUT GLO PREEMIES

GLO Preemies seeks to raise the voice of black families in the NICU and post-NICU in terms of creating racial and health equity through professional healthcare services, family educational initiatives, and family support for African American families for a continuous 18 years. At GLO Preemies, our dedicated impact is driven by a small yet passionate team of five individuals who wholeheartedly believe in the transformative power of compassion and support for premature babies and their families.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

The website provides a Registration Link for NICU Families. This form is the first step for Black NICU families to access resources, support, and community tailored specifically to your needs. By signing up, you'll have the opportunity to receive telehealth services, a care box shipped directly to your home, weekly blogs, and much more, all designed to support you through your NICU journey. Please Note: This program is specifically designed for Black families with NICU experiences. Our mission is to provide targeted support and resources to address the unique challenges and disparities faced by Black NICU families.

200 E. SOUTHERN DRIVE,
BLOOMINGTON, IN 47401-6508
WWW.GRAHAMSFOUNDATION.ORG
888-466-2948

GRAHAMS FOUNDATION

ABOUT GRAHAMS FOUNDATION

Nicholas Hall founded Graham's Foundation in 2009 in memory of his son. His twins, Graham and Reece, were born fifteen weeks premature on Thanksgiving Day in 2006. They lost Graham after forty-five days, and Reece spent four months in the hospital before finally coming home. Nicholas created Graham's Foundation to help educate and inform preemie parents so they feel empowered and confident while they navigate the journey of prematurity.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Through their website you can:

- Request a complimentary care package, which is sent directly to the family's home
- Request a mentor for support during your NICU stay and along your journey home
- Download educational resources for valuable information on life in the NICU and the early learning years at home

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

LILY'S HOPE FOUNDATION

6801 TILGHMAN STREET #111,
ALLENTOWN, PA 18103
WWW.LILYSHOPEFOUNDATION.ORG
INFO@LILYSHOPEFOUNDATION.ORG
267-776-HOPE

ABOUT LILY'S HOPE FOUNDATION

Founded in 2013, Lily's Hope Foundation is an all-volunteer, non-profit that has provides resources, aid and hope to over families in their home state of Pennsylvania and across the country. Jennifer and Justin Driscoll had two children born prematurely: Lilian Hope and Aidan Patrick. Jennifer and Justin know first-hand what the families of Lily's Hope Foundation experience. After these two NICU experiences with their children, they were inspired to create Lily's Hope Foundation, which supports babies, children and their families with unexpected and urgent needs due to premature birth.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Lily's Hope Foundation answers the emergency needs of families with premature babies by providing resources, aid and hope in the form of Complimentary Care Packages through their Packages of Hope Program. They provide NICU families with these essential items since they have been unable to prepare for their child's early arrival. Each "Package of Hope" is assembled with the family's specific needs as a top priority, and include:

- Hospital Care Package: items for immediate use while in the NICU
- Transition Home Care Package: intended to help families transition home with their preemie during the first month
- Sibling Packages: activities and items intended to comfort siblings at home
- Additional merchandise available for purchase on their website, with all proceeds supporting their Packages of Hope Program.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

45 BOYLSTON STREET,
WARWICK, RI 02889
WWW.PROJECTSWEETPEAS.COM
INFO@PROJECTSWEETPEAS.COM

PROJECT SWEET PEAS

ABOUT PROJECT SWEET PEAS

Project Sweet Peas is a national non-profit organization providing support to families and caregivers of premature or sick infants and families impacted by pregnancy and infant loss. Project Sweet Peas acknowledges the importance of parental involvement in caregiving and decision-making in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), and seeks to promote family-centered care (FCC) competencies in hospitals nationwide.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

On our website you will see an array of programs that support families in the NICU including:

- Care packages
- NICU Journaling Workshops
- Food and Fuel Assistance
- Facebook Forums and Mental Health Worksheets
- Bereavement Support such as Memory Boxes, literature and luminary vigils

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

3515 BANKVIEW DRIVE, JOLIET, IL 60431

WWW.RAESTRONG.ORG

RAE STRONG

ABOUT RAE STRONG

The Rae Strong Foundation was created in 2018 as a means to help provide support for individuals and families with micro-preemies - a baby born weighing less than 1 pound, 12 ounces or before 26 weeks gestation. Its founders Dan Friend and Lorelee Smith are working to build an environment that fosters the incredible atmosphere that was given to them, where any family with a micro-preemie can feel the hope and joy that comes with a miracle happening in front of you.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Through the Rae Strong Foundation grants are awarded to individual families, hospital NICUs and preemie supporting organizations on a yearly basis. Grants will be given out to those families, as well as non-for-profit organizations that assist in the needs of micro preemies and their families. Families can click on the “Get Involved” tab on the website for a simple one-page application to submit your request.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it’s a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.NICUHELPINGHANDS.ORG
INFO@NICUHELPINGHANDS.ORG

NICU HELPING HANDS

ABOUT NICU HELPING HANDS

NICU Helping Hands was created in the summer of 2010 when we recognized an overwhelming need in Fort Worth, Texas for local organizations that support parents both educationally and emotionally. Since opening our doors, NICU Helping Hands has not only served its local community, but has the privilege of serving families all across the country who are looking for education, support, and a helping hand during one of the most difficult journeys they will ever make.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Recognizing that the journey doesn't end in the hospital, NICU Helping Hands developed their five key programs to meet the needs of families throughout their journey. These programs include:

- Project NICU – in-hospital support for families
- One-on-One Mentoring Program – peer support for families
- Family Assistance Program – Financial Support for NICU families
- NICU Mom Connect – (Dallas/Ft. Worth TX area)
- Angel Gown Program – Bereavement Support for grieving families

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.SILVIEBELLS.COM
INFO@SILVIEBELLS.COM

SILVIE BELLS

ABOUT SILVIE BELLS

Silvie Bells is a Non-Profit that donates comfort packages to sick and preemie NICU babies. From their Founder: Our daughter Silvana (Silvie) was born with life-threatening complications and given a 10% chance of survival. While she was fighting for her life in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) I made a promise... "If Silvie survives, I will find a way to pay it forward."

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

They have an online application process to ship their comfort packages to NICU babies across the country all year round! Each package contains an Owlet Pulse-Oximetry Monitor, a WubbaNub Pacifier, The Keepsie Pacifier Cover, "I Needed The NICU Just Like You" by Ali Dunn, Mama-Baby Cloth Scent Hearts, a Swaddle4Swaddle Blanket, a Welcome Home NICU Baby Sign, a NICU Discharge Checklist and a Safe Sleep Checklist.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

TRIPLE HEART FOUNDATION

PO BOX 9261
SPRINGFIELD IL 62791
WWW.TRIPLEHEARTFOUNDATION.COM
INFO@TRIPLEHEARTFOUNDATION.COM

ABOUT THE TRIPLE HEART FOUNDATION

Triple Heart Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides books to parents embarking on the Nicu journey. Babies in the neonatal intensive care unit are often in isolettes, away from their parents. Research has shown that reading to these babies not only helps brain development, but it also helps to create a special bond between the parents and their baby.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

The Triple Heart Foundation began by collecting hundreds of books to donate to their local NICU in Springfield, Illinois. Each book was picked out with love and given to a new family, experiencing the roller coaster of the NICU. Today, the non-profit donates books and care packages to hospitals in Illinois, as well as takes requests from families and hospitals across the country. Simply click on Contact Us for information on how to request a book for a NICU baby.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING SOURCES

REGIONAL

CALIFORNIA
Mightly Little Giants
Miracle Babies
Wills Way

COLORADO
Love for Lily
Newborn Hope

CONNECTICUT
The Tiny Miracles Foundation

FLORIDA
ICU Baby
Mark's Mission

ILLINOIS
Little Giraffe
Nest Postpartum
Wills Way

LOUISIANA
Sauls Light

MAINE
Courageous Steps Program

MONTANA
Giving is a Family Tradition

NORTH CAROLINA
Madelyns Fund

OHIO
Project NICU

PENNSYLVANIA
Today is a Good Day

TEXAS
Bryce's NICU Project

38045 47TH STREET E, SUITE E-145,
PALMDALE CA 93552
WWW.MIGHTLYLITTLEGIANTS.ORG
INFO@MIGHTLYLITTLEGIANTS.ORG
213-590-4855

MIGHTY LITTLE GIANTS

ABOUT MIGHTY LITTLE GIANTS

Jessica Wade is the founding President and CEO of Mighty Little Giants (MLG), a grass-roots non-profit organization that advocates through providing support, education, and hope for mothers and fathers experiencing pre-term deliveries resulting in long-term stays in the hospitals' NICU. MLG's mission is to bridge and stand in the gap for families with babies in the NICU by embracing MLG's core values – Integrity, Compassion and Encouragement – ultimately giving them peace and becoming their light during their dark and difficult season.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Mighty Little Giants provides NICU Support in the forms of Craft and Conversation Sessions, NICU Support Groups, One-on-One Support, or you can email your specific needs through their website. They also offer free Essential Self-Care Kits, available for Mothers in the NICU/NICCU, on bed rest, and mothers of full-term children experiencing postpartum depression.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

8745 AERO DRIVE #308,
SAN DIEGO, CA 92123
WWW.MIRACLEBABIES.ORG
INFO@MIRACLEBABIES.COM
858-633-8540

MIRACLE BABIES

ABOUT MIRACLE BABIES

Miracle Babies was founded in San Diego CA in 2009 by Marjan and Dr. Sean Daneshmand, after the premature birth of their daughter Natalie. They are dedicated to helping perinatal mothers and their families in their time of need.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Miracle Babies provides resources and assistance for families in the NICU in the following ways:

- Care Packages- distributed monthly to the above listed NICUs
- Diaper Distribution Events- once a month, for all families not just families with Miracle Babies
- Miracle Hours- providing meals and crafts for the families in the hospital which allows them to come together to verbalize their concerns, seek peer support and validation
- Support Groups
- Mental Health Assistance- Support, at no cost, for individuals experiencing maternal mental health conditions
- Transportation Services- Free special delivery shuttle vans to ensure access to their newborns addressing inequities for low-income parents through free access to transportation.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

2027 WEST DIVISION STREET
#124, CHICAGO, IL 60622
WWW.WILLWAYFOUNDATION.US
HELLO@WILLSWAYFOUNDATION.US
650-542-9931

WILLS WAY

ABOUT WILLS WAY

Our mission is to advance family integrated care to improve outcomes for pre-term babies. We achieve our goals through by providing support grants to parents and caregivers caring for a baby in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) and collaborating with researchers who are committed to integrating parents into their baby's care team.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

we work with our hospitals partners to address the unique nature of each family's need. Our most common support grants address transportation, healthy meals, milestone celebrations and emergency services. We also work with high-risk prenatal and antepartum families and provide support to outpatient services up to a month after discharge to ensure continuity of care in follow-up clinic.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PO BOX 18957
BOULDER, CO 80308
WWW.LOVEFORLILLY.ORG
LOVE@LFLNICU.ORG
720-526-2556

LOVE FOR LILY

ABOUT LOVE FOR LILY

Giving families the support they need to ease their journey through the NICU both at the hospital and beyond. Since launching in 2012, Love for Lily has had one purpose, to support families in the Neonatal ICU. Through our programing we aim to teach coping skills, build community, and build teams of support easing the stresses of NICU.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

- Virtual NICU Support Groups
- In-Unit NICU Support at the (4) above Hospitals
- NICU Essentials Bag- offered to any family expecting a 2 week stay or longer at any of the (4) above Hospitals
- Grants- Lilys Hope offers grants up to $1500 for use after discharge; $250 Gift Cards to aide in Bereavement Support; and $100 Gift Cards for in-unit families at any of the above (4) hospitals

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PO BOX 2515, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80901
WWW.NEWBORNHOPE.ORG

NEWBORN HOPE

ABOUT NEWBORN HOPE

Newborn Hope provides resources for Colorado babies and families impacted by prematurity. Our mission is carried out through a continuum of programs that include: prenatal education to support safe pregnancy and identify risks and signs of preterm labor, equipment to organizations statewide whose missions align to better the outcomes for preterm infants, a statewide education conference for medical professionals centering on trending issues in the NICUs, and post-NICU support to Colorado families as they transition home from a NICU hospitalization.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Newborn Hope and the NICU Consortium Partnership, developed a comprehensive resource website, The NICU Resource Connection, for families as they transition home. They also developed the Preemie Family Assistance Fund (PFAF), which provides equity of care by working to ensure all Colorado families have the resources and network of support needed to successfully transition from the NICU to home. Grants will be approved and awarded on a rolling basis to families with preemies age birth to three years, with a maximum of $2,500 gifted to each family. Services include but are not limited to:

therapies, adaptive equipment, nutrition, education for healthy development, family counseling support, special formulas and medication and treatment. Please see the website for the grant application link.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

POST ROAD 2ND FLOOR,
DARIEN, CT 06820
WWW.TTMF.ORG
203-202-9714

THE TINY MIRACLES FOUNDATION

ABOUT TINY MIRACLES FOUNDATION

The Tiny Miracles Foundation (TTMF) is a nonprofit serving Fairfield and New Haven Counties in CT, dedicated to helping families with premature babies. Although area hospitals are able to meet most premature infants' medical needs, the emotional and other needs of the family during this fragile time often go largely unsupported. The Tiny Miracles Foundation seeks to fill this void by providing support, information, services and supplies to the families of premature infants regardless of race, religion or national origin, during and immediately following their hospital stay.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

- Peer Parent Mentors
- Moms-Only Facebook Group for Fairfield and New Haven Counties
- Family Resource Rooms located inside their partner hospitals
- Blankets for Preemies
- Tiny Treasures Supply Bags
- Clinical Counseling with skilled social workers
- Resources and Supplies- list of internet sites and local CT book of resources
- Parent support groups
- Financial Assistance: It is intended to defray non-medical costs that arise in connection with the extended hospitalization of a premature baby. The program offers assistance to families who have significant loss of income as a result of a difficult pregnancy and premature birth.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

711 CRANDON BLVD PH 1, KEY BISCAYNE, FL 33149
WWW.ICUBABY.ORG
DIRECTOR@ICUBABY.ORG
305-908-3823

ICU BABY

ABOUT ICU BABY

ICU baby's mission is to unite NICU families and provide emotional, financial, and informational support so that babies and families can thrive together. ICU baby is transforming the NICU experience so that parents feel more empowered, babies feel more nurtured, families feel more connected, and communities offer more support

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Resources include but are not limited to:

- ICU Tote bags
- Catered meals
- Transportation assistance
- Parent Mentor Program
- Educational resources
- Bereavement Support

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

52 TUSCAN WAY STE. 202,
BOX 145, ST. AUGUSTINE, FL 32092
WWW.MARKSMISSION.ORG
HELLO@MARKSMISSION.ORG
904-297-8185

MARK'S MISSION

ABOUT MARK'S MISSION

Mark's Mission strives to promote family bonding between parents and their children in NICUs and other hospital units through education, facilitation, and support. We aim to overcome burdens and provide financial support for families who experience hardship so they may be present in their child's healing efforts. Our mission is to improve health outcomes for infants and children and create family memories that last a lifetime.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Support for families at their participating hospitals includes but is not limited to:

- NICU Care Packages
- Financial Assistance in the forms of Gas or Grocery cards
- Transportation Assistance via Uber
- Virtual Support Group
- Educational resources

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

113 S. I-OKA AVENUE,
MOUNT PROSPECT, IL 60056
WWW.LITTLEGIRAFFEFOUNDATION.COM
INFO@
LITTLEGIRAFFEFOUNDATION.ORG

LITTLE GIRAFFE

ABOUT LITTLE GIRAFFE

The Little Giraffe Foundation is a national non-profit based in Chicago, dedicated to supporting parents and patients of the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Since 2011, the foundation has delivered over 29,000 gift bags to an array of neonatal intensive care units (NICUs), awarded nearly 150 support grants to dozens of hospitals across the country, and funded over $300,000 in medical research.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Little Giraffe Foundation focuses their impact in 3 areas:

- Providing Holiday Gift Bags including a toy and book to NICU families in 20 Chicago-area hospitals and 1 in Colorado (Please see their website to request a bag, and see a complete list of hospitals)
- Funding NICU Support Grants to hospitals across the country
- Funding Neonatal Medical Research to provide promising treatments for premature births

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.THENESTPOSTPARTUM.ORG
INFO@THENESTPOSTPARTUM.ORG

NEST POSTPARTUM

ABOUT NEST POSTPARTUM

Our goal is to help change the narrative about the NICU experience: from a story that's too often about struggle and isolation to one that focuses on community and support. Hospitals focus on treatment, which is very important. The Nest focuses on you and your family. In doing that, our Care Coordinators are here to provide help and guidance during your NICU Journey.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

We shine a light into what can be a scary and lonely place. We begin by connecting you with a Care Coordinator, to serve as a point person for our services, and who you get to know and grow to trust. We provide:

- Weekly check-ins from your Care Coordinator
- Lodging: We have partnered with local, short-term housing options in the Champaign-Urbana community just a short distance from our local NICU. Your care coordinator will match NICU mothers with the best fit for their unique situation
- Meals: We have partnered with local businesses to provide prepared meals with options for most dietary restrictions. Meals can be tailored to meet the needs of any size family and are ready to cook or eat
- Transportation: We have partnered with public transportation departments in counties within a 70-mile radius of Champaign-Urbana, as well as other local transportation providers for families to use as needed.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PO BOX 820146,
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70182
WWW.SAULSLIGHT.ORG
INFO@SAULSLIGHT.ORG
504-913-4095

SAULS LIGHT

ABOUT SAULS LIGHT

In 2014, Kimberly and Aaron Novod's son, Saul, was born prematurely at twenty-eight weeks and six days. He passed away after twenty days in the NICU. Their son's story and their experience in the NICU inspired the creation of Saul's Light. The outpouring of love they received from family and friends was integral to their healing process. They couldn't imagine going through it alone, so they made it their mission to provide all NICU and bereaved families with the resources and community they need to heal and thrive.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Today, Saul's Light partners with hospitals, local organizations, and healthcare professionals to meet NICU and bereaved families' day-to-day needs.

- A fund to cover basic needs such as transportation, food and lodging
- NICU books for parents to read to their newborn
- Advocacy by working with social workers and medical teams on behalf of the family
- Emotional support through comfort and guidance to NICU families during their stay
- Empowering NICU families by educating them about their NICU experience

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PO BOX 1,
STILLWATER, ME 04489
WWW.THECOURAGEOUSSTEPSPROJECT.ORG
INFO@THECOURAGEOUSSTEPSPROJECT.ORG
207-827-7270

COURAGEOUS STEPS PROGRAM

ABOUT COURAGEOUS STEPS PROGRAM

The Courageous Steps Project was founded by Connor Archer in 2014, when he revealed his story of learning to live with the challenges of Autism, a disorder that impacts your language and social skills. Our organization's mission strives to support children and young adults with various abilities and challenges and channels resources to enhance their success in school and in life. Our vision is to work to help people of various abilities to step courageously beyond obstacles and towards a fulfilling life.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

- Local programming and fundraising events raise money for schools and community resources through the state of ME
- The Courageous Steps Project's STEP FORWARD Scholarship Fund recognizes those with challenges such as Autism, Dyslexia, or even certain obstacles they had to overcome with their families. You must be enrolled at Old Town High School, Orono High School, or an Eastern Maine Region school to apply (see criteria on application) in order to be eligible for this scholarship.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PO BOX 39313,
ST. LOUIS, MO 63139
WWW.GIVINGISAFAMILYTRADITION.ORG
GIFT@GIVINGISAFAMILYTRADITION.ORG
314-472-3392

GIVING IS A FAMILY TRADITION

ABOUT GIVING IS A FAMILY TRADITION

GiFT's Destination Home program supports families who are preparing to take their infant(s) home after a prolonged hospitalization in the NICU. In 2003, Jennifer Krassinger, GiFT's Founder and a Registered NICU Nurse, began recognizing a need among the babies she cared for. Some of their families were unable to get the most basic essentials when it was time for their baby to make the transition from the NICU to home. With help from a NICU social worker, Jennifer set out to recruit family and friends to help one NICU family in need around the holiday season. The effort became a family tradition known as The Holiday Project and support grew each year. GiFT began with the launch of our Destination Home program, developed in collaboration with NICU social workers to address this basic gap in service.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

GiFT ensures that every family referred to Destination Home has a safe sleep environment, car seat, clothes, diapers, bath supplies, feeding supplies, developmental aids, and home safety items.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

7804 FAIRVIEW ROAD PMB #259,
CHARLOTTE, NC 28226
WWW.MADELYNSFUND.ORG
SARAH@MADELYNSFUND.ORG
267-776-HOPE

MADELYN'S FUND

ABOUT MADELYN'S FUND

Launched in November of 2016 by Rachel and Andy Lee in honor of their daughter Madelyn, their mission is to support infant and pediatric patients in the NICU and their families, as well as those who experience the trauma of infant loss.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Madelyn's Fund has close relationships with the NICU and CVICU social workers at the hospitals we serve. All applications are completed by social workers with or on behalf of the families needing assistance. Only applications completed and submitted by a Madelyn's Fund affiliated NICU social worker will be accepted. We do not accept self-referrals at this time. Madelyn's Fund assists families in two ways:

- Everyday living expenses relating to the families' NICU stay. Assistance includes transportation costs to and from the hospital, lodging and meals, baby supplies, and supplementing for loss of income by helping families maintain necessary household expenses, such as utilities, while they are unable to work
- Funeral expenses for families who experience the tragedy of infant loss

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.PROJECTNICU.COM
HELLO@PROJECTNICU.COM

PROJECT NICU

ABOUT PROJECT NICU

Project NICU, originally named Project Preemie, was born out of the love and support of family and friends of Founders Pam & Nicholas Frasco. Pam's desire to give back to the community that meant so much to their family during several months of their lives, and the distinct need for connection for parents like them who were experiencing such a traumatic event, fueled her passion for building this space. Originally named Project Preemie, the community has grown year after year.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Project NICU offers connection, support and community to all involved in the NICU Journey, including but not limited to:

- NICU Care packages
- Online Communities
- Virtual Support Groups
- Parent Mentor Program
- Parent Blog
- Their Family Assistance Fund is also available for families in Cleveland's MetroHealth System, and the University Hospitals Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

1511 BETHLEHEM PIKE,
FLOURTOWN, PA 19031
WWW.TODAYISAGOODDAY.ORG
INFO@TODAYISAGOODDAY.ORG

TODAY IS A GOOD DAY

ABOUT TODAY IS A GOOD DAY

Today is a Good Day was started by Paul and Martha Sharkey in 2014, driven by their desire to provide a haven of support for families navigating the NICU. Their own experience in the NICU, marked by both profound loss and inspiring resilience, ignited a passion to support others on similar paths. Their story, rich with heartache and hope, continues to inspire and guide the mission of their organization, offering a ray of light to families in their most vulnerable moments. They are a leading provider of NICU Services in the Delaware Valley and Beyond

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Support for families can be found on their website, including: Care Packages, Emotional Support, Advocacy Checklist, Navigate the NICU Sessions, Connections, Family Resources, Podcast, Blog.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.BRYCESNICUPROJECT.ORG
INFO@BRYCESNICUPROJECT.ORG
210-660-4366

BRYCE'S NICU PROJECT

ABOUT BRYCE'S NICU PROJECT

Bryce's NICU Project was founded by Brittany Boet in May 2015 after spending her first Mother's Day in the NICU with her son Bryce. The organization is devoted to showing love, support, and encouragement to parents with babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Units of our local hospitals.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

- Gift bags, food, journals
- Emotional support and encouragement
- Gifts and/or Lunch to parents during the Holidays

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING SOURCES

RESOURCE ONLY

CALIFORNIA

Family Support Network

ALL REGIONS

Brave Beginnings

Connected Forever

Empowered NICU Parenting

Families Blossoming

Hope for HIE

March of Dimes

Me Two Books

NEC Society

NICU Alumni

NICU Parent Club

NICU Parent Network

Paradidomi Life

Parent to Parent

Preemie World

The Iris Fund

The PPROM Foundation

The Zaky

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY
- CALIFORNIA -

FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK

1894 N. MAIN STREET, ORANGE COUNTY, CA 92865
WWW.FSN-OC.ORG
717-447-3301

ABOUT FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK

Family Support Network provides services offering resources and advocacy for families and children with social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs so they may reach their full potential. Founded in 1985 by a group of concerned parents, FSN has been serving the special needs community in Orange County by bringing together parents and professionals all dedicated to helping children achieve their dreams.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Programs on their website include Behavioral Coaching, Developmental Screenings, Emergency Needs Programs, and Parent Mentoring, Outreach and Support Groups. They also offer helpful resources for children with disabilities, as well Early Intervention, IEP, and others throughout Orange County.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

6767 FOREST LAWN DRIVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90068
WWW.BRAVEBEGINNINGS.ORG
INFO@WRMAIL.ORG
323-380-5522

BRAVE BEGINNINGS

ABOUT BRAVE BEGINNINGS

Brave Beginnings is a program of the Will Rogers Motion Picture Pioneers Foundation working to ensure ventilators and vital neonatal equipment are always available to newborns in critical need. Since 2006, Brave Beginnings has contributed millions of dollars to facilities across the United States. Annually, Brave Beginnings provides grants for essential neonatal intensive care equipment such as critical airway carts, infant resuscitators, incubators, omnibeds and much more. To date, we have granted $9.5 million to 200 hospitals across the United States. We strive to be the leading grant provider for the purchase of neonatal ventilator equipment and critical pulmonary services for hospitals throughout the US. Information on how do donate can be found on their website.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

61691 733 RD TECUMSEH, NE
68450 PO BOX 21961
LINCOLN, NE 68542

WWW.CONNECTED4EVER.ORG

CONNECTED FOREVER

ABOUT CONNECTED FOREVER

Connected Forever was founded in 2014 by Jesse & Tracy Pella. While prematurity and loss occur throughout the world, we are focusing on family's right here in Nebraska. We are building a community of support, so that no family has to endure their journey alone. Our mission at Connected Forever is to support families who have experienced a pregnancy loss, infant loss, or a NICU Journey by providing resources, education, and emotional support.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

NICU Support

- NICU Parent Connect- Peer Support
- Nebraska NICU Connection- private Facebook Group
- Miracle Mama Connection- local support group

Bereavement Support

- Pregnancy and Infant Loss Parent Connect- Peer Support
- Angel Families- private Facebook Group
- Forever Mama Connection- local support group
- Forever Angels Program- to remember you child

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

WWW.
EMPOWEREDNICUPARENTING.ORG

EMPOWERED NICU PARENTING

ABOUT EMPOWERED NICU PARENTING

Empowered NICU Parenting is an online resource with a mission to give back the power to parents with informed choice and informational support by developing original research-based content always framed in the context of what is possible in pregnancy, preterm birth, the NICU and beyond. I believe NICU parents need more connection, and less trauma! Empowered NICU Parenting approaches this work, and the many converging issues that families may experience, through the lens of public health and equity; here at Empowered NICU Parenting I raise awareness and remain committed to supporting efforts to end social and racial inequalities that are fundamental causes of persistent birth outcome disparities.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Resources for parents and birth workers; giving back the power to parents in preterm birth, the NICU and beyond:

- Free download for 5-Step NICU Parenting Plan

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.FAMILIESBLOSSOMING.COM

FAMILIES BLOSSOMING

ABOUT FAMILIES BLOSSOMING

Families Blossoming: Discover your Passion, Purpose and Presence by finding your Joy.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Gigi is an ICF Accredited Coach and NICU/Special Needs Parent. She can be hired for:

- 1:1 Life Coaching
- Workshops and Trainings
- Audio Programs
- Speaking Engagements

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

PO BOX 250472, WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP, MI
WWW.HOPEFORHIE.ORG
OUTREACH@HOPEFORHIE.ORG
248-574-8099

HOPE FOR HIE

ABOUT HOPE FOR HIE

Hope for HIE is the premiere global organization dedicated to Awareness, Education & Support for Neonatal & Pediatric Acquired Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy (HIE). Hypoxic (Lack of Oxygen) Ischemic (Restricting Bloodflow) Encephalopathy (Affecting the Brain). Our mission is focused on improving the quality of life for children and families impacted by neonatal and pediatric-acquired Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy, a type of brain injury that has a spectrum of outcomes and myriad of ways it may impact a baby or child in their lifetime. Since beginning on Facebook in 2010, the network has grown to serve thousands of families worldwide.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

The HIE experience is unique, and we want to share with you resources that can help you and your whole family, through our support services and programs, and in collaboration with your medical team. We have parents dedicated to connecting with you as a new parent in this journey, and we look forward to getting to know you and your family.

We host monthly video support groups, just for newly diagnosed families, and a dedicated Facebook group as well with peer support mentors. Be sure to check out the latest events.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

1550 CRYSTAL DRIVE, SUITE 1300,
ARLINGTON, VA 22202
WWW.MARCHOFDIMES.ORG
INFO@LILYSHOPEFOUNDATION.ORG
888-663-4637 (888-MODIMES)

MARCH OF DIMES

ABOUT MARCH OF DIMES

March of Dimes is a United States nonprofit organization that works to improve the health of mothers and babies. The organization was founded by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1938, as the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, to combat polio. Today, their mission is to lead the fight for the health of all moms and babies, with goals to end preventable maternal health risks and deaths, end preventable preterm birth and infant death, and close the health equity gap. Since 2001, our NICU Family Support® program has partnered with hospitals across the country to educate NICU staff and support families through evidence-based programs and a variety of online and in-person resources while babies are in the NICU and during their transition home. See their website for more educational resources, and a link to local resources in your area.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.METWOBOOKS.COM

ME TWO BOOKS

ABOUT ME TWO BOOKS

Founded in 2016 by Ali Dunn, a mom to preemie twins, Me Two Books' mission is to create products that provide support, encouragement and information for families. After being disappointed in the lack of children's books about the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) for her preemie twins, Ali Dunn decided to write and illustrate her own. Me Two Books' titles feature preemies/ NICU babies, twins, kids with disabilities, and those not represented by the traditional publishing industry. Our indie published books are written and illustrated by Ali Dunn and are characterized by rhythmic, rhyming text and colorful, charming illustrations. She is the chief mom officer to identical twins born at 28 weeks. Ali holds a Master's degree and has over 8 years of experience working in higher education in career counseling, advising, and instruction

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Resources on the website include coloring sheets, curriculum guides, YouTube Books, as well as the links for the Me Two Books Headquarters and Blog. Ali is available for Keynote Speeches, Workshops and Author Visits.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

140 B STREET SUITE 5 #128,
DAVIS, CA 95616

WWW.NECSOCIETY.ORG

NEC SOCIETY

ABOUT NEC SOCIETY

The NEC Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building a world without necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC) through research, advocacy, and education. The NEC Society is a patient-led organization that collaborates with expert clinicians and researchers to better understand, prevent, and treat this devastating neonatal intestinal disease. The NEC Society's work combines the patient-family perspective with solutions based on the best available scientific evidence. The NEC Society was launched in January of 2014 by Jennifer Canvasser after her son died from complications of NEC just before his first birthday. Today, patient-families and experts from around the world work together to improve outcomes for the most vulnerable infants at risk of NEC.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

The website offers a vast amount of information and educational resources such as:

- Links for Recently Diagnosed, Long Term Outcomes, and Bereavement
- Patient-Family Advisory Council
- NEC Symposium
- Research Boxes with up-to-date information about NEC and resources to empower, educate, and support families- sent to the families home in the US free of charge

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

WWW.NICUALUMNI.ORG
HELLO@NICUALUMNI.ORG

NICU ALUMNI

ABOUT NICU ALUMNI

NICU Alumni was founded by Andrea Hickson, the parent of two fierce NICU grads. After bringing her little ones home, she recognized the sense of isolation and uncertainty that often accompanies this significant transition. This understanding is what fuels our mission to support families, ensuring they no longer feel overwhelmed, but instead, feel confident and hopeful as they navigate life after the NICU.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Focusing on life after the NICU, their website offers resources for families containing Educational Links, NICU Alumni Podcast, a Resource Library, and a Parent Group (Miami FL).

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

1227 CORINTH ROAD, NEWNAN, GA 30263
WWW.NICUPARENTCLUB.COM
NICUPARENTCLUB@GMAIL.COM
404-500-6152

NICU PARENT CLUB

ABOUT NICU PARENT CLUB

NICU Parent Club started to form in 2017 when a few families with a NICU experience came together with a shared interest to help others going through the roller coaster that is NICU life. We have supported the local NICU's and families for many years before deciding to make this a mission! We are dedicated to helping families before, during, and after a NICU stay. The support can begin during a bedrest period or high risk pregnancy,

throughout a NICU stay, possible loss, and/or NICU graduate life.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Services include but are not limited to:

- Peer Support: both bedside (if allowed) and virtual, public and private Facebook and Instagram pages
- Events and meetings, both virtual and in-person (at Newnan)
- Resource Guidance with up to date information you can use in the NICU and beyond

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

PO BOX 174, GEORGETOWN, IN 47122
WWW.NICUPARENTNETWORK.ORG
CONNECT@NICUPARENTNETWORK.ORG
601-345-1772

NICU PARENT NETWORK

ABOUT NICU PARENT NETWORK

NICU PARENT NETWORK IS THE PREMIER US-BASED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF NICU PARENT LEADERS WHO COLLECTIVELY REPRESENT THE NEEDS AND BEST INTERESTS OF NICU FAMILIES. TOGETHER, WE ENVISION A WORLD WHERE EVERY NICU FAMILY IS AN ESSENTIAL AND INTEGRAL MEMBER OF THEIR BABY'S CARE TEAM.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Family Integrated Care is an approach to care in the NICU that fully involves the parents in all aspects of the baby's care. The NPN believes this approach to the care of the infant and family should extend to all guidelines, research, policy, advocacy, education, and support where nothing is created for infants and their families without an equal partnership with NICU Parent Leaders.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

WWW.PARADIDOMILIFE.COM

PARADIDOMNI LIFE

ABOUT PARADIDOMNI LIFE

At Paradidomi Life, we are passionate about sharing stories of individuals who embody the spirit of selfless giving and living a Paradidomi Life. Through our platform, we highlight and celebrate the inspiring journeys of those who have dedicated themselves to making a difference in the lives of others. From everyday heroes to renowned philanthropists, we showcase individuals who have chosen to sacrifice their own comfort and resources for the betterment of others. Their stories serve as a reminder that acts of kindness, no matter how small, have the power to transform lives and create a positive impact on the world. Through our books, articles, interviews, and features, we aim to inspire and empower our readers to embrace their own Paradidomi Life.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

Farrin Moreno is a graduate NICU parent who has been a vocal advocate for the NICU community for the last sixteen years. She is the Author of Journey to Paradidomi, scheduled to be released April 12, 2024. You can read more about Farrin and her book, organization and Blog on their website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

PO BOX 472, STATE COLLEGE, PA 16804

WWW.P2PUSA.ORG

PARENT TO PARENT

ABOUT PARENT TO PARENT

Parent to Parent USA was created in 2003 with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to ensure that families nationwide whose children have special needs have access to Parent to Parent support. Parent to Parent USA will support a network of viable, sustainable, fully-functioning and effective Parent to Parent programs in all 50 states through hands-on support, training and technical assistance, and high-quality tools and resources. Our network's parent leadership and engaged membership will serve as strong advocates, provide robust mentoring opportunities, and develop the working partnerships with funders, service providers, and others needed to sustain and grow the program nationwide. All Parent to Parent Alliance Member organizations offer information and one-to-one emotional support to parents of children who have disabilities or special health care needs. To get started, click on the "For Parents" tab on their website to find a local Parent to Parent organization near you.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

5605 EASTBOURNE DRIVE, SPRINGFIELD, VA
WWW.PREEMIEWORLD.COM
PWFOUNDATION23@GMAIL.COM

PREEMIE WORLD

ABOUT PREEMIE WORLD

reemieWorld Foundation Inc.'s mission is to create and curate equitable access of underserved populations to patient education, advocacy tools and outcomes data specific to the preemie population. The PreemieWorld forum, newsletters, and social media outlets seek to address the medical community as well as the general public, and educate both parties on how best to offer support to preemie parents. Our mission is to relay the medical information parents receive in layman's terms, and build a bridge between the parenting and professional worlds that surround premature infants. Through relateable writing and group support, PreemieWorld helps create a "new normal" for preemie families in the midst of the NICU chaos.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

PreemieWorld offers several free resources to parents and families of preemies, as well as preemie professionals. Browse the categories on their website to discover badges, printables, upcoming events, and a directory of organizations dedicated to helping preemies and their caretakers.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.THEIRISFUND.ORG

THE IRIS FUND

ABOUT THE IRIS FUND

The Iris Fund was created in loving memory of Iris Crystal Aleman who was born and passed away due to prematurity on July 15, 2017. The Iris Fund ensures her legacy is one that makes certain no other family endures the heartbreaking loss and complications of prematurity. It ensures that ALL families have the information they need to understand how their bodies work during pregnancy and labor. To accomplish this, the Iris Fund supports innovative research to define labor, how it occurs, and develop novel, safe and effective therapies to prevent preterm birth.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

The Iris Fund has partnered with Medical Research Facilities in NY and has raised nearly $750,000 to date, to learn more, understand, and ultimately prevent preterm birth. Additional educational resources and links can be found on their website.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

THE PRROM FOUNDATION

PO BOX 179, CONIFER, CO 80433
WWW.AAPPROM.ORG
INFO@LILYSHOPEFOUNDATION.ORG
740-837-7766

ABOUT THE PRROM FOUNDATION

PPROM is the Preterm Premature Rupture of Membranes. The American Alliance for PPROM Support was started in 2013 by Erin and James Thatcher of Colorado. In March 2012 at 12 weeks pregnant Erin's water broke (PPROM) with baby B of twins. Erin stayed pregnant for 104 days or 15 weeks without amniotic fluid for one of the twins, and delivered via c-section after going into labor naturally at 27 weeks. The twins spent several months in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and went home on oxygen. Today they are thriving and active grade schoolers. Recognizing the need for a more specific and focused organization supporting PPROM parents, this organization was founded to promote Advocacy, Partnerships, and the PPROM Registry. Their Mission: to provide resources and support for those experiencing Preterm Premature Rupture of Membranes (PPROM) in pregnancy and beyond.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

With advocates in dozens of states and contacts abroad, The PPROM Foundation has impacted thousands of women diagnosed with pProm. Their website has various educational resources for understanding complications and interventions for preterm birth, as well as links for Clinical Trials, One on One Support, Support Groups, and recommended providers.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NICU FUNDING RESOURCE ONLY

PO BOX 3276, SUGARLAND, TX 77487
WWW.THEZAKY.COM
INTOUCH@THEZAKY.COM
(833) THE ZAKY= (833) 843-9259

THE ZAKY

ABOUT THE ZAKY

Yamille Jackson created The Zaky in 2001, after experiencing the sadness of leaving her son each night in the NICU. She founded her company Nurtured by Design on behalf of Zachary. The Zaky® is now used in hospital units that want to use non-pharmacologic interventions to increase safety, calm babies, and promote their sleep so they can support the physical, psychological, physiological, and neurological development around the clock: The Zaky HUG® on the bed or in the incubator, The Zaky ZAK® while holding skin to skin or clothed, The Zaky ZEN® for an organic and wellness experience, and The Zaky® mobile app to count what counts.

WHAT THEY OFFER + HOW TO ASK FOR HELP

The Zaky HUG and the Zaky ZAK are available for purchase on their website. The Zaky® are our award-winning products and they provide extra-hands allowing for zero separation while safely holding and calming your baby so they can sleep and feel safe. Our products extend the power of your touch to nurture your baby and create a micro-environment that promotes sleep, brain development, and attachment around the clock.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WISH FUNDERS

A Special Wish Foundation
A Wish With Wings
Benefit4Kids
Bryan's Dream Foundation
Catch-A-Dream Foundation
Center For Grieving Children
Children's Dream Fund
Children's Wish International
Debbie Chisholm Memorial Foundation
Dream Come True
The Dream Factory
Dreams Come True
Dreams Take Flight (Canada)
Elle Foundation
Grants Wishes
Hopes and Dreams Foundation
Indiana Children's Wish Foundation
Jason's Dreams For Kids
Kraddick Foundation Kids
Make-A-Wish Foundation of America
Marty Lyons Foundation
Rainbow Connection
Sunshine Foundation
Tender Wishes Foundation
United Special Sportsman Alliance
Western Wishes
Wish Upon A Hero Foundation
Wishes and More
Wishes Can Happen
Wishing Star Foundation
Wishing Well Foundation

1250 MEMORY LANE N - SUITE B
COLUMBUS, OH 43209
WWW.SPWISH.ORG
800-486-9474

A SPECIAL WISH FOUNDATION

ABOUT A SPECIAL WISH FOUNDATION, INC.

A Special Wish Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit charitable organization dedicated to granting the wishes of children under 21 years of age who have been diagnosed with a lifethreatening disorder. Founded in 1982, A Special Wish Foundation, Inc. was one of the first wish granting organizations in the United States, and now has chapters across the United States and one in Moscow, Russia. Since 1982, wishes have been granted to thousands of qualifying children.

WHAT THEY FUND

A Special Gift - Computers, televisions, stereos, video games and even a puppy are included among the wishes granted. A Special Place - Whether it's a visit to a special friend or relative, amusement park or other wish destination, A Special Wish Foundation, Inc. handles complete travel and lodging arrangements for the child and members of the immediate family. This includes air transportation, hotel expenses, meals, spending money and all other aspects of the travel wish. A Special Hero - So many children dream about someday meeting their special hero, whether it is a sports figure, government leader, rock star, or other entertainer.

GUIDELINES

- The attending physician must verify that the child has a disease/disorder.
- The child must be under 21 years of age.
- The child cannot have had a wish granted by any other organization.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website, or contact A Special Wish Foundation, Inc.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

387 ALAMO AVENUE
FORT WORTH, TX 76107
WISH@AWISHWITHWINGS.ORG
817-469-9474

A WISH WITH WINGS

ABOUT A WISH WITH WINGS, INC.

A Wish with Wings, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established for the sole purpose of granting magical wishes for little Texans with life-threatening conditions. The goal of the organization is to bring a ray of hope and happiness into the lives of children and families facing an uncertain future.

WHAT THEY FUND

Children may wish for anything their hearts desire. While the most popular request is for a Disney vacation, wish requests are as varied as the children who make them.

GUIDELINES

- The child must have a medical diagnosis of a life-threatening condition.
- The child must be between 3 and 18 years of age when the form is received. Wishes for children under the age of 3 years must be approved by the Board of Directors.
- The child must not have previously received a Wish from any wish granting organization.
- The child must reside in or be receiving treatment in Texas.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact A Wish with Wings, Inc. for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

21660 23 MILE ROAD
MACOMB, MI 48044
WWW.BENEFIT4KIDS.ORG
INFO@B4K.ORG
877-245-5430

BENEFIT4KIDS

ABOUT BENEFIT4KIDS

Benefit4Kids was founded in 1998 with its primary mission to grant the outdoor wishes of children with lifethreatening and life-limiting illnesses. The organization also works to involve children in the outdoors and the many activities it offers them. Many of today's children are denied the opportunity to experience the outdoors because of costs, lack of available mentors and a limited amount of facilities offering an outdoor experience. Benefit4Kids helps children experience the outdoors through several programs, and it also works closely with several children's camps designed to work with injured and ill children. In working with these and several other children's camps, Benefit4Kids will continue to help many less fortunate children enjoy the great outdoors and learn morals and family values.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Outdoor Wish program will encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of wishes: Camping trips Fishing trips/charters Rafting trips Hunting trips Special outdoor tours Special camps Meeting outdoor celebrities Outdoor education Special ranches.

GUIDELINES

The Outdoor Wish program has been designed to allow children through the age of 17 with debilitating conditions or terminal illnesses an opportunity to experience the outdoors in a way they would not otherwise have the chance to do. There is no reason a child should ever be denied their wish for an outdoor experience. The goal is not only to accommodate the child's wish, but to also see that part of the immediate family is included in the wish, so that they may share the experience, creating invaluable memories together.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website and mail it to the organization.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

BRYAN'S DREAM FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 20
BASKING RIDGE, NJ 07920
WWW.BRYANSDREAM.ORG
INFORMATION@BRYANSDREAM.ORG

ABOUT BRYAN'S DREAM FOUNDATION

Bryan's Dream Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in memory of Bryan Timothy Opremcak. Bryan was a smart, strong, healthy and athletic 11-year-old when he was first diagnosed with a glioblastoma multiforme in his cerebellum in 2004. Sadly, Bryan ultimately lost his battle against this aggressive disease in 2006 at the age of 12. Bryan was an inspiration to everyone who met him. His family is striving to honor him and his all-too-short life by paying it forward through Bryan's Dream Foundation. The purpose of the organization is to fulfill Bryan's dream by providing hope and support to children with brain tumors, as well as their families, and to ensure that no child's life is ended prematurely.

WHAT THEY FUND

Bryan's Dream Foundation considers grant assistance to families and caregivers of children being treated for brain tumors in the Northeastern United States.

GUIDELINES

Contact Bryan's Dream Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website, and mail it to the organization.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CATCH-A-DREAM FOUNDATION

PO BOX 6280
MISSISSIPPI STATE, MS 39762
WWW.CATCHADREAM.ORG
INFO@CATCHADREAM.ORG
662-324-5700

ABOUT THE CATCH-A-DREAM FOUNDATION

The initial idea for a program that would ultimately be known as the Catch-A-Dream Foundation was originated by Bruce Brady, of Brookhaven, Mississippi, in late 1999 as he faced his own arduous battle with cancer. Taking great comfort in time spent in the outdoors, he drew strength from these experiences and was able to recharge as he hunted and fished in his last days. Shortly before his death, he shared with family and friends a vision for some type of program that would provide outdoor opportunities to Mississippi youth with life-threatening illnesses who, unfortunately, were no longer served by the world's largest children's wishgranting organization. His family and friends were dedicated to creating such a program as a memorial to Bruce that would eternally provide a message of hope at a time when children with life-threatening illnesses need to know that hope does, indeed, exist. In mid-2000, the Catch-A-Dream Foundation originated as a unique and unprecedented partnership among the Brady family, the MSU-Extension Service, the Mississippi Wildlife Federation and the Mississippi 4-H Clubs Foundation.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Catch-A-Dream Foundation provides once-in-alifetime dream hunting and fishing trips to children across the United States and Canada.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must be between 16 and 18 years of age.
- The individual must a United States or Canadian citizen.
- The individual must have a qualifying physiciancertified life-threatening illness.
- The individual may not have previously received a hunting or fishing grant.
- At least one parent or guardian must accompany the child on the dream adventure.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application can be filled out and submitted electronically from the website or printed and mailed.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CENTER FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN

205 E. SR 436
FERN PARK, FL32730
WWW.NEWHOPEFORKIDS.ORG
INFORMATION@NEWHOPEFORKIDS.ORG
407-331-3059

ABOUT NEW HOPE FOR KIDS

Since 1996, New Hope for Kids has been helping Central Florida children in need. The organization's purpose is to bring hope, healing and happiness to children and families suffering from grief, loss or life-threatening illnesses. New Hope for Kids achieves its mission through the Center for Grieving Children and Children's Wish, which provide assistance to children and their families during some of life's most difficult challenges. New Hope for Kids also provides support services such as family events, resource information and referral to other agencies for assistance when necessary.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Center for Grieving Children helps children and families cope with the feelings of grief and loss after the death of a loved one. Children's Wish grants wishes to children diagnosed with a life-threatening illness.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between 3 and 18 years of age.
- The child must live in the Central Florida area.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please complete the application accompanied with the medical acknowledgment verifying that the child has a life-threatening illness and is medically cleared to receive the requested wish. Families are notified upon approval. New Hope for Kids' goal is to grant the wish requests of all the children who meet the established criteria. New Hope for Kids reserves the right, however, to refuse a wish if the physician feels it is not in the best interest of the child or if the wish is beyond the scope of New Hope for Kids Wish abilities.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 1881
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33731
WWW.CHILDRENSDREAMFUND.ORG
727-896-6390

CHILDREN'S DREAM FUND

ABOUT THE CHILDREN'S DREAM FUND

The Children's Dream Fund was founded in 1981 with the single purpose of fulfilling dreams for children between three and 18 years of age who have been diagnosed with a life-threatening illness and who live in West Central Florida. Dreams are referred by doctors ,nurses, childlife and social workers, friends, families and other patients. Every child deserves hope and a dream, and the goal of the Children's Dream Fund is to continue to make those dreams come true. The desire is to grant every eligible child's dream.

WHAT THEY FUND

Dreams vary as much as the personalities of the children served. They may involve meeting a celebrity, a trip, a gift such as a computer or playground or a week at the Give Kids the World Village, which enables a child to visit all of the Disney-area theme parks. No dream has been refused, except those involving motorized vehicles and firearms.

GUIDELINES

The Children's Dream Fund fulfills dreams for children between three and 18 years of age who have been diagnosed with a lifethreatening illness. A child does not have to be terminally ill to qualify for a dream; nor is a dream necessarily the child's "last wish." However, the child cannot have had a wish with another organization.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application forms are available by contacting one of the dream coordinators or by filling in the referral form on the website.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CHILDREN'S WISH FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL

8615 ROSWELL ROAD
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30350-7526
WWW.CHILDRENSWISH.ORG
JACQUEN@CHILDRENSWISH.ORG
1-800-323-WISH

ABOUT CHILDREN'S WISH FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Children's Wish Foundation International measures success in smiles. Many people are surprised to learn that the founder and Executive Director was one of the few who pioneered the idea of wish fulfillment for seriously and terminally ill children. After losing her eldest daughter, Susan, to bone cancer, Linda Dozoretz became an active fundraiser, supporting causes that searched for a cure for cancer. For her efforts, she was awarded a trip to Disneyland, which she donated to a little girl from Susan's hospital who was also losing her battle with cancer. Wishes for more children followed, and her community showed support by becoming actively involved in her efforts. With a determination to bring happiness to seriously ill children around the world, several years after that first wish Linda formed Children's Wish Foundation International and continues to serve as the organization's Executive Director. The organization also created a Family Focus program that allows wish families a respite from hospital or treatment life.

WHAT THEY FUND

Whether a child wishes to visit a faraway location, wants a special toy or dreams of hugging a beloved celebrity, Children's Wish Foundation International, Inc. will do everything possible to make it come true.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be under 18 years of age.
- The child must suffer from a life-threatening illness.
- There is no minimum age; however, if the child's health allows it, the organization tries to wait to fulfill the wish until the child is old enough to fully enjoy and remember the experience.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Children's Wish Foundation International, Inc. for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 571
YUCCA VALLEY, CA92286
WWW.DCMF.ORG

DEBBIE CHISHOLM MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE DEBBIE CHISHOLM MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

The Debbie Chisholm Memorial Foundation is dedicated to granting wishes of seriously ill children within the Inland Empire. Our children come from every corner of the Empire from the vineyards of Temecula to the Missions of Riverside, and from the Hot Springs of the low desert to the Joshua trees of the high desert. The organization is there to comfort and cherish this life's most precious gift, our children. The Debbie Chisholm Memorial's wish kids are literally treated like royalty for the day. After the wishes have come and gone, the Debbie Chisholm Memorial Foundation is still with its wish kids and their families through the good times and the bad. The organization creates lasting memories for these wonderful children.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Debbie Chisholm Memorial Foundation is dedicated to granting wishes of seriously ill children within the Inland Empire. No matter what the wish, each child and their family are chauffeured to and from their wish in a fabulous stretch limousine.

GUIDELINES

Contact the Debbie Chisholm Memorial Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the Debbie Chisholm Memorial Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PO BOX 21167
LEHIGH VALLEY, PA 18002
WWW.DREAMCOMETRUE.ORG
RVASKO@AOL.COM
610-865-3475

DREAM COME TRUE

ABOUT DREAM COME TRUE

Dream Come True, a grassroots organization, was founded to help children who have faced many difficulties in their young lives. Kostas Kalogeropoulos, the founder, dreamed of providing every child afflicted with a debilitating illness the chance to forget their problems. Dream Come True is unique in that it is a local organization that fulfills dreams for serious and chronic illnesses, not just terminal ones. The organization also offers dream recipients college scholarships and funeral expenses.

WHAT THEY FUND

Disney World is the most popular dream. Dreams such as meeting entertainers and sports figures, going on trips and cruises, redecorating bedrooms and receiving computer systems are also popular.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between 4 and 17 years of age.
- The child must live in the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania area.
- The child must have a life-threatening illness or an illness that has significantly altered his or her lifestyle.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Children can be referred by anyone to the organization.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

120 W. BROADWAY, SUITE 300
LOUISVILLE, KY 40202
WWW.DREAMFACTORYINC.ORG
DFINFO@DREAMFACTORYINC.ORG
800-456-7556

THE DREAM FACTORY

ABOUT THE DREAM FACTORY

In 1980, The Dream Factory began with one all-volunteer chapter in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Since then, The Dream Factory has grown into the second-largest children's wish granting organization in the United States, granting over 25,000 dreams since its inception. The Dream Factory maintains a grassroots approach and continues to operate with dedicated volunteers. The organization believes children with chronic illnesses and disorders also suffer from substantial emotional and physical pain.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Celebrity Dreams – Many children want to meet their favorite television personality, movie star or favorite recording artist. Some children want to meet other role models such as politicians or other public figures.
- Fantasy Dreams – Many children dream of what they may aspire to when they grow up including being a fireman, policeman, military officer, model or even a princess for a day.
- Shopping Dreams – Some children wish for a special gift that they may have been dreaming about for a long time such as a hot tub, pool, shopping spree, playhouse, computer, big screen TV or a pet.
- Sports Dreams – Many boys and girls of all ages want to see their favorite sports team, go to a NASCAR race and meet their favorite sports hero.
- Travel Dreams – Dream Trips include, theme parks, visits to other countries and exotic islands, cruises, and popular beach destinations.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between 3 and 18 years of age.
- The child's critical or chronic illness must be documented and affirmed by a treating physician.
- The child must be able to communicate his or her dream to a volunteer screening representative of The Dream Factory.

APPLICATION PROCESS

If you know of a child who might be eligible for a dream, encourage the family to visit the website of a local chapter or contact the national headquarters.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

6803 SOUTHPOINT PARKWAY
JACKSONVILLE, FL32216
WWW.DREAMSCOMETRUE.ORG
904-296-3030,

DREAM COME TRUE

ABOUT DREAMS COME TRUE

In 1984, the late Thomas R. McGehee, Chairman of Mac Papers, and his wife, Delia, met a 17-year-old boy who had cystic fibrosis. This young man, George Lee, loved golf. When McGehee learned this, he arranged for George to be paired with Fred Couples and play in the Pro-Am of the TPC. Following an exciting round of play, Couples gave the young man his driver. A year later, George lost his battle with cystic fibrosis, and his prized club was buried at his side. That was the beginning of Dreams Come True.

WHAT THEY FUND

Joy comes to dreamers in many forms: experiencing a week-long getaway to a magical theme park, swimming with dolphins, going on shopping trips, meeting celebrities and catching waves in Hawaii. Having a dream fulfilled gives a child a sense of hope and creates memories of a lifetime for the child and family. Many medical professionals have attested that a dream dramatically impacts a child's attitude. Often, it strengthens a child's determination to undergo difficult treatment.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between ages of 2 1/2 and 18
- The child must have been diagnosed with a lifethreatening illness.
- The child must either live or receive treatment in northeast Florida or southeast Georgia.

APPLICATION PROCESS

A child may be referred to Dreams Come True through the online referral form, or by contacting our Dream staff at 904-296-3030.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 7000 AIRPORT STATION
DORVAL, QUEBEC H4Y 1J2

204-479-5267

DREAMS TAKE FLIGHT (CANADA)

ABOUT DREAMS TAKE FLIGHT

Dreams Take Flight is a national volunteer charitable organization dedicated to providing the trip of a lifetime to physically, mentally or socially challenged children. With the aid of Air Canada, other national and local organizations and businesses, money is raised to make the dreams a reality in Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and Halifax.

WHAT THEY FUND

Dreams Take Flight funds day trips to theme parks. Contact the organization for specific information.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between 6 and 11 years of age.
- The child must be financially unable to experience the magic of Disney.
- The child may not have been to Walt Disney World or any Disney Theme Park before.
- The child must be a Canadian citizen and have, or be able to obtain, a valid birth certificate.
- The child must be able to legally enter the United States.
- The child must be physically able to handle the long and extremely tiring day.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Dreams Take Flight for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 8068
BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807
WWW.ELLEFOUNDATION.ORG
ELLEFOUNDATION@
ELLEFOUNDATION.ORG
908-393-5529

ELLE FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE ELLE FOUNDATION, INC.

In 2003, at the age of 10, Lauren was diagnosed with a very rare and tenacious chordoma tumor on her brainstem. For over five years Lauren fought valiantly; she remained upbeat, happy and determined not to let the chordoma rob her of her childhood, and thus enjoyed life to its fullest. With the spirit of a warrior, Lauren taught everyone who knew her that with love, perseverance, courage and compassion for others, you can turn a terrifying experience into something good and make a difference in the world. Lauren used her love for writing poetry to connect with the hearts of so many people. Lauren's special wish, to have her poems published, was granted in 2007 through the Marty Lyons Foundation. Lauren's book of poetry, "Black and Brown Markers," opened up many extraordinary opportunities for Lauren.

At the age of 15, Lauren lost her battle with chordoma. In her final days Lauren charged her family with continuing her dream of raising money to grant second wishes to children with a recurrence.

WHAT THEY FUND

Elle Foundation, Inc. grants second wishes for children with cancer recurrences to create moments of joy.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between 5 and 18 years old.
- The child must be diagnosed with a recurrence of cancer.
- The child must reside in New York, New Jersey or Pennsylvania. (If exceptional medical circumstances exist for children outside this area, please fill out the application form and contact the foundation.)
- The child must have finished all forms of treatment and have been in remission for at least 24 months.
- The child must have had a first wish granted and have completed no less than 36 months prior to applying for a second wish; written documentation is required. The Elle Foundation, Inc. will exercise its limited discretion to grant a second wish within a shorter period when exceptional medical circumstances exist.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit the website for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

753 E. SANTA ANA CANYON ROAD
#G123 ANAHEIM, CA 92807
WWW.GRANTSWISHES.ORG
INFO@GRANTSWISHES.ORG
714-998-6039

GRANTS WISHES

ABOUT GRANTS WISHES, INC.

GRANTS WISHES, Inc. was formed when Lori Sullivan was approached by a physician at the Children's Hospital of Orange County after her son, Grant, had passed away. The physician asked Lori if she could help a child whose cancer had relapsed by granting him his wish for a television. Knowing the battle the boy was facing, Lori and her husband Craig agreed to help and used funds from a private memorial trust created in their son's name, hoping to bring a smile to the child's face and give him the strength and courage he would need to face his second battle with cancer. After further discussions with the Children's Hospital of Orange County, physicians and staff realized the need for a long-term program to support children facing cancer again, and the Sullivan family felt compelled to help.

WHAT THEY FUND

GRANTS WISHES, Inc. grants wishes of children whose cancer has relapsed or who endure neverending treatments.

GUIDELINES

- Children must be pediatric patients whose cancer has relapsed or who have ongoing long-term cancer treatments.
- Children must not be eligible for a wish from any other organization.
- Wishes are to benefit the wish child.
- Children must be receiving treatment from the Children's Hospital of Orange County, Jonathan Jaques Cancer Center, Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego, Kaiser Permanente in Anaheim and San Diego and City of Hope.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact GRANTS WISHES, Inc. for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

HOPES AND DREAMS FOUNDATION

517 CEDARBROOK ROAD
SOUTHAMPTON, PA18966
WWW.HOPESANDDREAMSFOUNDATION.ORG
INFO@HOPESANDDREAMSFOUNDATION.ORG
215-264-2859

ABOUT HOPES AND DREAMS FOUNDATION, INC.

Hopes and Dreams Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to the awareness and appreciation of children and young adults with disabilities, including Down syndrome and other specific challenges. The main goals of the Hopes and Dreams Foundation are to promote education and community involvement for children with disabilities through social activities and experiences in creative arts, establish summer programs for children and more support for families and provide special opportunities for local children with disabilities.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Hopes and Dreams Foundation's Dream Club brings children together in a fun setting where they can participate in art, music, drama and social activities for free.

GUIDELINES

The Dream Club is a service developed by the Hopes and Dreams Foundation for children with disabilities ages 9 and above. Must be 9 years of age or above. Dream Club is held at: North & Southampton Reformed Church 1380 Bristol Road Churchville, PA18966

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the Hopes and Dreams Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

INDIANA CHILDREN'S WISH FOUNDATION

6435 CASTLEWAY WEST DRIVE, SUITE 130 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46250

WWW.INDIANACHILDRENSWISHFUND.ORG

866-224-1197

ABOUT INDIANA CHILDREN'S WISH FUND

Indiana Children's Wish Fund is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to granting wishes to Indiana children. Founded in 1984, Indiana's Children's Wish Fund has granted more than 3,000 wishes.

WHAT THEY FUND

Indiana Children's Wish Fund arranges trips to Disney World for the whole family, along with celebrity meet-ups, shopping sprees and family vacations. Some of our unique wishes have been to meet former Presidents, the Pope, working with Mother Theresa and bringing a Grandmother to the United States from Ethiopia to visit her grandchild. Some unique wishes granted were meetings with former presidents, the pope and Mother Theresa. Indiana Children's Wish Fund has even arranged for a child to be an extra on the set of a Tom Cruise movie.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between 3-18 years of age.
- The child must be diagnosed with a lifethreatening or terminal illness.
- The child must be an Indiana resident.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Wish Children are referred by their doctors, nurses, social workers, parents, etc. To refer a child, visit the website to complete the online referral form.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

JASON'S DREAMS FOR KIDS

20 MONMOUTH STREET
RED BANK, NJ 07701
WWW.JDFK.ORG
JASONSDREAMS@COMCAST.NET
732-758-0060

ABOUT JASON'S DREAM FOR KIDS

Jason's Dreams for Kids, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1992 in memory of Jason Douglas Creager, who passed away losing his battle with cancer. The organization is devoted to granting wishes to children diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses. The organization hopes to bring happiness to children and their parents, as well.

WHAT THEY FUND

Jason's Dreams for Kids, Inc. grants wishes that are as unique as the children who wish them.

GUIDELINES

Jason's Dreams for Kids, Inc. grants wishes for children in the New Jersey area only.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Parents and legal guardians of a child who may be eligible to receive a wish should contact jasonsdreams@comcast.net and provide information about their child and the wish they would like to see granted.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

KRADDICK FOUNDATION KIDS

220 E. LAS COLINAS BOULEVARD, SUITE C-210, IRVING, TX 75039
WWW.KIDDSKIDS.ORG
972-432-8595

ABOUT KRADDICK FOUNDATION/KIDD'S KIDS

Kidd's Kids sends over 50 families to Walt Disney World in Florida each year. Many of the children selected for the trip are passed over by other organizations that grant wishes or provide trips. During this five-day trip, which takes place every November, the kids and their families enjoy all the excitement that a Kidd's Kids vacation can offer. For many families with terminally ill or physically challenged children, this is a rare opportunity to leave behind hospital and treatment centers to share laughter and fun in a magical environment.

WHAT THEY FUND

Kidd's Kids covers all expenses including airfare to and from Walt Disney World, hotels, park passes, meals and transportation, souvenirs, special private character visits and more.

GUIDELINES

- The children must between 5 and 12 years of age.
- The child must suffer from a chronic or terminal illness, a physical disability or a catastrophic impairment due to an accident or birth defect.
- The child must reside in one of the "Kidd Kraddick in the Morning" listening areas. Check the website for locations.
- Families must demonstrate a financial need.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit the website for the application. The medical portion must be completed by a physician and faxed to Kidd's Kids.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

4742 N. 24TH STREET, SUITE 400
PHOENIX, AZ 85016
WWW.WISH.ORG
800-722-9474

ABOUT MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

Make-A-Wish grants the wishes of children with lifethreatening medical conditions. Since 1980, Make-AWish has been enriching the human experience with hope, strength and joy. The organization's mission reflects the life-changing impact that a Make-AWish experience has on children, families, referral sources, donors, sponsors and entire communities.

WHAT THEY FUND

The child's imagination is always the driving force in determining, designing and coordinating a lifealtering wish experience. The possibilities for wishes are endless, but most fall into five categories: I wish to go... Some Make-A-Wish kids want to travel to their favorite theme park, while others want to visit an exotic beach, go on a cruise, see snow for the first time or attend a major sporting event or concert. I wish to be... Children search the depths of their imagination when they wish to be someone for a day – a fireman, a police officer, a model or a superhero. I wish to meet... Around 1,000 wish kids each year meet their favorite athlete, recording artist, television personality, movie star, politician or other public figure. I wish to have... Children sometimes wish for a special gift, such as a computer, tree house, shopping spree or something they have wanted for a long time. I wish to give... Some wish kids use their wish to make the world better – raising funds, helping improve their school or celebrating a holiday for their family are just a few of the ways wish kids have helped others.

GUIDELINES

Please see a local chapter for specific policies and guidelines for granting a child's wish.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Use the online inquiry form or contact a local chapter to get more information about referring a child who lives in the United States or one of its territories.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

MARTY LYONS FOUNDATION

354 VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY, 2ND FLOOR, COMMACK, NY 11725

WWW.MARTYLYONSFOUNDATION.ORG

631-543-9474

ABOUT THE MARTY LYONS FOUNDATION

For twelve years, Marty Lyons served as a premiere defensive lineman for the New York Jets. Early in his career, Marty befriended and became a surrogate father to a three-year-old boy suffering from an advanced illness. Three years later, the boy's passing coincided with the sudden death of Marty's father and the birth of his first child, a healthy son. These experiences profoundly affected Marty's attitude toward life, fame and his fellow human beings. With the encouragement and assistance of family and friends, Marty Lyons became determined to establish a foundation dedicated to granting wishes of seriously ill children. The Marty Lyons Foundation has kept hope alive in the hearts of children with a terminal or lifethreatening illness by making their special wish come true. A fulfilled special wish has the ability to sweep the children and their family away from the daily heartache of illness. Every child has a dream, and the Marty Lyons Foundation can make it a reality.

WHAT THEY FUND

Wishes are as individual as the child making the wish.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between3 and 17 years of age.
- The children must also reside or be receiving medical treatment within the Marty Lyons Foundation's designated geographic locations: Alabama, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Texas.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website. For more information, contact mlf_hq@martylyonsfoundation.org.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

621 W. UNIVERSITY
ROCHESTER, MI48307
WWW.RAINBOWCONNECTION.ORG
INFO@RAINBOWCONNECTION.ORG
877-649-4743

RAINBOW CONNECTION

ABOUT THE RAINBOW CONNECTION

In 1980, Ron and Janet Dobson and their children, Tim and Jennifer, were in a plane crash that killed Ron and the children and critically injured Janet. After the crash, L. Brooks Patterson and other friends of the Dobsons held a memorial golf outing to raise scholarship funds in the children's names. From this event, The Rainbow Connection evolved. The Rainbow Connection is a Michigan-based 501(c)(3) charity dedicated to making dreams come true for Michigan children who are literally fighting for their lives. Janet Dobson sits on the community-based Board of Directors, and since 1985, thousands of Michigan children with life-threatening illnesses have experienced their most special dream come true.

WHAT THEY FUND

Wishes vary with each child.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between 2 1/2 and 18 years of age.
- The child must live in Michigan.
- The child must be diagnosed with a lifethreatening or terminal illness.
- The child's illness must be verified by a licensed physician.
- The child must not have received a wish from any wish granting organization previously.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the online referral form to refer a child and fax the referral to 248-601-0577, or call The Rainbow Connection.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

1041 MILL CREEK DRIVE
FEASTERVILLE, PA 19053
WWW.SUNSHINEFOUNDATION.ORG
215-396-4770

SUNSHINE FOUNDATION

ABOUT SUNSHINE FOUNDATION

Sunshine Foundation is the original wish granting organization founded in 1976 by former Philadelphia police officer Bill Sample. While on protective duty at a Philadelphia area children's hospital, Bill witnessed firsthand the financial and emotional burden placed on the families of children with illnesses. He saw that so many families could not afford to give their sick child one last wish, so Bill, with the help of a handful of other dedicated people, got together to answer Sunshine Foundation's first dream.

WHAT THEY FUND

Sunshine Foundation owns a Dream Village in Davenport, Florida, where families stay while on a dream trip to Central Florida. The Dream Village features nine fairy tale-themed cottages, an Olympic sized swimming pool, a mini golf course and a playground, all handicapped equipped and wheelchair accessible. Sunshine Foundation pays for airfare, transportation, lodging and tickets to attractions. Sunshine Foundation's special dreams can be anything from a celebrity meet and greet, family trip, shopping spree or adaptive medical or therapeutic equipment.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between 3 and 18 years of age.
- The child must be chronically ill, seriously ill, physically challenged or abused.
- The family's household annual income may not exceed $75,000.
- The child or any other family member may not have had a dream granted through Sunshine Foundation or any other wish granting organization.
- The child must be a United States citizen.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Those with internet capabilities must visit the organization's website and complete the application electronically. If a family is without internet, please send a letter to the organization's office that states the child's full name, age and diagnosis, along with the parent or guardian's full name, mailing address and phone number.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

TENDER WISHES FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 824
NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO
WWW.TENDERWISHES.ORG
WISHES@TENDERWISHES.ORG
905-371-0300

ABOUT THE TENDER WISHES FOUNDATION

Growing from the desire to help one family with a terminally ill child, the Tender Wishes Foundation seeks out and grants wishes to children in the Niagara Region who suffer from a potentially life-threatening illness. The objective of the organization is to provide assistance in granting requests to and arranging special events and outings for children who have been diagnosed by a qualified medical practitioner as having a potentially life-threatening illness.

WHAT THEY FUND

Wishes are granted for things such as trips to Disneyworld, home entertainment units, sporting events, meeting a celebrity or hero and home renovations. The wishes are as varied as the child. In general, the Tender Wishes Foundation strives to make the child's wish, in consultation with their parents, come true.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be 18 years of age or younger.
- The child must reside in the Regional Municipality of Niagra.
- A qualified medical practitioner must confirm that the child suffers from a potentially lifethreatening illness.
- The child must not have been granted a wish from any other wish granting organization.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the Tender Wishes Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

UNITED SPECIAL SPORTSMAN ALLIANCE

N7864 SHOTWELL LANE
PITTSVILLE, WI 54466
WWW.CHILDSWISH.COM
CHILDSWISH@GMAIL.COM
800-518-8019

ABOUT UNITED SPECIAL SPORTSMENT ALLIANCE

United Special Sportsman Alliance, Inc. (USSA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit national wish granting charity that specializes in sending critically ill and disabled youth and veterans on outdoor adventures. Families are whisked away to a place of peace to focus on the quality of life, family ties and the wonders of the natural world. USSA is composed of volunteers from all walks of life, bonded together by a common love for others and a deep respect and appreciation of the world's natural resources. By working cooperatively with caring donors and corporate sponsors, USSA has made a significant impact on the lives of thousands of children, disabled veterans and their families.

WHAT THEY FUND

USSA specializes in sending critically ill and disabled youth and veterans on various outdoor adventures.

GUIDELINES

Contact USSA for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website and mail it to the organization.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

220 ADAMS DRIVE, SUITE 280-303
WEATHERFORD, TX 76086
WWW.WESTERNWISHES.ORG
817-757-9216

WESTERN WISHES

ABOUT WESTERN WISHES

Born in Oregon and raised in a rodeo family from the Northwest, Donnalyn set out on a mission to create a program like Make-A-Wish for children with critical injuries or physical and mental challenges who love rodeos and a western way of life. After dealing with a cancer scare, a successful surgery, and the end of her 20 year marriage, she set out to parlay her extensive contacts in the western world into an award-winning national program that brightens the lives of kids faced with adversity.

WHAT THEY FUND

Western Wishes fulfills rodeo dreams for terminally ill and disabled children.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be critically ill, severely injured or physically challenged.
- The child must have experienced unusual adversity.
- The organization provides for children who love the “western” way of life.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Western Wishes for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it’s a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WISH UPON A HERO FOUNDATION

1640 NIXON DRIVE, SUITE 336
MOORESTOWN, NJ 08057

WWW. WISHUPONAHEROFOUNDATION.ORG

HELP@WISHUPONAHERO.COM

877-974-4376

ABOUT THE WISH UPON A HERO FOUNDATION

The Wish Upon A Hero Foundation is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization that grants the wishes of those with needs. Uniquely different than most charities, the Wish Upon A Hero Foundation supports a broad range of needs and is non-discriminatory of age, sex, location or cause. The organization grants the wishes of newborns all the way to senior citizens while supporting well known causes, such as cancer and heart disease, and rare diseases as well.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Wish Upon A Hero Foundation provides assistance with basic needs, living needs, healthcare needs, pet needs, service needs and educational needs.

GUIDELINES

The Wish Upon A Hero Foundation believes that when it comes to helping others, every cause is a good cause. From basic needs to life saving treatment, from newborns to seniors, from single moms to military veterans, from Florida to Alaska, the organization helps everyone. The Wish Upon A Hero Foundation raises awareness and money to quickly and efficiently help those in need.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Post a wish or request help on the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

961 HILLWIND ROAD
MINNEAPOLIS, MN55432
WWW.WISHESANDMORE.ORG
INFO@WISHESANDMORE.ORG
763-502-1500

WISHES AND MORE

ABOUT WISHES & MORE

Wishes & More began conceptually in the fall of 2004 in order to fill the gaps of other wish granting charities that serve children with lifethreatening or terminal illnesses. The founders were seasoned children's wish granters who had served as volunteer members of the board of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Minnesota.

WHAT THEY FUND

The goal of Wishes & More is to grant wishes to children with terminal and life-threatening illnesses and provide hopeful hearts, happy memories and assistance to those who love them.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be under 19 years of age.
- The child must be diagnosed with a terminal or life-threatening illness or condition which will require ongoing treatment.
- The child must live in Minnesota or a bordering state or be treated in a Minnesota medical facility.

APPLICATION PROCESS

See the website for referral form, which can be submitted online, mailed or faxed to the organization.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

1310 N. MAIN STREET
NORTH CANTON, OH 44720
WWW.WISHESCANHAPPEN.ORG
330-966-0043

WISHES CAN HAPPEN

ABOUT WISHES CAN HAPPEN, INC.

Wishes Can Happen, Inc. is an all volunteer, nonprofit organization founded by Canton residents Cyndi Morrow and Linda Lippert. The organization grants wishes to children with lifethreatening illnesses in Ohio and strives to put a smile on the faces of children and their families.

WHAT THEY FUND

Wishes Can Happen, Inc. funds for children's wishes. Disney trips continue to be the most popular trip, but children have visited dude ranches in Montana and Colorado, played golf in Hawaii and went on shopping sprees in New York. If they can wish it, the organization can make it happen.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between 3 and 21 years of age.
- The child must live in Ohio.
- The child must not have received a wish from another wish granting organization.
- The child must be diagnosed with a lifethreatening illness.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the referral form on the website, or contact Wishes Can Happen, Inc. for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WISHING STAR FOUNDATION

139 S. SHERMAN
SPOKANE, WA 99202
WWW.WISHINGSTAR.ORG
509-744-3411

ABOUT WISHING STAR FOUNDATION

Established in 1983, Wishing Star Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that grants wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses. Besides making the wish experience one of the most memorable times in a child's life, the organization continues to support families who care for medically fragile children. Wishing Star Foundation provides tickets to fun opportunities knowing that these families struggle emotionally and financially.

WHAT THEY FUND

The wishes vary from child to child.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between 3 and 21 years of age.
- The child must have a life-threatening or lifeshortening illness.
- The child must reside in Central or Eastern Washington or anywhere in Idaho.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Wishing Star Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WISHING WELL FOUNDATION

3000 W. ESPLANADE AVENUE,
SUITE 100 METAIRIE, LA 70002
WWW.WISHINGWELLUSA.ORG
WELLFOUNDATION52@GMAIL.COM
888-663-9474

ABOUT THE WISHING WELL FOUNDATION USA, INC.

Elwin and Lisbeth LeBeau founded the Wishing Well Foundation USA, Inc. after their family friend lost their child to a terminal illness. The experience left an impression on the LeBeaus, which caused them to wonder about other terminally ill children and families who are unable to provide their child with anything other than basic needs. The LeBeaus began reaching out to families of children with terminal illnesses, and the organization continues to bring joy to these children by providing them with their fondest wish in life.

WHAT THEY FUND

Many of the wishes are for trips to theme parks or a special day with a celebrity or hero.

GUIDELINES

Contact the Wishing Well Foundation USA, Inc. for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the form on the website.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

DISABILITY

NATIONAL FUNDERS

4 Paws For Ability

A Kid Again

Ability Found

Able-Gamers Foundation

Alexander Graham Bell Association For The Deaf And Hard Of Hearing

Alternatives In Motion

Amputee Coalition

Anchor Of Hope Foundation

Andrew And Abby Szott Foundation

Angel Flight

Angel Wheels To Healing

Assistance Fund — Copay Program

Assistance Fund — Financial Assistance Fund

Assistance Fund — Health Insurance Premium

Association Of Blind Citizens Assisstive Technology Fund

Athletes Helping Athletes Foundation

Aubrey Rose Foundation

Audient Alliance

AZ & Me Prescription Savings Program

BADF Life Hunts

Barr Foundation

Believe In Tomorrow Children's Foundation

Brain Tumor Foundation For Children

Bright Steps Forward

Bryon Riesch Paralysis Foundation

Cancer Cares

Canines For Kids

Canine Partners For Life

Caring And Sharing For Kids

Caring Voice Coalition

Challenged America

Challenged Athletes Foundation

Chanda Plan Foundation

Cherished Creations, Inc.

Child Foundation Charity

Childhood Apraxia Of Speech Association Of North America

Children's Charity Fund, Inc.

Cindy Donald Dreams Of Recovery Foundation

C.L.A.S.S. - Children's Liver Association For Social Services

Clayton Dabney Foundation For Kids With Cancer

Conover Mobile Technology Grant

Danielle's Foundation

Danny Foundation For Autism

Darrell Gwynn Foundation

Different Needz Foundation

Disabled Sports USA — Diana Golden Opportunity Fund

Elsie S. Bellow Fund

Erick's Place

Eye Dog Foundation For The Blind

Faith's Hope Foundation

First Hand Foundation

Flying Horse Farms

Foundation For Sight And Sound

Friends 4 Michael Foundation

Friends Of Disabled Adults And Children

Friends Of Man

Fund It Forward

Gia Nicole Angel Foundation

Good Days By CDF

Guide Dog Foundation For The Blind

The Gwendolyn Strong Foundation

H.A.L.O. Foundation

Hands To Angels

Healthwell Foundation

Healthwell Pediatric Assistance Foundation

Healthwell Emergency Cancer Relief Fund

The Hike Fund

Humanitarian Foundation — Grottoes of North America

Joey's Eagles

Joey's Friends Too

Jordan Thomas Foundation

Kids Cancer Fund

Kya's Krusade

Lighthouse Family Retreat

The Lindsay Foundation

Little People Of America

Maggie Welby Foundation

Mark's Money

Miracle-Ear Foundation

Mobility Works Foundation.

Modest Needs Foundation

Molly Ann Tango Memorial Foundation

The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project

Multiple Sclerosis Fdn. - Assistive Technology Grant

Multiple Sclerosis Fdn. - Brighter Tomorrow Grant Program

Mutiple Sclerosis Fdn. - Computer Grant Program

Multiple Sclerosis Fdn. - Homecare Grant Program

Muscular Dystrophy Association

Muscular Dystrophy Association Family Fund

National Cristina Foundation

National Organization For Rare Disororders

Nationwide Children's Hospital

NEADS - National Education For Assistance Dogs Services

New Eyes

Obie Harrington-Howes Foundation

The Olive You Foundation Fund

Pacer Center

Parker's Purpose

Partnership For Prescription Assistance

Patient Advocate Foundation

Patient Access Network

Pilot Dogs - Guide Dogs For The Blind

Prayer Child Foundation

DISABILITY

NATIONAL FUNDERS

PSI - Patient Services
Ray Tye Medical Aid Foundation
Rx Hope
Ryan Scott Kappes Foundation
Save The Kid Fund
Seedlings Braille Books
Silent Starts Foundation
Smiles Change Lives
Starkey Hearing Foundation
The Suite Dreams Project
Summitt Assistance Dogs
Think Alive Foundation
Travelers Protective Association Of America
Travis Roy Foundation
Triumph Foundation
Two Angels Foundation, Inc.
United Healthcare Children's Foundation
Variety Healthcare Children's Foundation
Walking With Anthony
The Way Outfitters
Wheelchair 4 Kids
Wheel To Walk
Wheels With Wings Foundation

253 DAYTON AVE,
XENIA, OH 45385
WWW.4PAWSFORABILITY.ORG
KAREN@4PAWSFORABILITY.ORG
937-374-0385

4 PAWS FOR ABILITY

ABOUT 4 PAWS FOR ABILITY

4 Paws for Ability is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to place quality service dogs with children with disabilities and veterans who have lost use of limbs or hearing and educate the public regarding use of service dogs in public places.

WHAT THEY FUND

4 Paws for Ability enriches the lives of children with disabilities by training and placing quality, task-trained service dogs. This provides increased independence for the children, and assistance to their families.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines you can visit their website and request information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can download an application and mail it in or email it.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

777-G DEARBORN PARK LANE
COLUMBUS, OH 43085
WWW.AKIDAGAIN.ORG
CUSTOMERSERVICE@AKIDAGAIN.ORG
614-797-9500

A KID AGAIN

ABOUT A KID AGAIN

A Kid Again exists to foster hope, happiness and healing for families raising kids with lifethreatening illnesses. Families thrust into the situation of having to care for a child with a lifethreatening illness are unprepared and usually unequipped to deal with what follows, often feeling they have lost their hold on the situation and their own lives. A Kid Again helps to restore a sense of normalcy for their child and for themselves. A Kid Again strives to make life for families caring for a child with a life-threatening illness more like "life" again by helping them gain back moments of solace and a sense of control over their circumstances.

WHAT THEY FUND

An adventure is a fun-filled and exciting opportunity for families to take their focus away from the daily hardships that are a result of having a child with a life-threatening illness. The organization starts out with a destination or event, and then loving volunteers enhance it with creative ideas for family fun and friendship. Prizes and treats are added for good measure, and families end up with a wonderful experience filled with joy, laughter, and sweet memories they can treasure.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be under 20 years of age.
- The child must be qualified by a medical physician as having a life-threatening illness.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website, and mail or fax it to a local A Kid Again chapter.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

5236 S. GREENPINE DRIVE
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84123
WWW.ABILITYFOUND.ORG
INFO@ABILITYFOUND.ORG
801-505-0529

ABILITY FOUND

ABOUT ABILITY FOUND

The inspiration for Ability Found comes from the founders Ernest and Anneke Robison and their son Matthew. Due to a lack of oxygen at birth, Matthew was born with severe disabilities. He was blind, mostly paralyzed and spoke only a few words. Through his patient, loving nature and body language, he endeared himself to all those around him. Matthew touched, inspired and was loved by people in all walks of life. The Robisons soon noticed that many individuals with disabilities languish because they often do not have the equipment they need in order to live or the means or insurance coverage to purchase the right equipment. This provided the inspiration to start Ability Found in 1993. Ability Found provides everyone who is disabled with the opportunity to receive the right equipment to become productive members of society.

WHAT THEY FUND

Ability Found's mission is to provide medical and rehabilitation equipment free of charge to people with disabilities who cannot afford it.

GUIDELINES

Ability Found services clients in need of vital medical/rehabilitation equipment who do not have the financial means or insurance coverage to obtain it elsewhere.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Ability Found for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PO BOX 508
CHARLES TOWN, WV 25414
WWW.ABLEGAMERS.COM

ABLE-GAMERS FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE ABLE-GAMERS FOUNDATION

The Able-Gamers Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity organization that empowers children, adults and veterans with disabilities through the power of videogames. Able-Gamers holds the largest community for gamers with disabilities found anywhere in the world. Able-Gamers was founded in 2005 by Mark Barlet and Stephanie Walker to enable gamers with disabilities to continue playing games for recreation and rehabilitation regardless of their physical challenges. Able-Gamers became an official IRS recognized charity in 2009. Able-Gamers advocates to developers and video game publishers on the best practices to make games as accessible as possible. Able-Gamers developed a 50-page living document to assist developers in the process called Includification. Includification is an accessibility movement, and answer for developers who recognize the importance of accessibility but need guidance. Caregivers – We have received thousands of emails from you asking questions from people who care very much about their loved ones, but very little about video games. You have asked us how to make the best gaming setups you can for the ones you love the most. We heard you and we're building content just for you.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Able-Gamers Foundation is proud to offer a onetime grant for gaming equipment.

GUIDELINES

This grant is open to people of all ages, so please understand that we do not assume that all people with disabilities have a guardian.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit website for application form.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

3417 VOLTA PLACE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20007

WWW.
LISTENINGANDSPOKENLANGUAGE.ORG

INFO@AGBELL.ORG

202-337-5220

ABOUT THE ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

The Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing helps families, health care providers and education professionals understand childhood hearing loss and the importance of early diagnosis and intervention.

WHAT THEY FUND

Through advocacy, education, research and financial aid, AG Bell helps to ensure that every child and adult with hearing loss has the opportunity to listen, talk and thrive in mainstream society.

GUIDELINES

Contact the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit the website for more information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ALTERNATIVES IN MOTION

201 MATILDA NE
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503
WWW.ALTERNATIVESINMOTION.ORG
INFO@ALTERNATIVESINMOTION.ORG
877-468-9335

ABOUT ALTERNATIVES IN MOTION

Alternatives in Motion is all about mobility and independence. The organization was founded in 1995 by Johnnie Tuitel and George Ranville. After recovering from a major surgery, Johnnie learned he needed a new wheelchair, but his insurance company denied him coverage for it. Johnnie knew if this was happening to him, it was happening to others, so he teamed up with George Ranville who went through a similar experience getting a chair for his brother-inlaw. The two started raising money and making their cause known. Since then, Alternatives in Motion has grown tremendously and has helped people in 130 Michigan communities and 17 other states.

WHAT THEY FUND

Alternatives in Motion provides wheelchairs to individuals who do not qualify for other assistance and who could not obtain such equipment without financial aid.

GUIDELINES

Contact Alternatives in Motion for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website and mail it to the organization.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

9303 CENTER STREET, SUITE 100
MANASSAS, VA 20110
WWW.AMPUTEE-COALITION.ORG
888-267-5669
202-337-5220

AMPUTEE COALITION

ABOUT THE AMPUTEE COALITION – YOUTH CAMP

In 1986, a small group of amputee support group leaders recognized the need for an organization dedicated to the needs of people with limb loss, their families and healthcare providers. Working entirely as volunteers, they laid the foundation for what the Amputee Coalition of America is today, the leading national nonprofit organization that empowers individuals with limb loss through education, support and advocacy. Together with our thousands of supporters, the Amputee Coalition is a nationwide voluntary health organization dedicated to ensuring that no amputee feels alone and that amputees and their families have the resources they need to recover, readjust and live life fully with limb loss or difference. Whether it's reaching new amputees with critical recovery information, fighting for fair insurance laws, or providing daily tips to make living with limb loss easier, the work of the Amputee Coalition is impacting lives every day.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Amputee Coalition's Paddy Rossbach Youth Camp is a 5-day traditional summer camp. Activities include: Fishing Canoeing Archery Team field sports Sitting volleyball Swimming Rock climbing wall Basketball Creative arts Educational programs

GUIDELINES

The individual must have limb loss or limb difference. The Individual must be between 10 and 17 years of age.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ANCHOR OF HOPE FOUNDATION

41 WEST JOHNSTON STREET
FORSYTH, GEORGIA 31029
AOHFOUNDATION@GMAIL.COM
478-994-0438

ABOUT ANCHOR OF HOPE FOUNDATION, INC.

Steve and Debbie Harbin are the founders of the Anchor of Hope Foundation. Their youngest son, Jacob (pictured left), is the inspiration for this project. At age three, Jacob was diagnosed with autism. Debbie and Steve have spent the last ten plus years working with Jacob, seeing several doctors and therapists. They know firsthand the difficulties, disappointments, and discouragements in raising a special needs child. Yet they also greatly value the joy and blessings Jacob brings to their family. They do not have all the answers, but their desire is to help families with special needs along the path they have traveled and are still traveling. We are a Christian organization providing financial and spiritual support, encouragement, community resources and services to families with disabilities.

WHAT THEY FUND

Anchor of Hope offers grants to special needs children to help cover the costs of therapy, education, equipment, and other needs not covered by insurance or Medicaid. The maximum grant amount is $250.00 per child per financial year.

GUIDELINES

Contact foundation for specific information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Download the application below and e-mail it to: scholarships@anchorofhopefoundation.org Or mail it to: Anchor of Hope Foundation 41 West Johnston St. Forsyth, GA 31029

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ANDREW AND ABBY SZOTT FOUNDATION

P.O BOX 211658
EAGAN, MN 55123
WWW.SZOTTFOUNDATION.ORG
INFO@SZOTTFOUNDATION.ORG

ABOUT THE ANDREW AND ABBY SZOTT FOUNDATION

The Andrew and Abby Szott Foundation is a United States nonprofit organization that provides financial and moral support to families with a child with life-threatening cancer. After David and Kathryn Szott lost two children to cancer, they felt a pressing need to do something to honor the lives of their children while helping other families who face the same heartaches. Their desire is to give the gift of time to help families with children suffering from life-threatening cancer by helping parents afford to stay at home with their children.

WHAT THEY FUND

The organization's intention is to provide the opportunity for one parent, who has previously worked full-time outside the home, to stay at home and manage the all-encompassing health affairs of caring for a child with life-threatening cancer. It is expected that the other parent (if in a two parent household) would continue working.

GUIDELINES

The child must be receiving care from a pediatric unit.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All initial communication must take place between the family and the hematology/ oncology social worker at the clinic or hospital. Families may not apply directly to the Andrew and Abby Szott Foundation for a grant.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

12345 E. SKELLY DRIVE
TULSA, OK 74128
WWW.ANGELFLIGHT.COM
ANGEL@ANGELFLIGHT.COM
918-749-8992

ANGEL FLIGHT

ABOUT ANGEL FLIGHT, INC.

Angel Flight was created by a group of pilots who believe in the benefit of volunteering. We strive to keep all aspects of the organization volunteer. We are a non-profit charitable organization of pilots, volunteers, and friends.

WHAT THEY FUND

We will arrange free air transportation for any legitimate, charitable, medically related need. This service is available to individuals, and health care organizations. We will also arrange transportation of those people who are financially distressed, or who are in a time-critical, non-emergency situation due to their medical condition.

GUIDELINES

- Patients must be ambulatory and able to travel in a small, non-pressurized aircraft, without access to lavatory facilities, for the duration of the flight.
- Must have a personally signed letter from the physician.
- Alternate air transportation is not affordable or feasible.
- Must have a legitimate medical need to avoid lengthy surface transportation.
- Qualified personnel must accompany a patient requiring attention or assistance.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Step 1: Verify that the patient's home or treating facility are located in Oklahoma or surrounding states. If you are seeking a flight outside our service region, please click the locator on the right side of this page to locate a Public Benefit Flying Organization in your area. **Step 2:** Review the Patient Guidelines above to verify qualification. **Step 3:** Please complete the ONLINE FLIGHT REQUEST. The Angel Flight staff will review your request and follow up with you to complete any additional requirements. Thank you for your interest in Angel Flight.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

4620 HAYGOOD ROAD, SUITE 1
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23455
WWW.ANGELWHEELS.ORG

ANGEL WHEELS TO HEALING

ABOUT ANGEL WHEELS TO HEALING

The original Angel Bus program was founded by Mr. William L. (Bill) Connor in May 2000. The inspiration for founding Angel Bus was derived when Bill's son, Jaran, was diagnosed with a brain tumor. His treatment required routine travel, hours away from home. Bill used his converted luxury bus to take his son to Mayo Clinic so Jaran could travel in comfort. This became the model and inspiration for Angel Bus. Bill's hard work and dedication to the mission of Angel Bus resulted in the rapid increase in the number of volunteer drivers wishing to provide their service. Angel Bus quickly became a lifeline for many families as volunteer drivers were matched with trips in various regions of the United States. To better reflect the growing scope of our charity where we're utilizing various ground transportation options, we renamed the program Angel Wheels to Healing in June 2014.

WHAT THEY FUND

Angel Wheels to Healing utilizes the following resources for assisting patients:

- Gas cards (Provided to help off-set fuel cost for patients)
- Commercial ground transportation (Amtrak, Greyhound, Trailways, etc.)
- Volunteer drivers (It's rare when we have a volunteer available as we have only 85 drivers throughout the continental US)

GUIDELINES

- Scheduled medical appointment.
- Clearance by physician to travel.
- Verifiable financial need.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Submit form on website for assistance.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ASSISTANCE FUND — COPAY PROGRAM

4700 MILLENIA BOULEVARD,
SUITE 310, ORLANDO, FL 32839
WWW.ASSISTFUND.ORG
855-845-3663

ABOUT THE ASSISTANCE FUND, INC. – COPAY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Jeff Spafford and Edward Hensley were running a specialty pharmacy in Orlando when they met a patient who would change their lives. She had cancer in her bone marrow, and her doctor had prescribed a medication that might keep the disease at bay for years. She mentioned that she did not want to tell her husband about the drug because she knew they couldn't afford it. The pair vowed to start a nonprofit to help others in similar straits, and in 2009, they founded the Assistance Fund, Inc. which works to make access to medicine a reality. Since its start, the organization has raised more than $148 million and is assisting children and adults across the United States and Puerto Rico. "We strive every day to achieve a world where no child or adult goes without medication due to an inability to pay," Jeff said. "The work we do at the Assistance Fund helps Edward and me honor the patient who inspired it all."

WHAT THEY FUND

Provide eligible underinsured individuals with financial assistance to cover all or part of the individuals' out-of-pocket cost for the supported medications. These programs give individuals the ability to afford their medications.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must be a United States citizen or permanent resident.
- The individual must meet financial criteria based on household size and household income.
- The individual must be diagnosed with a program-related illness.
- The individual must be prescribed one of the supported medications.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ASSISTANCE FUND — FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FUND

4700 MILLENIA BOULEVARD,
SUITE 310, ORLANDO, FL 32839
WWW.ASSISTFUND.ORG
855-845-3663

ABOUT THE ASSISTANCE FUND, INC. – FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FUND

Jeff Spafford and Edward Hensley were running a specialty pharmacy in Orlando when they met a patient who would change their lives. She had cancer in her bone marrow, and her doctor had prescribed a medication that might keep the disease at bay for years. She mentioned that she did not want to tell her husband about the drug because she knew they couldn't afford it. The pair vowed to start a nonprofit to help others in similar straits, and in 2009, they founded the Assistance Fund, Inc. which works to make access to medicine a reality. Since its start, the organization has raised more than $148 million and is assisting children and adults across the United States and Puerto Rico. "We strive every day to achieve a world where no child or adult goes without medication due to an inability to pay," Jeff said. "The work we do at the Assistance Fund helps Edward and me honor the patient who inspired it all."

WHAT THEY FUND

Provide financial assistance for medication co-pays, health insurance premiums, and basic healthcare needs to children and adults.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must be a United States citizen or permanent resident.
- The individual must meet financial criteria based on household size and household income.
- The individual must be diagnosed with a program-related illness.
- The individual must be prescribed one of the supported medications.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ASSOCIATION OF BLIND CITIZENS ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FUND

PO BOX 246
HOLBROOK, MA 02343
WWW.BLINDCITIZENS.ORG
PRESIDENT@BLINDCITIZENS.ORG
781-961-1023

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF BLIND CITIZENS

The mission of the Association of Blind Citizens is to advance relevant causes; increase opportunities in education, employment, cultural, recreational and other life activities; and enhance the social, political and economic well-being for all people who are blind or visually impaired. The organization offers assistance by providing information, referral, advocacy and other supports to maximize and increase options and opportunities for all blind and visually impaired people.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Association of Blind Citizens operates the Assistive Technology Fund, which provides funds to cover half of the retail price of adaptive devices or software.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must be legally blind.
- The individual must be a resident of the United States.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Fill out the request form found on the website, and email responses to atf@blindcitizens.org. Do not use attachments.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ATHLETES HELPING ATHLETES FOUNDATION

5549 COPLEY DRIVE
SAN DIEGO, CA 92111
AHA@ROADRUNNERSPORTS.COM
888-566-5221

ABOUT ATHLETES HELPING ATHLETES FOUNDATION

Remember how much fun you had as a kid riding bikes with your family and friends? That exact same feeling of fun and freedom is what the Athletes of AHA get to experience when they hop on their brand new handcycles for the first time. AHA is 100% supported by Road Runner Sports! Together, AHA and Road Runner Sports ensure that all of your donations go to purchasing handcycles so that 100% of the cost is covered for each family.

WHAT THEY FUND

Handcycles free of charge.

GUIDELINES

- Be 18 years of age or younger and have a permanent physical disability.
- Have a history of or interest in being active and athletic.
- Prior use of or ability to use a handcycle.
- Commitment to regular use of the handcycle.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application must be completed online.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

AUBREY ROSE FOUNDATION

3862 RACE ROAD
CINCINNATI, OH 45211
WWW.AUBREYROSE.ORG
513-265-5801

ABOUT AUBREY ROSE FOUNDATION

The Aubrey Rose Foundation was founded in memory of Aubrey Rose. Aubrey was a happy baby throughout everything she endured, and she smiled continuously. In honor, the Aubrey Rose Foundation provides support and help for those in need.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Educational scholarships.
- Financial assistance related to medical expenses.
- Toys and holiday parties to brighten the lives of sick children at a local Children's Hospital.
- Educational awareness about the need for organ donations.
- Dinners for the Ronald McDonald House families.
- Healing the Worlds Hearts Program - This program was developed by the Aubrey Rose Foundation with help from Cincinnati Children's Hospital doctors, surgeons and corporate support to provide "simple" heart procedures to sick children in the United States and developing countries around the world.

GUIDELINES

The Aubrey Rose Foundation helps families with children who are currently living with a life-threatening medical condition. Grants are awarded based on need. If a family has outstanding medical bills that insurance will not cover, the organization can possibly help out a family in need until annual funds have been exhausted. Grants are limited to one grant per family.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the Aubrey Rose Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

3191 W TEMPLE AVENUE, SUITE 200 POMONA, CA 91768
WWW.AUDIENTALLIANCE.ORG
HEAR@EPICHEARING.COM
866-956-5400

AUDIENT ALLIANCE

ABOUT AUDIENT ALLIANCE AUDIENT

is a national nonprofit hearing care alliance. The organization brings together health care professionals, suppliers and related groups with the common goal of providing access to quality hearing aids and care for low-income hearing impaired people.

WHAT THEY FUND

Audient Alliance provides access to quality hearing aids and related care.

GUIDELINES

Contact Audient Alliance for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Audient Alliance or complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

AZ & ME PRESCRIPTION SAVINGS PROGRAM

PO BOX 898
SOMERVILLE, NJ 08876
WWW.ASTRAZENECA-US.COM
800-292-6363

ABOUT ASTRAZENECA

AstraZeneca was formed in 1999 through the merger of Astra AB of Sweden and Zeneca Group PLC of the UK – two companies with similar science-based cultures and a shared vision of the pharmaceutical industry. Since 1978, AstraZeneca has worked hard to better understand the needs of patients and the health care system so that its patient assistance programs can make a difference.

WHAT THEY FUND

The company is committed to helping people get assistance so they can afford their medicines. The programs are designed to help qualifying people without insurance, those in Medicare Part D, those who receive their medications through participating health care facilities and those who have faced a financial challenge recently.

GUIDELINES

Contact AstraZeneca for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact AstraZeneca for assistance or complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

10540 DAYSTAR DRIVE
TUSCALOOSA, AL 35405
WWW.BUCKMASTER.COM
DSULLIVAN@BUCKMASTERS.COM
205-366-8415

BADF LIFE HUNTS

ABOUT BUCKMASTERS AMERICAN DEER FOUNDATION

Buckmasters American Deer Foundation's (BADF) Disabled Hunter Services was established in 1993 after realizing the need for hunting opportunities among people with disabilities. An estimated 1.7 million people with severe physical handicaps enjoy hunting and shooting sports in the U.S. Some of the things that can be taken for granted by ablebodied sportsmen are life-changing events for this segment of the population. Learning to shoot again, being in the wilderness, or just witnessing animals in the wild can actually impact these individual's lives. BADF Disabled Hunter Services knows the importance of outdoor recreation and how it can have a tremendous impact on the quality of life for people with disabilities. We have developed a wide range of programs and resources for helping challenged citizens in the U.S. and Canada with their outdoor adventures. See website for more information on programs and resources. BADF's Life Hunts was founded in 1998 to grant hunting wishes for critically ill and disabled youth age 21 and under. Life Hunts is a wish-granting service for children and young adults with critical illnesses and diseases.

WHAT THEY FUND

Life Hunts will work to provide hunts for white tailed deer and other species. Grants of equipment and hunting scholarships are also available to qualified persons with disabilities.

GUIDELINES

- Must have a life-threatening condition.
- Must be under the age of 21.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please visit the website for the application.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

136 NE OLIVE WAY
BOCA RATON, FL 33432
WWW.WGBARRFOUNDATION.ORG
T-BARR@T-BARR.COM
561-391-7601

BARR FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE BARR FOUNDATION

The Barr Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in 1993 to assist amputees with prosthetic rehabilitation. The organization's mission is to advance education and improve community support for amputees of the world and provide assistance to amputees who would have no financial resources otherwise. The Barr Foundation strives to improve the amputee's quality of life through access to proper prosthetic care and by encouraging improvements in the care system.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Barr Foundation provides reimbursement for materials and maintenance costs to the prosthetist that provides limbs to amputees who have no other source of funding. This program is a cooperative effort between the organization and the amputee's prosthetist. Amputee applicants who are first time amputees, United States citizens, generally healthy and seeking initial prosthetic rehabilitation will be prioritized.

GUIDELINES

Contact the Barr Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the Barr Foundation for specific information. It is suggested that the amputee be evaluated by the prosthetist prior to requesting an application in the amputee's name. Please provide the prosthetist with the amputee's name, address, date and level of amputation and telephone number.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

BELIEVE IN TOMORROW CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

6601 FREDERICK ROAD
BALTIMORE, MD 21228
WWW.BELIEVEINTOMORROW.ORG
INFO@BELIEVEINTOMORROW.ORG
800-933-5470

ABOUT BELIEVE IN TOMORROW CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

The Travis Roy Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the life of individuals with spinal cord injuries and their families by providing adaptive equipment and to finding a cure through increased funding of research, resulting in selfreliance and the ability to be as independent as possible. The Travis Roy Foundation was established in 1997 to improve the daily lives of spinal cord injury survivors and to fund spinal cord research.

WHAT THEY FUND

Visit the website for information on respite and hospital housing.

GUIDELINES

The child must be 17 years of age or younger. The child must be undergoing treatment for a life-threatening illness. Children are eligible until they have been off active treatment for more than one year.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

BRAIN TUMOR FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN

6065 ROSWELL ROAD NE, SUITE 505 ATLANTA, GA 30328
WWW.BRAINTUMORKIDS.ORG
INFO@BRAINTUMORKIDS.ORG
404-252-4107

ABOUT THE BRAIN TUMOR FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN, INC.

In June of 1980, Rick and Sheila Sauers's five-month-old daughter Shaye was diagnosed with a highly malignant brain tumor. Offered only a two percent chance of Shaye's long-term survival, Rick and Sheila began a relentless campaign seeking knowledge and treatment to save their child. They found that very little information was available on brain tumors in children and little research was being done. The overall message was that most children died from this disease. Together with several other parents, the Sauers began a local parents' support group to offer comfort and support to each other. In 1983, Rick Sauers, Julia Hartman, and several other parents established the Brain Tumor Foundation for Children, Inc. The Butterfly Fund financial assistance program was established in 1999 by the organization's Board of Directors to provide direct financial assistance to needy families of children with brain and spinal cord tumors for items not covered by other means. This program provides limited specific and selective financial assistance to eligible individuals.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Assistance with rent or mortgage payments, utility bills, car loan payments, car repairs, miscellaneous household expenses and more that a family may be unable to afford due to loss of work at the time of a child's diagnosis and treatment
- Items not covered by some health insurance plans, such as special medications, long-term or special rehab services, hearing devices, wigs, prosthetic devices, home health services, tutoring, etc.
- Travel and lodging expenses associated with seeking and/or obtaining treatment at locations outside of the patient's city or state
- Funeral expenses

GUIDELINES

Visit the website for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All requests for financial assistance through The Brain Tumor Foundation for Children, Inc. must be made through social workers or with other appropriate medical personnel at one of the participating treatment facilities, which can be found on the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

BRIGHT STEPS FORWARD

4026 N. OCEAN BOULEVARD
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33308
WWW.BRIGHTSTEPSFORWARD.ORG
954-491-6611

ABOUT BRIGHT STEPS FORWARD

Bright Steps Forward is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides funding for intensive pediatric therapy to financially disadvantaged children, who have neurological disorders such as cerebral palsy, disabilities of prematurity, autism and other congenital or acquired conditions that affect their physical functioning.

WHAT THEY FUND

Intensive pediatric therapy uses state-of-the-art therapy techniques, such as the suit therapy method and hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

GUIDELINES

Bright Steps Forward accepts grant from individuals, regardless of their geographic location, race, gender or sexual orientation.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the registration form on the website, and follow the guidelines.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 1388
WAUKESHA, WI 53187-1388
WWW.BRPF.ORG
262-547-2083

BRYAN RIESCH PARALYSIS FOUNDATION

ABOUT BRYON RIESCH PARALYSIS FOUNDATION

The Bryon Riesch Paralysis Foundation's goal is to find a cure for paralysis through funding the latest in medical research, and to provide assistance to those that suffer from neurological disorders.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Applicants must request specific modifications or equipment to apply for a Bryon Riesch Paralysis Foundation grant; requests for "anything you can give" will not be considered.
- Partial Payments toward larger items (i.e. vans) will not be considered unless all payments are already in place for the total amount. For example, if requesting $7,000 toward a $30,000 van, you must have already obtained $23,000 to complete the transaction.
- Examples of eligible items include upgrade and maintenance of wheelchairs, vehicle modifications (i.e., hand controls or lifts), small home modifications including ramp and lift installation, computers, and other adaptive equipment.

GUIDELINES

- Applicants must suffer from a neurological disorder with preference going to spinal cord injuries.
- Applicants must demonstrate financial need and may be required to provide documentation.
- There is no age requirement.
- Applicants must reside in the United States.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants must complete all questions of the applications in order to be considered for a BRPF Individual Grant, including providing contact information and estimates from at least two (2) suppliers and/or contractors for the equipment or renovations requested in the application; incomplete applications will not be considered. See website for application.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

275 SEVENTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10001
INFORMATION@
CANCERCARECOPAY.ORG
866-552-6729

CANCER CARES

ABOUT CANCERCARE CO-PAYMENT ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION

Founded in 1944, CancerCare® is the leading national organization committed to providing personalized services to help people manage the emotional and practical challenges of cancer. A national, nonprofit 501(c)(3), CancerCare's comprehensive network of services include telephone, online and in-person counseling and support groups, resource referrals, publications, education and financial assistance, in addition to co-payment assistance.

WHAT THEY FUND

CCAF is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping you afford your co-payments for chemotherapy and targeted treatment drugs.

GUIDELINES

In order to be eligible for assistance, patients must complete and sign an application and HIPAA Authorization form, as well as provide proof of income. We will review your application and forms on a first-come, first-served basis to the extent that funding is available. Please note: As a nonprofit organization, we cannot guarantee that funding will always be available for a particular diagnosis. View current covered cancer diagnoses. If we are unable to provide co-payment assistance, however, we will refer you to other organizations that may be able to help. To qualify for assistance, you must meet certain financial, medical and insurance criteria.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit the website to take Eligibility Quiz and Apply online

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

255 PARK AVE, SUITE 601
WORCESTER, MA 01609
WWW.CANINESFORKIDS.ORG
INFO@CANINESFORKIDS.ORG
978-422-5299

CANINES FOR KIDS

ABOUT CANINES FOR DISABLED KIDS

Canines for Disabled Kids (CDK) began in 1998 as an offshoot of the NEADS, Dog for Deaf and Disabled Americans training program. A 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, Canines for Disabled Kids work to support children and service dogs on their road to being as independent as possible.

WHAT THEY FUND

Trained service dogs for kids; supporting the creation of child-canine service teams to promote independence and social awareness.

GUIDELINES

- Child must be under the age of 18 years old at the time of placement with their service dog.
- Child must have a physical disability or be in the Autism Spectrum.
- Child must be accepted by an Assistance Dog International member or an International Guide Dog Federation member or other qualified training program prior to applying for scholarship* – must show proof of acceptance by providing a copy of the acceptance letter.
- Applicants must complete a CDK application for scholarship funds – this document is available by request to the CDK office or online
- Applications for scholarships will be considered semiannually, but paid out as outlined above. Applications due dates for each period will be posted on the CDK website.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications should be sent to: Scholarship Committee Canines for Disabled Kids 255 Park Ave, Suite 601 Worcester, MA 01609 Or emailed to Info@caninesforkids.org – in subject line please show “Scholarship Application”

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it’s a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CANINE PARTNERS FOR LIFE

P.O. BOX 170
COCHRANVILLE, PA 19330
WWW.K9A4LIFE.ORG
INFO@K94LIFE.ORG
610-869-4902

ABOUT CANINE PARTNERS FOR LIFE

Canine Partners for Life is a leader in the assistance dog industry, and the organization was one of the first service dog organizations in the world to be accredited by Assistance Dogs International. For over 20 years, Canine Partners for Life has been dedicated to training service dogs, home companion dogs and residential companion dogs to assist individuals with a wide range of physical and cognitive disabilities. Canine Partners for Life trains service dogs to assist individuals who have mobility impairments and balance disorders, difficulty using their hands/arms, health-related fatigue issues and seizure disorders.

WHAT THEY FUND

The total cost to raise, train, place, and provide lifetime support for each Canine Partners for Life dog is estimated to be more than $29,000 per dog. The organization utilizes a sliding scale based on income to determine the requested donation for each recipient, ranging from $1,000 – $3,000. No one is denied a canine partner because of their inability to donate this suggested amount.

GUIDELINES

Contact Canine Partners for Life for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit the website for applications for each program: Service Dog Application Home Companion Application Residential Companion Application.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CARING AND SHARING FOR KIDS

P.O. BOX 53
LUTHERSBURG, PA 15848
WWW.
CARINGANDSHARINGFORKIDS.ORG
CSNFUND@MICHIGAN.GOV
800-359-3722

ABOUT CARING AND SHARING FOR KIDS

Sandra Swatsworth, founder and Executive Director, witnessed the financial and emotional struggles of a young family with a seriously ill child. The working family was just above the limit for any kind of assistance, yet they had many added expenses that go along with hospitalizations. After three months of thinking about how many more families must be in the same situation, and knowing she was being called by the Lord to do something, Sandra started Caring and Sharing for Kids in 2003.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Cards and gifts for children who are staying in hospitals.
- Financial assistance for gas and meals when families need to travel long distances.
- Financial assistance for special foods.
- Large items that doctors have indicated are important for the child to have.

GUIDELINES

The child has to travel two hours or more for doctor appointments and hospital stays.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Caring and Sharing for Kids for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CARING VOICE COALITION

8249 MEADOWBRIDGE ROAD
MECHANICSVILLE, VA 23116
WWW.CARINGVOICE.ORG
804-427-6468

ABOUT CARING VOICE COALITION

Sensing the unmet needs for people with rare, chronic or life-threatening illnesses, co-founder Pam Harris says Caring Voice Coalition evolved organically into the national 501(c) (3) nonprofit, charitable organization it is today. Founded in 2003, Caring Voice Coalition was formalized to meet the unmet needs among the orphan disease population. Caring Voice Coalition possesses a unique and holistic approach to improving the lives of patients with chronic illnesses. From comprehensive outreach programs to services aimed at financial, emotional and educational support, Caring Voice Coalition has empowered and supported patients and their families, as well as the friends who care for them.

WHAT THEY FUND

Grants allow patients to afford co-payments for expensive prescription therapies, pay the premium for health insurance coverage and other self-pay responsibilities related to prescription medications or REMS requirements.

GUIDELINES

Contact Caring Voice Coalition for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit the website for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

15300 VENTURA BOULEVARD,
SUITE 414
SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91403

WWW.CHALLENGEDAMERICA.COM

INFO@CHALLENGEDAMERICA.COM

818-907-6966

CHALLENGED AMERICA

ABOUT CHALLENGED AMERICA

Randy Bertisch, president of the My Gym Challenged America Foundation, created Challenged America for the purpose of helping physically and cognitively challenged children attain an improved quality of life. Randy has a personal understanding of the daily struggles faced by those with disabilities. Now, many years after surviving a near fatal accident and resultant coma, he strives each day to triumph over many deficits, and he is determined to regain his ability to walk independently. Randy is extremely thankful to have had the funds available for proper medical treatment, and he is well aware that many others are not as fortunate. He is living proof of what willpower and hard work, in combination with appropriate medical attention, can accomplish, and wishes the same level of success for every child in need. How tragic, though often the case, that a physically challenged child's well-being or chance of reaching his/her full potential should be jeopardized by adverse economic circumstances. It is in response to this distressing reality that Challenged America has been established.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Medical attention
- Rehabilitative therapy
- Assistive devices

GUIDELINES

Contact Challenged America for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Challenged America for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CHALLENGED ATHLETES FOUNDATION

9591 WAPLES STREET
SAN DIEGO, CA 92121
WWW.CHALLENGEDATHLETES.ORG
CAF@CHALLENGEDATHLETES.ORG
858-866-0959

ABOUT THE CHALLENGED ATHLETES FOUNDATION

Established in 1997, the Challenged Athletes Foundation grew out of a desire to assist one athlete paralyzed in a triathlon. From this modest beginning arose a more important mission to make sure people with physical challenges have the same freedom to enjoy sports as everyone else. It is the mission of the Challenged Athletes Foundation to provide opportunities and support to people with physical disabilities so they can pursue active lifestyles through physical fitness and competitive athletics. The Challenged Athletes Foundation believes that involvement in sports at any level increases self-esteem, encourages independence and enhances quality of life.

WHAT THEY FUND

Individuals can only apply for one each year:

- Coaching/training fees, like gym fees and coaching fees.
- Competition expenses, like entry fees, flights and lodging for an event.
- Equipment.

GUIDELINES

An athlete's physical disability must be recognized within the International Paralympic Committee classifications.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit the website for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CHANDA PLAN FOUNDATION

866 E 78TH AVENUE
DENVER, CO 80229

WWW.
THECHANDAPLANFOUNDATION.ORG

800-766-4255

ABOUT THE CHANDA PLAN FOUNDATION

Chanda Hinton's interest in alternative health care started in 2003. Chanda's spinal cord injury had compromised her health, and Chanda and her sister decided that she should participate in alternative healing treatments. In the following months, Chanda's engagement in acupuncture, massage therapy, diet and physical therapy enabled her to gain weight and become almost pain free. In addition, her endurance, strength and movement increased dramatically. Due to her improvements, Chanda founded the Chanda Plan Foundation and is dedicated to providing others with similar treatment.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Chanda Plan Foundation funds for acupuncture, massage, chiropractic care, cranial sacral therapy and adaptive yoga.

GUIDELINES

Contact the Chanda Plan Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website, and mail, email or fax all the required items to the organization.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CHERISHED CREATIONS, INC.

343 SNYDER AVENUE
BERKELEY HEIGHTS, NJ 07922
WWW.CHERISHEDCREATIONS.COM
908-790-0616

ABOUT CHERISHED CREATIONS, INC.

David Grande is the President, CEO and, along with his wife, Angela, co-founder of Cherished Creations, Inc. In December of 1996, he decided to fulfill his life-long desire to do something to benefit children, and thus Cherished Creations was formed. A former high school and collegiate basketball player, and now a coach with over 25 years of experience at these levels, David continues to make a positive difference in the lives of young adults.

WHAT THEY FUND

Celebrity “meet and greets” Broadway shows Cameras Gaming systems Concert tickets with limo rides Computers Shopping sprees Wheelchair ramps Electrical upgrades to accommodate portable ventilators Air conditioners Medical equipment not covered by insurance Summer camp memberships Community service requirements Educational devices

GUIDELINES

Contact Cherished Creations, Inc. for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website or contact the organization.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it’s a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CHILD FOUNDATION CHARITY

5901 SW 74TH STREET, SUITE 400
SOUTH MIAMI, FL 33143
WWW.CHILDFOUNDATIONCHARITY.COM
INFO@CHILDFOUNDATION.COM
305-668-0418

ABOUT THE CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS FUND

Child Foundation Charity is helping children born with birth defects worldwide. The goal of the organization is to raise funds to help children with birth defects get the surgeries they need to give children a more positive self-image and the quality of life every child deserves.

WHAT THEY FUND

Child Foundation Charity provides funds for surgeries related to birth defects.

GUIDELINES

- Priority will be given to children born with a visible birth defect.
- Children must be under 18 years of age. (Exceptions made)
- The condition must be treatable with a good chance of success.
- The family may not have insurance or be eligible for any government assistance.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Child Foundation Charity for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CHILDHOOD APRAXIA OF SPEECH ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

416 LINCOLN AVENUE 2ND FL.,
PITTSBURGH, PA 15209

WWW.APRAXIA-KIDS.ORG

ABOUT CHILDHOOD APRAXIA OF SPEECH ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

The Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit publicly funded charity whose mission is to strengthen the support systems in the lives of children with apraxia so that each child is afforded their best opportunity to develop speech and communication. We are the ONLY national nonprofit dedicated exclusively to children with apraxia and their families.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Practical support to families by assisting with small therapy grants and communication tools for affected children.
- iPads for Apraxia.

GUIDELINES

- Child must be between the ages of 3 and 18 and living in the United States or Canada. Evidence of residency must be provided.
- Child must have a primary diagnosis of apraxia of speech and currently be in speech therapy.
- Child's family must meet financial requirements for adjusted gross family annual income, as specified on application.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application is available on website. CASANA accepts applications by postal mail or alternative mail carriers. Emailed or faxed applications will not be considered. No phone calls please.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CHILDREN'S CHARITY FUND, INC.

6623 SUPERIOR AVENUE, SUITE B
SARASOTA, FL 34231
WWW.CHILDRENSCHARITYFUND.ORG
CCF21C@AOL.COM
941-925-9689

ABOUT CHILDREN'S CHARITY FUND, INC.

Children's Charity Fund, Inc. is a national organization, and as such, has the ability to reach out to help children worldwide. The organization has been helping terminally ill and handicapped children since 1991. In many cases, the challenges that the children face are not the fault of the child or parent, but the children must overcome those challenges every day. Children's Charity Fund, Inc. tries to give children normal lives by purchasing equipment.

WHAT THEY FUND

Children's Charity Fund, Inc. provides services in whatever form possible for handicapped and disabled children and the parents of said children, including purchasing medical equipment for the children. The organization also provides educational grants to help children further their education.

GUIDELINES

Contact Children's Charity Fund, Inc. for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Fill out the grant request application online and send it to the national headquarters. This application does not guarantee that requests will be granted.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CINDY DONALD DREAMS OF RECOVERY FOUNDATION, INC.

2985 GORDY PKWY SUITE 113
MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30066-3078
WWW.DREAMSOFRECOVERY.ORG
INFO@DREAMSOFRECOVERY.ORG
770-675-6565

ABOUT THE CINDY DONALD DREAMS OF RECOVERY FOUNDATION, INC.

The Cindy Donald Dreams of Recovery Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) charitable organization formed in February, 2008. Their goal is to seek Dreams of Recovery for Cindy and all the many others who have suffered the devastating effects of paralysis due to spinal cord and/or brain injuries.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Financial support for individuals to participate in approved therapy programs which are not covered by insurance.
- Equipment for individuals to improve daily life.

GUIDELINES

- Financial assistance is only available to US citizens. You must furnish evidence of citizenship (e.g., birth certificate or passport).
- Applicants must have experienced a traumatic or non-traumatic brain or spinal cord injury resulting in paralysis that substantially interferes with personal independence.
- You must have a letter from a physician, medical practitioner, hospital clinic or other medical or medically-related facility, or insurance company verifying the nature (type) and cause of your injury.
- There is no age requirement.
- Applicants must submit verification from a therapist, exercise instructor, or other service provider that there is potential for therapeutic benefit from the proposed exercise program or equipment.
- Applicants must also demonstrate financial need and must submit documentation to substantiate need. This documentation must verify that the requested funding is outside the scope of other funding sources or is not otherwise available within existing community resources or through other agencies or programs
- Eligibility for funds DOES NOT confer any entitlement to an award

APPLICATION PROCESS

See website for application.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

C.L.A.S.S. — CHILDREN'S LIVER ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL SERVICES

25379 WAYNE MILLS PLACE, SUITE 143 VALENCIA, CA 91355
WWW.CLASSKIDS.ORG
INFO@CLASSKIDS.ORG
661-263-9099

ABOUT C.L.A.S.S. – CHILDREN'S LIVER ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL SERVICES

Early in his infancy, Chris Sumner seemed to be a healthy baby boy. Then at six weeks of age, a doctor noticed that Chris was jaundiced, an observation that forever changed the lives of Chris's parents, Mark and Diane Sumner. After enduring a multitude of additional tests, Chris was diagnosed with biliary atresia. After learning of their son's diagnosis, the Sumners began looking for support groups and more information on Chris's condition and grew increasingly frustrated with their search. The experiences of finding support and the lack of information would become the basis for the founding of C.L.A.S.S. Children's Liver Association for Social Services was founded out of the recognized need for an organization dedicated to addressing the emotional, educational and financial needs of families with children affected by liver disease and transplantation.

WHAT THEY FUND

Including, but not limited to:

- A parent's food allowance during his/her child's hospitalization.
- Telephone service for a child waiting for a transplant.
- Transportation expenses for a clinic visit.

GUIDELINES

Contact C.L.A.S.S. for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Download the Direct Family Support Guidelines on the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CLAYTON DABNEY FOUNDATION FOR KIDS WITH CANCER

6500 GREENVILLE AVENUE, SUITE 342 DALLAS, TX 75206
WWW.CLAYTONDABNEY.ORG
214-361-2600

ABOUT THE CLAYTON DABNEY FOUNDATION FOR KIDS WITH CANCER

Clayton Dabney was a very special and courageous little boy who, at the age of six, lost his battle with cancer. Clayton's unique spirit and legacy lives on, however, through the Clayton Dabney Foundation for Kids with Cancer and the dedicated efforts of many volunteers who generously donate their time and money to further the cause to help needy families who struggle with the effects of a child dying from cancer.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Clayton Dabney Foundation for Kids with Cancer provides needy families, with children in the last stages of terminal cancer, assistance in creating everlasting memories.

GUIDELINES

- Only families with children in the last stages of terminal cancer will be served.
- Families must reside in the United States.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the required forms on the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

4 BROOKWOOD COURT
APPLETON WI 54914
EDUCATION.CONOVERCOMPANY.COM
800-933-1933

CONOVER MOBILE TECHNOLOGY GRANT

ABOUT CONOVER MOBILE TECHNOLOGY GRANT

The Conover Company was founded in 1980 with a focus on developing training programs for industry. Over the 30 years they have been in the software development business, they have created many assessment and training programs, which include comprehensive management systems to track user progress and results. They have developed many research-based and technology-driven assessment and training packages for both the educational and corporate settings. The Conover Mobile Technology Grant was started in 2011 as a way to promote the use of mobile technology to improve an individual's freedom and independence. At the Conover Company, people are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of the customers they serve. The right technology in the right hands can make a world of difference.

WHAT THEY FUND

The grants are currently targeted to the use of iPod and iPad devices to assist individuals in improving their ability to function independently in their homes, schools, workplaces and communities. Successful grantees will receive either an iPod or an iPad preloaded with all Conover Company Functional Skills System videos to assist individuals in developing freedom and independence.

GUIDELINES

Individuals, parents, caretakers, teachers, counselors, religious leaders, private organizations and public organizations within the United States are eligible to apply for this grant.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

DANIELLE'S FOUNDATION

1650 MARKET STREET, 36TH FLOOR PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103
WWW.DANIELLESFOUNDATION.ORG
800-511-2283

ABOUT DANIELLE'S FOUNDATION

Danielle Lynnette Vick was born on April 10, 2004 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Three days after her first birthday, Danielle had an episode that forever altered her life; she had suffered an anoxic brain injury. The brain damage caused her to lose her motor skills and her ability to speak. She also needed a feeding tube and was completely dependent upon others for care. Sadly, at four years old, Danielle passed away due to complications of her anoxic brain damage. Though her time here ended prematurely, her memory will forever remain. Danielle moved, touched and inspired the lives of many in her short four years of life. Danielle's Foundation is a nonprofit resource for families of children with cerebral palsy and brain injuries. The organization's mission is to help these families gain the knowledge to secure the therapy, benefits and resources their children need.

WHAT THEY FUND

Danielle's Foundation funds for specific therapy or medical equipment.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be diagnosed with cerebral palsy or a brain injury.
- The grant must be for assistance towards a specific therapy or medical equipment.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Danielle's Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

DARRELL GWYNN FOUNDATION

4850 SW 52ND STREET
DAVIE, FL 33314
954-792-7223

ABOUT THE DARRELL GWYNN FOUNDATION

In 1990, Darrell Gwynn was at the height of his career as a professional racecar driver. Then, on a test run, a freak accident left him paralyzed with a devastating spinal cord injury. Since then, Darrell's compassion for victims of spinal cord injuries grew, along with his respect for the families and friends of those standing behind them. He has learned that hope, encouragement, support and determination, aided by education, are among the keys in creating a meaningful, satisfying life despite physical obstacles. Surprisingly, there are similarities between sideby-side competition at more than 300 miles per hour and the quest to provide support for people with paralysis and prevent spinal cord injuries. Both are expensive. Both can be competitions against the clock. And with adequate funding, technical expertise and dedication, both can be won. The Darrell Gwynn Foundation's national Wheelchair Donation Program continues to grow and provide support for individuals living with paralysis. These wheelchairs provide them with the gift of mobility, freedom and independence they deserve.

WHAT THEY FUND

Unlike many other wheelchair donation programs and related charities, the Darrell Gwynn Foundation specializes in high-tech, customized wheelchairs. The wheelchairs are valued anywhere from $6,000 to $40,000 depending on the medical needs of the recipient. The higher-valued wheelchairs are equipped with tilt and recline systems, seat elevators, drive trains, high-tech seating systems, rugged tires and suspension systems, all designed to dramatically improve each recipient's quality of life.

GUIDELINES

Contact the Darrell Gwynn Foundation for specific guidelines.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

DANIELLE'S FOUNDATION

8440 EAST WASHINGTON STREET
#122 CHAGRIN FALLS, OH 44023
WWW.
DIFFERENTNEEDZFOUNDATION.ORG
INFO@
DIFFERENTNEEDZFOUNDATION.ORG
216-904-5151

ABOUT THE DIFFERENT NEEDZ FOUNDATION

The Different Needz Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, was created in 2009 and was inspired by the life of Luke Jordan. Luke was born with developmental disabilities which caused many physical disabilities and medical conditions. Despite his disabilities, Luke was able to bring out the best in those who knew him. The Different Needz Foundation helps individuals with developmental disabilities obtain the necessary equipment and medical services they need to have the best quality of life. The Different Needz Foundation has a mission to provide special needs individuals, families and organizations that support them with money to purchase medical equipment, therapy devices, adaptive toys and/or services.

WHAT THEY FUND

Including, but not limited to: Physical therapy Occupational therapy Speech therapy Medical equipment Toilet chairs Wheelchairs Wheelchair lifts Summer camp Tandem bicycles

GUIDELINES

Currently, the Different Needz Foundation's reach has grown to include recipients in Ohio, Wyoming, Massachusetts, Florida, Maryland, Indiana and California.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit the website for more information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

DISABLED SPORTS USA — DIANA GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FUND

451 HUNGERFORD DRIVE, SUITE 100 ROCKVILLE, MD 20850

WWW.DISABLEDSPORTSUSA.ORG/PROGRAMS/DIANA-GOLDEN/

INFO@DSUSA.ORG

ABOUT THE DIANA GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FUND

Diana Golden was unquestionably one of the greatest, most successful, disabled athletes of all time—but she was much more than that. She was a woman of incredible spirit who overcame tremendous physical and emotional challenges to triumph in her quest to live fully and completely right up until the end of her short life. The Diana Golden Opportunity Fund supports and encourages junior athletes with disabilities in their pursuit of excellence in skiing. Support comes in the form of scholarships and training grants, support of learn-to-race programs and camps and a junior development or race program.

WHAT THEY FUND

The goal of the Diana Golden Opportunity Fund is to provide financial assistance for young, disabled athletes striving for excellence.

GUIDELINES

Contact the Diana Golden Opportunity Fund for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for a scholarship, please send an email/letter answering the questions to the right to: Disabled Sports USA Attention: Diana Golden Scholarship 451 Hungerford Drive, Suite 100 Rockville, MD 20850 info@dsusa.org What is your name? What is your address? What is your specific disability? What is your birth date? What is your program or mountain affiliation? (See website or contact Fund for help) What are your goals/aspirations in skiing? (Less than 1000 words)

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

80 WHITNEY STREET
HARTFORD, CT 06105
WWW.UCPHARTFORD.ORG
860-236-6201

ELSIE S. BELLOW FUND

ABOUT THE ELSIE S. BELLOWS FUND

The Elsie S. Bellows Fund was established in 1995 to provide assistive technology equipment to individuals who have disabilities and a financial need. Assistive technology can play a major role in increasing the independence of individuals with disabilities. The Elsie S. Bellows Fund provides funds to UCP of Greater Hartford and other affiliates to purchase equipment which then becomes the property of the person with disabilities.

WHAT THEY FUND

Included, but not limited to:

- Wheelchairs (manual and electric)
- Augmentative communication devices
- Environmental controls
- Computer equipment
- Lifts in vans or homes
- Hearing aids

GUIDELINES

Contact the Elsie S. Bellows Fund for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the Elsie S. Bellows Fund for specific information. Portland, OR 97239 Phone: 503-246-4941 Fax: 503-246-4941
www.blanchefischertest.weebly.com

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

200 DAVISTOWN ROAD #13
BLACKWOOD, NJ 08012
WWW.ERICKSPLACE.ORG
ADMIN@ERICKSPLACE.ORG
347-735-8635

ERICK'S PLACE

ABOUT ERICK'S PLACE

In 1988, Sabrina Umstead Smith lost her husband in an apartment fire, and she almost died herself. Her son, who she was pregnant with at the time, was born with underdeveloped lungs and cerebral palsy due to oxygen deprivation. Three years later, he succumbed to his medical disabilities. Sabrina's tragedy opened up an avenue for her to help others in a bigger way than she ever thought possible. She knows the strength, effort and time it takes to care for a chronically ill child. Fueled by her desire to make a difference in the lives of chronically ill children and their parents and caregivers, she formalized her idea into her non-profit organization, The Erick J. Umstead Memorial Foundation, Inc., also known as Erick's Place.

WHAT THEY FUND

Grants for caregivers can help parents and others caring for chronically ill children take care of medical and every day expenses, like fuel and groceries.

GUIDELINES

Contact Erick's Place for specific information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the CNS Fund for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

EYE DOG FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND

P.O. BOX 519
CLAREMONT, CA 91711
WWW.EYEDOGFOUNDATION.ORG
1-800-393-3641

ABOUT EYE DOG FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND

Eye Dog Foundation was organized as a non-profit corporation in 1952. Our German Shepherd dogs have been assisting blind individuals all over the world with their daily travels. The dogs provide guidance and safety, as well as loving companionship. Eye Dog Foundation is supported by donations from individuals, clubs and other groups, with no state or federal grants.

WHAT THEY FUND

Guide dogs to the blind and visually impaired at absolutely no cost.

GUIDELINES

Please contact organization for specific information

- Prospective students must be at least eighteen years old.
- All applicants must have orientation and mobility training, with at least six months of independent travel experience.
- While we work with many and differing degrees of visual impairment, we find our dogs are best suited for those who have a definite need for a working dog.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The first step for a person interested in obtaining a dog from the Eye Dog Foundation is to request and submit an application. In the student service section of this site, there is a short request for an application that may be completed and submitted online. You may also call 1-800-393-3641 and request an application.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

FAITH'S HOPE FOUNDATION

444 N. HARBOR BOULEVARD,
SUITE 200 FULLERTON, CA 92832

WWW.
FAITHSHOPEFOUNDATION.ORG

714-871-4673

ABOUT FAITH'S HOPE FOUNDATION

Faith's Hope was established to provide a solution for medically and financially disadvantaged families, and the organization assists families who are facing homelessness and poverty due to the long-term illness or hospitalization of a loved one. The emotional and financial stress of serious illness and longterm hospitalization often results in families losing their jobs, homes and even each other as the family unit struggles. Faith's Hope works with these families to meet their needs by paying utility bills, rent or mortgage payments, car payments, grocery bills and other necessary costs families may not be able to afford because of major medical bills.

WHAT THEY FUND

Faith's Hope helps cover payments such as utility bills, rent, mortgage and car payments, utility bills and counseling services for families in need.

GUIDELINES

Contact Faith's Hope Foundation for specific information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website and mail it to: Faith's Hope 2271 W. Malverm Ave. Ste 382 Fullerton, CA 92833

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

FIRST HAND FOUNDATION

2800 ROCKCREEK PARKWAY
KANSAS CITY, MO 64117
WWW.FIRSTHANDFOUNDATION.ORG
FIRSTHANDFOUNDATION@CERNER.COM
216-904-5151

ABOUT FIRST HAND FOUNDATION

First Hand is a not-for-profit, 501 (c)(3) organization that provides funding for individual children with health-related needs when insurance and other financial resources have been exhausted. The heart of the foundation lies with individual children who face health problems and whose families struggle to give them the best chance at living a normal life.

WHAT THEY FUND

Treatment: Clinical procedures, medicine, therapy, prosthesis, etc. Equipment: Wheelchairs, assistive technology equipment, care devices, hearing aids, etc. Displacement: Lodging, food, gas, parking and transportation for families of seriously ill children who must travel during treatment. Vehicle modifications: Lifts, ramps and transfer boards.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be under the care of a pediatrician.
- The case must involve a child with a specific healthcare need.
- The request must be clinically relevant to the health of the child.
- There must be no existing insurance coverage for the requested expenses.
- One request per year, per child for a maximum of three times in a child's lifetime.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Application, consent and media release found on website (media release is optional)
- Letter from doctor on letterhead explaining the child's diagnosis, history of illness, specific request for funding and other relevant information.
- Letter from provider on letterhead showing the original cost and estimated discount.
- Letter from therapist on letterhead if applying for therapy or therapy equipment.
- Letter from social worker on letterhead if requesting displacement assistance.
- First page of most recent federal income tax return.
- Letter of denial from insurance company on letterhead. The Clinical Decision Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month to review applications (all documentation should be submitted prior to this meeting). A case manager will follow-up with the applicant within two weeks of the case review meeting.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

5260 STATE ROUTE 95
MT. GILEAD, OH 43338
WWW.FLYINGHORSEFARMS.ORG
419-751-7077

FLYING HORSE FARMS

ABOUT FLYING HORSE FARMS

Flying Horse Farms provides magical, transforming experiences for children with serious illnesses. Located on 200 acres in Mt. Gilead, Ohio, Flying Horse Farms serves hundreds of children and families each year free of charge. The children who benefit from the camp have medical conditions such as arthritis, asthma, cancer, bleeding disorders, gastrointestinal disease, heart disease and kidney disease. Every detail of the camp experience helps campers leave sickness behind while they are there. Swimming, boating, fishing, pet therapy, archery, and arts and crafts are just the beginning of the fun that's had at Flying Horse Farms. Each activity is designed to ensure every camper can participate and feel a sense of pride, accomplishment and freedom.

WHAT THEY FUND

See website for a vast variety of camps offered.

GUIDELINES

Flying Horse Farms is for campers who can only participate in camps that provide medical support. Campers should be able to communicate their needs in some way. Campers should be able to participate and function in a group setting, although some limitations can be accommodated.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

FOUNDATION FOR SIGHT AND SOUND

P.O. BOX 1245
SMITHTOWN, NY 11787
WWW.
FOUNDATIONFORSIGHTANDSOUND.ORG
INFO@
FOUNDATIONFORSIGHTANDSOUND.ORG
216-904-5151

ABOUT FOUNDATION FOR SIGHT AND SOUND

The Foundation for Sight and Sound is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating a world where people with vision and/or hearing challenges can realize their full potential, allowing them to lead lives of inclusion and not isolation. People deprived of hearing or sight should not be deprived of their independence and quality of life. The Foundation for Sight and Sound funds programs through fundraising events and limited private and public grants, which are channeled to specific projects.

WHAT THEY FUND

Through its Help America Hear Program, The Foundation for Sight and provides hearing aids for men, women and children with limited financial resources.

GUIDELINES

- Must make less than $35,000.
- Must have no other financial means of purchasing hearing aids
- Must have moderate to profound hearing loss that is treatable with hearing aids.
- See website for more specific financial guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit the website for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

FRIENDS 4 MICHAEL FOUNDATION

8 IRONWORKS ROAD
MONROE, NEW YORK 10950
WWW.FRIENDS4MICHAEL.ORG
845-774-8781

ABOUT THE FRIENDS4MICHAEL FOUNDATION

The mission of The Friends4Michael Foundation is to support children like Michael and their families, to keep alive the memory of Michael and his spirit, to increase awareness of the devastating effects of brain tumors on afflicted children and their families and to continue to "Fight for a Cure" for this horrible disease. "Michael touched so many people with his kindness, unselfishness, and unending faith. Michael brought so many to God's door and opened it for them. His strength was the most remarkable thing to me."

WHAT THEY FUND

This program covers specific non-medical costs related to a primary brain tumor diagnosis. Direct medical expenses will not be covered. The Family Assistance Committee (FAC) within the Friends4Michael (F4M) foundation processes all requests for the Foundation. Grants of up to $400 per family are available.

GUIDELINES

- The patient must be a child (defined as a person under the age of 18 at the time of diagnosis).
- The patient must be undergoing treatment for a brain tumor as defined by doctors the Foundation consults within the medical community.
- The request for assistance must be submitted by a certified Social Worker on the behalf of the family.
- The request/need must be validated by a member of the FAC via telephone interview with the submitting Social Worker.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please go to the Family Assistance link, complete the simple, one-page form and mail to the address above.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

4900 LEWIS ROAD
STONE MOUNTAIN, GA 30083
WWW.FODAC.ORG

FRIENDS OF DISABLED ADULTS AND CHILDREN

ABOUT FRIENDS OF DISABLED ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC) is a 501(c)(3) organization that provides refurbished equipment and services for disabled adults and children to improve their overall quality of life. Over the years, FODAC's model to assist disabled individuals has remained the same: provide free or low-cost wheelchairs and other durable medical equipment, vehicle and home adaptations and more. Above all, FODAC works to make every day a little easier, and a little more affordable, for people in need.

WHAT THEY FUND

FODAC provides mobility and daily living equipment to people of any age or any disability, temporary or permanent, for medically necessary and medically helpful reasons. Equipment includes but is not limited to: lowcost wheelchairs and other durable medical equipment, vehicle and home adaptations and more.

GUIDELINES

Clients do not have to qualify financially but lowincome individuals with medical necessities are prioritized.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact organization for specifics.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 937
LITTLETON, CO 80160
WWW.FRIENDSOFMAN.ORG
303-798-2342

FRIENDS OF MAN

ABOUT FRIENDS OF MAN

Friends of Man, the charitable arm of the Institute for the New Man, is a 501(c)3 organization that helps people who find themselves in a situation where they have nowhere else to turn. It may be an elderly person on a fixed income, a working family whose child is struck by severe illness, an accident victim, a disabled person or a schoolchild whose family cannot afford basic needs. The kind of help given by Friends of Man depends on the need. This flexibility allows Friends of Man to be able to help where other resources cannot.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Mobility equipment: Prostheses, wheelchairs, van lifts, ramps and home modifications.
- Medical equipment and procedures.
- Hearing aids, dentures and glasses.
- Basic needs: Clothing for children, food, etc.
- Short-term Daycare.
- Prescriptions.
- Cobra/Health Insurance.

GUIDELINES

Friends of Man has programs for Colorado residents and individuals outside of Colorado. There are different programs and requirements. See website for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Friends of Man accept applications only from a referring professional on behalf of the applicant. This can be a social worker, doctor, nurse, school counselor, teacher, principal, social worker, clergy, health care technician, etc. Applications cannot be submitted by the vendor.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 457
WEXFORD, PA 15090
WWW.FUNDITFWD.ORG
303-619-3514

FUND IT FORWARD

ABOUT FUND IT FORWARD

Our organization was founded by two mothers of children with special needs who saw an amazing opportunity to help families with children like their own. Many times, families must sacrifice time, money, freedom and sleep in order to provide a safe and secure environment for their special needs child. FUND IT FORWARD was born out of a desire to help families obtain the medical or adaptive equipment needed to create a functional environment for their special needs children. Rose and Jackie believe the majority of money raised by our volunteers should go towards the needs of the children and their families. They want to see families in situations similar to theirs benefit from this organization. Rose and Jackie donated their own time and money to start FUND IT FORWARD and vow to continue to keep the needs of each individual child as their primary focus and priority.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Augmentative Communication Devices
- Bath & Feeding Chairs
- Enclosed Beds (such as the Safety Sleeper)
- Sensory Equipment

GUIDELINES

- FUND IT FORWARD will accept applications from any person who has a diagnosed disability or medical condition and is in need of a medical device or equipment that can enhance the quality of his or her life.
- Please be aware of the kind of equipment FUND IT FORWARD is able to supply for your child. If you have questions regarding the type of equipment we cover, please contact our organization.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application must be submitted online

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

GIA NICOLE ANGEL FOUNDATION

1461 GOLDEN DRIVE
DRESHER, PA 19025
WWW.GIAFOUNDATION.COM
GIAFOUNDATION@COMCAST.NET
215-429-9996

ABOUT THE GIA NICOLE ANGEL FOUNDATION

The Foundation was named for Gia, who was born with Spina Bifida. The doctors gave Gia less than a three percent chance of survival at birth, and she defied the odds, making her an "Angel." Now, the Foundation plans to be an "Angel" to other children who are in need. Although the Foundation came about from Gia's situation, the organization is not limited only to helping children with Spina Bifida.

WHAT THEY FUND

The mission of the Gia Nicole Angel Foundation is to enhance the daily functioning of a child with special needs and his or her family by awarding assistance through the purchase of a specific item or items.

GUIDELINES

We classify special needs as those children with any type of physical disability such as, but not limited to, spina bifida, paralysis, missing limbs, or illness such as, but not limited to, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, cancer. Funds are awarded on a case by case basis with preference given to low-income and single parent families.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

6900 DALLAS PARKWAY, SUITE 200
PLANO, TX 75024
WWW.GOODDAYSFROMCDF.ORG
INFO@CDFUND.ORG
972-608-7141

GOOD DAYS BY CDF

ABOUT GOOD DAYS

Good Days from CDF, formerly known as Chronic Disease Fund, exists to improve the health and quality of life of patients with chronic disease, cancer, or other life-altering conditions. The cost of medications to treat chronic disease can be staggering, adding to the despair and suffering of these patients. At Good Days, our mission is to ensure no one has to choose between getting the medication they need and affording the necessities of everyday living.

WHAT THEY FUND

We help patients suffering from chronic medical conditions who have limited financial means get access to the medications they need. Our program helps qualified patients pay their insurance co-pays so they can get immediate access to prescription medications that will give them relief from pain and suffering.

GUIDELINES

http://www.gooddaysfromcdf.org/for-patients/patients-faq/

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit website to apply online.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

GUIDE DOG FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND

371 EAST JERICHO TURNPIKE
SMITHTOWN, NY 11787-2976
WWW.GUIDEDOG.ORG
1-800-548-4337

ABOUT GUIDE DOG FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND

In 1946, when the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind was founded, its mission was simple: to provide guide dogs and training – free of charge – to people who were blind or visually impaired. For over six decades, we have promoted the independence, enhanced mobility, and companionship a guide dog brings to its handler. Students are provided their guide dogs and training free of charge. The Foundation also covers transportation (within the United States and Canada), and room and board. Our trademark small classes and individualized instruction often attract students who may have special requirements and we have successfully trained hearing-impaired blind people as well as many physically challenged people.

WHAT THEY FUND

Provide guide dogs free of charge.

GUIDELINES

Anyone 16 years old and older who are classified as legally or totally blind, who have successfully completed O & M training and are considered safe travelers by a qualified O & M instructor. (O & M = Orientation and Mobility) Some exceptions to residency are considered on a case by case basis. Our guide dogs are provided free of charge. This includes training, transportation to and from the school, room and board during the two-week training program, and aftercare services. Homebased, combination home and residential and small group training is offered to qualified applicants.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit website for information on qualifying and applying for a guide dog.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

27 W. ANAPAMU STREET, SUITE 177
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101
WWW.THEGSF.ORG

THE GWENDOLYN STRONG FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE GWENDOLYN STRONG FOUNDATION

The Gwendolyn Strong Foundation's "SMA Community Grants" program will make financial grant contributions toward uncovered, tangible expenses associated with the challenges of SMA. While we can't fund projects in their entirety, we can help families reach their fundraising goals and hopefully feel less stress in getting their child or themselves what they need so they can live life to the fullest.

WHAT THEY FUND

All grant purposes will be considered, but some categories we're interested in funding include:

- Wheelchair repairs or modifications
- Home modifications
- Accessible vehicles
- Standers, specialized wheelchairs, etc.
- Assistive technology
- Funeral expenses

GUIDELINES

- The applicant MUST have SMA.
- The purpose of the grant MUST be for something tangible that is typically not covered by insurance and/or other resources (federal, state, local, etc.).
- The applicant, or others on their behalf, MUST be actively fundraising for the purpose of the grant. Because expenses are so great, we ask that applicants are concurrently raising money for themselves through local community fundraisers. Friends and family can be doing this on your behalf. You will be asked to include a link or flyer to your personal fundraising efforts, how much is needed, and how much has already been raised.

APPLICATION PROCESS

See website for details.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

1330 BOYLSTON STREET
CHESTNUT HILL, MA 02467
WWW.HALOFOUNDATION.ORG
INFO@HALOFOUNDATION.ORG

H.A.L.O. FOUNDATION

ABOUT H.A.L.O FOUNDATION

Sarah Pinshaw, age 3, contracted meningitis in the fall of 1991. Complications from her illness resulted in permanent neurological impairment, including the loss of her ability to speak, walk and consistently control her body. Sarah's eventual institutionalization inspired her parents to establish the Help A Little One (H.A.L.O.) Foundation to enhance the lives of hundreds of children residing in Massachusetts pediatric nursing homes.

The H.A.L.O. Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for children with neurological impairment. H.A.L.O. fulfills requests that enrich or make life easier for children in pediatric nursing homes and supports families who care for their children at home.

WHAT THEY FUND

Including, but not limited to:

- Adaptive tricycles, wheelchair lifts, and limited computer technology
- Transportation for special excursions
- Enrichment programs
- Participation at community events
- Nursing home outings
- Technology for individual growth, communication and/or management of an individual's disability

GUIDELINES

The H.A.L.O. Foundation will consider requests from nursing homes, families, guardians, professionals and community and social service agencies. The organization is focused in New England, but H.A.L.O. will consider requests from individual families across the United States.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

KRISTEN@HANDSTOANGELS.ORG
804-241-20096

HANDS TO ANGELS

ABOUT HANDS TO ANGELS

Hands to Angels was created in honor and memory of Kevin. Kevin was born with an extremely rare genetic disorder, and despite the tough times he had in and out of the hospital, he captured the hearts of many.. Kevin fought until the very end, but he unfortunately passed away four days shy of his first birthday. Hands to Angels hopes to ease some of the financial burdens that families like Kevin's face so they can spend more time with their children.

WHAT THEY FUND

Hands to Angels was founded to support the ongoing research of rare genetic disorders and to assist families dealing with mounting medical bills and lost wages due to complications of a genetic disorder.

GUIDELINES

Contact Hands to Angels for specific information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Hands to Angels for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

HEALTHWELL FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 4133
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20885
800-675-8416

ABOUT HEALTHWELL FOUNDATION

If you've been prescribed a medication and your insurance company covers it, but you still cannot afford the coinsurance or copayment required, we may be able to assist you by paying for part of your costs associated with the medication. Also, if you are eligible for health insurance, but cannot afford the insurance premium, we may be able to assist with your insurance premium.

The HealthWell Foundation reduces financial barriers to care for underinsured patients with chronic or life-threatening diseases.

WHAT THEY FUND

The HealthWell Foundation provides financial assistance to eligible individuals to cover coinsurance, copayments, health care premiums and deductibles for certain medications and therapies.

GUIDELINES

HealthWell bases eligibility on an individual's medical, financial and insurance situation. To qualify for HealthWell's assistance, applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- You are being treated for a disease that we currently cover.
- You have insurance and it covers your medication.
- Your income falls within our guidelines.
- You are receiving treatment in the United States.

APPLICATION PROCESS

If you believe you qualify for assistance, you may begin the application process online

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

HEALTHWELL PEDIATRIC ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 4133
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20885

800-675-8416

ABOUT HEALTHWELL FOUNDATION - PEDIATRIC ASSISTANCE FUND

When a child is diagnosed with a chronic or life-altering condition, their families not only face anguish and fear but many also struggle to pay their share of the medical bills. In response to growing demand from families in need, we opened the HealthWell Pediatric Assistance Fund® to assist children 18 years old or younger living with a chronic or life-altering condition that their families are struggling to treat due to cost. Through this fund, we provide financial assistance to families so their children can start or continue critical medical treatments, regardless of disease type or condition.

GUIDELINES

The process for this fund does NOT include immediate grant approval. Grant applications are reviewed by committee on a bi-monthly basis. If you appear to be eligible for assistance through the Pediatric Assistance Fund, additional information and documentation is required for review and consideration prior to grant approval. Once all information has been received and reviewed by the committee, grant determinations will be made. If your application has been accepted, you will receive a grant approval letter indicating that you have been awarded a grant, the amount of the grant, and the grant start date. Please be aware that repeated inquiries through the call center will not expedite review of your application and may result in disqualification of your grant request. Thank you in advance for your patience as we consider the many requests we receive every day.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Now accepting applications by phone: 1-800-675-8416. We wish we could say “yes” to every family that comes to us, however, funding is limited. Families must meet HealthWell’s standard income and insurance eligibility criteria to qualify for a grant. Grants are awarded on a case by case basis.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it’s a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

HEALTHWELL EMERGENCY CANCER RELIEF FUND

P.O. BOX 4133
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20885
800-675-8416

ABOUT HEALTHWELL FOUNDATION – EMERGENCY CANCER RELIEF FUND

Providing assistance to people with cancer has always been a HealthWell priority. Through its 20 plus oncology funds, HealthWell has awarded over $140 million in assistance to more than 70,000 individuals living with cancer. The ECRFwas created specifically to help qualified cancer patients* with expenses not covered under our current program to ensure that oncology patients have access to the financial resources they need to recover.

WHAT THEY FUND

Immediate Financial Relief to Cancer Patients
Even with insurance, cancer is costly. People with cancer and their families can be devastated physically, emotionally, mentally — and financially. Our goal is to expand support beyond traditional copayment assistance to help cancer patients afford meaningful comforts to better manage their road to recovery. Coverage for critical out-of-pocket expenses associated with treatment (e.g. lab work or antinausea medicine) not covered by insurance. Special assistance to help patients get back to living and reduce the financial burden (e.g., supportive/ restorative care, and wellness activities). One time grants to help minimize patient medical debt related to their treatment (e.g., hospital and provider bill.

GUIDELINES

Call the Foundation for more information - (800) 675-8416

APPLICATION PROCESS

Call the Foundation for more information - (800) 675-8416

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

530 ELLIOTT STREET
COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA 51503
WWW.THEHIKEFUND.ORG

THE HIKE FUND

ABOUT THE HIKE FUND INC.

The HIKE Fund, Inc. was created in 1986 by Job's Daughters International to provide hearing and/or assistive listening devices to children in need. The organization has awarded many types of devices including, but not limited to, hearing aids, FM systems, closed caption converters, tactile units, alerting systems and specialized sports equipment to aid children with hearing loss in communication.

WHAT THEY FUND

The purpose of the HIKE Fund, Inc. is to provide hearing devices for children with hearing losses whose parents are unable to financially meet this special need.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be under 20 years of age.
- The child must have a need for a hearing aid or an assistive listening device.
- The child must have a financial need.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website and mail it to the organization.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Now accepting applications by phone: 1-800-675-8416. We wish we could say "yes" to every family that comes to us, however, funding is limited. Families must meet HealthWell's standard income and insurance eligibility criteria to qualify for a grant. Grants are awarded on a case by case basis.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION — GROTTOES OF NORTH AMERICA

430 BEECHER RD
GAHANNA OH 43230
WWW.HFGROTTO.ORG
614-933-0711

ABOUT HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION – GROTTOES OF NORTH AMERICA

The Grottoes of North America Humanitarian Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization that brings "Special Smiles" to children with special needs by providing them much-needed dental care. The Humanitarian Foundation believes that children with special needs should live life as fully and as independently as possible. We are passionately committed to helping alleviate the suffering and improving children's quality of life by providing dental care for those who otherwise might go without, One Smile at a Time.

WHAT THEY FUND

The program helps cover the costs of dental treatment, including hospital and anesthesia costs, when needed, for children with cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy and related neuromuscular disorders, those with mental retardation, and organ transplant recipients.

GUIDELINES

The Dental Care for Children with Special Needs Program is designed for children under 18. Medicaid patients are not covered by the program. The Dental Care for Children with Special Needs Program is the secondary carrier when insurance is involved and acts as the primary carrier if no insurance is available, and covers the maximum allowable fees as determined by the Humanitarian Foundation.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The Dental Care for Children with Special Needs Program has representatives from local chapters of the Grottoes of North America who are known as "Drs. of Smiles." These representatives serve as liaisons with the parents, dental offices and hospitals to see that all paperwork is provided and properly completed. They also file the child's application for processing. All application forms must be completed and submitted to the local Dr. of Smiles. When no representative is available in your area or state, your case will be processed directly through the national office of the Humanitarian Foundation. Please call the office at 614-933-0711 or e-mail the Executive Director at dianna.bristle@hfgrotto.org. See website for further instructions.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 806
EAST STROUDSBURG, PA 18301
NELLY@JOEYSEAGLES.ORG
570-994-5526

JOEY'S EAGLES

ABOUT JOEY'S EAGLES

Joey's Eagles is a non-profit organization established in 1996 in memory of my son Joseph Grampp. It is our goal to provide support for families with children and young adults facing cancer or other serious chronic illnesses. Our long range goal is to be able to open a facility that children can attend while undergoing chemotherapy and many other treatments that keep them from attending school. We are very grateful to have the support of Dr. J. Taylor (Pediatric Oncologist from Geisinger Medical Center), in opening this center.

WHAT THEY FUND

Our goal is to provide a positive self-esteem for these children and give ongoing support to their parents. We meet throughout the year, where we have parental support sessions and planned group activities. Gas cards can be provided to families that travel long distances for medical treatment for their children.

GUIDELINES

Contact organization for specific details.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact organization for specific details.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 301
NEW HYDE PARK, NY 11040
WWW.JOEYSFRIENDSTOO.ORG
VIRGINIA@JOEYSFRIENDSTOO.COM
516-354-0654

JOEY'S FRIENDS TOO

ABOUT JOEY'S FRIENDS TOO

Joey's Friends Too was founded after Joey Dente Jr. passed away from chronic granulomatous disease. His strength, wisdom and faith enabled him to make the best of whatever the day had to offer. The main focus of Joey's Friends Too is to put a smile on the faces of ill children by helping families purchase equipment that will enhance their child's quality of life.

WHAT THEY FUND

Joey's Friends Too assists in the purchase of medical equipment deemed necessary to promote independence and enhanced quality of life for disabled children.

GUIDELINES

Contact Joey's Friends Too for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Joey's Friends Too for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

JORDAN THOMAS FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 22764
CHATTANOOGA, TN 37422

WWW.
JORDANTHOMASFOUNDATION.ORG

423-622-9006

ABOUT JORDAN THOMAS FOUNDATION

Jordan Thomas founded the Jordan Thomas Foundation at the age of 16 while recovering from the loss of both legs in a boating accident. He realized that there were other children in the hospital who would not have the advantages that he did and who would go home without the limbs that they needed to have a full, active, and happy life. So, he decided to do something about it. Creating a foundation to provide prostheses for children of traumatic injury and limb loss (the mission of his foundation), was just the beginning. His family, friends, and many volunteers work with him every year since 2006 to support this mission by creating an event that generates $80-$100,000 - enough to provide for one or two more children through the age of 18, their growth years. Jordan actively serves on this event committee and as President of the Board of Directors to assure that each dollar is stewarded well and each recipient receives the prostheses that they need. He expanded his outreach and influence with great courage and devotion. He started going to Capitol Hill to speak about health care coverage for amputees. He speaks to civic clubs, community clubs and leadership conferences around the world (Dubai, Air Force Academy, etc). He started a partnership in Haiti to provide limbs to victims of the earthquake after receiving emails from around the world, asking him to lead the way for children in need. But most importantly, he mentors and encourages each recipient and their family, serving as a volunteer.

WHAT THEY FUND

Medical Services, Other, Prosthetic Limbs.

GUIDELINES

Based on need and must demonstrate financial need.

APPLICATION PROCESS

See website website, call 423.622.9006, or email info@jordanthomasfoundation.org.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

49 COLONY WAY
ALISO VIEJO, CA 92656
WWW.KIDSCANCERFUND.ORG
949-636-3091

KIDS CANCER FUND

ABOUT KIDS CANCER FUND

Cancer is the second most common cause of death among children between one and 14 years of age, surpassed only by accidents. Each year more than 13,000 children and teenagers are diagnosed with cancer in the United States, and it can be a scary, overwhelming and expensive situation. Kids Cancer Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation whose mission is to increase the survival rate and quality of care for children with cancer. The organization's grants provide financial assistance to families in need and fund promising research that can lead to a cure for children with cancer.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Reduced lodging for medical trips.
- Support groups, classes and counselors.
- Toys or other gifts that a sick child may find comforting during chemotherapy or radiation therapy.
- Transportation to and from medical appointments.

GUIDELINES

The child must be under 18 years of age.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the Application for Financial Assistance packet and mail it to Kids Cancer Fund. Applications must be renewed every six months.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

KYA'S KRUSADE

947 E. JOHNSTOWN ROAD, SUITE 143 GAHANNA, OH 43230
WWW.KYASKRUSADE.ORG
INFO@KYASKRUSADE.ORG
614-750-2198

ABOUT KYA'S KRUSADE, INC.

Kya's Krusade, Inc. is a volunteer-based 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization named for Kya, who was born with arthrogryposis. The organization was co-founded by Kya's mother and godmother after several exhaustive searches to find information, resources and support for Kya and her family. Now, Kya's Krusade is a comprehensive resource center serving children with physical disabilities and their families. The organization provides support, education, information, art therapy and financial assistance programs.

WHAT THEY FUND

Financial assistance awarded through Kya's Krusade may only be used for adaptive equipment, hippotherapy or additional physical or occupational therapy sessions not covered by insurance. Examples of eligible adaptive equipment are adaptive easels, tables, chairs and seating; mobility aids (gait trainers, walkers, tricycles); standing aids and assistive bathroom, bathing and toileting equipment.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY RETREAT

45 TECHNOLOGY PARKWAY SOUTH, SUITE 225 NORCROSS, GA 30092
WWW.LIGHTHOUSEFAMILYRETREAT.ORG
678-290-2955

ABOUT LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY RETREAT

In 1999, Lighthouse Family Retreat was founded with the mission to serve families living through childhood cancer by helping them laugh, restore family relationships and find hope in God. In 2000, Lighthouse Family Retreat held its inaugural retreat for six children with cancer, their families and volunteers. Their ministry has impacted thousands of lives in over a decade of service to children with cancer and their families. Each retreat is staffed with volunteers from all walks of life dedicated to serving these families as they continue their journey with cancer.

WHAT THEY FUND

Lighthouse Family Retreat helps families by providing retreats in Florida. Retreats are held along the Florida panhandle between Destin and Panama City Beach.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be 18 years of age or younger.
- The child must currently be receiving treatment for cancer or have been off therapy for less than one year.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P. O. BOX 1073
HUFFMAN, TX 77336
WWW.LINDSAYFOUNDATION.ORG

THE LINDSAY FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE LINDSAY FOUNDATION

The Lindsay Foundation was formed when Lindsay Nannett McMillan passed away in 1999. Lindsay's mother formed The Lindsay Foundation in her memory in the hopes that no other family will have to fight so hard to receive the assistance that they need in order to provide for their child. No child should have to do without expensive formulas, therapies, medical equipment, non-covered medical procedures and other necessities because the parents cannot financially provide for them.

WHAT THEY FUND

The primary goal of the Lindsay Foundation is to assist families with the resources necessary to provide medical treatment, therapies and rehabilitative equipment in order to improve the quality of life for their special-needs children.

GUIDELINES

Contact the Lindsay Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the Lindsay Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA

250 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 211
TUSTIN, CA 92780
INFO@LPAONLINE.ORG
888-LPA-2001

ABOUT LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA

LPA is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with dwarfism throughout their lives while celebrating with great pride Little People's contribution to social diversity. LPA strives to bring solutions and global awareness to the prominent issues affecting individuals of short stature and their families.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Jack Zembsch's family and friends (Team Jack) are honored to be able to provide "out-of-pocket" travel expenses up to $1000 to defray the travel expenses for a first-time visit to the Orthopedic Department at the duPont Hospital for Children.
- College and post-graduate educational and vocational grants.
- First time national conference attendance assistance grants.
- Adoption assistance grants. More information can be found on the Adoption page.

GUIDELINES

Child must be 17 years or younger. Diagnosed with Metatropic Dysplasia or other rare dwarfing conditions with a similar severe curvature of the spine. Must be a first-time visit to the Orthopedic Department at the DuPont Hospital for Children.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact organization for application process.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

7 NEEDLE CT.
DARDENNE PRAIRIE, MO 63368
INFO@MAGGIEWELBY.ORG
314-330-6947

MAGGIE WELBY FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE MAGGIE WELBY FOUNDATION

Maggie Welby was a loving, beautiful 7 year old girl, who was taken very suddenly from her family and friends on March 24, 2005. Maggie was the ultimate "Big Sister" to Cati Beth, then 2 years old, and to her then unborn baby brother. Kelly James was born 4 weeks after Maggie's sudden death. The Maggie Welby Foundation is a charity that assists children to be able to experience as much of life as Maggie Welby did. Her family and friends created this memorial fund so that her memory would continue to make an impact in the lives of children, as Maggie has made such an impact on all of us.

WHAT THEY FUND

Grants may extend to children and families in need of help with bills, athletic opportunities, medical needs, or an opportunity that a child would not otherwise have.

GUIDELINES

The Maggie Welby Foundation awards grants to children in grades Kindergarten -12 and families in need with children in elementary school or high school.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants interested in applying for a grant from The Maggie Welby Foundation, must complete all sections of the application including the essay. Include any information that you feel best supports your case for a grant from Maggie's Foundation. The application form can be found on the website and must be submitted electronically.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

160 FINCHLEY DRIVE
ROSWELL, GA 30076
WWW.MARKSMONEY.ORG
678-642-8787

MARK'S MONEY

ABOUT MARK'S MONEY

Mark's Money is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization designed to carry on Mark Coonrod's legacy by providing financial assistance to persons with Down syndrome or other developmental disabilities. The organization aims to improve quality of life by meeting daily living, employment, medical, residential or social needs. Many individuals with disabilities carry a financial burden because of additional healthcare costs, which makes life difficult. Mark's Money wants to help make life a little easier.

WHAT THEY FUND

Mark's Money funds for items that will improve quality of life through daily living, employment, medical, residential or social needs.

GUIDELINES

Contact Mark's Money for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Completed applications should be mailed to: Mark's Money c/o Andrea Coonrod 1109 Davenport Blvd., #207 Franklin, TN 37069

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.MIRACLE-EAR.COM
1-800-464-8002

MIRACLE-EAR FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE MIRACLE-EAR FOUNDATION

Since 1990 the Miracle-Ear Foundation has been providing hearing aids, follow-up care and educational resources to people with hearing loss who demonstrate personal inability to financially provide for their hearing health needs. The Miracle-Ear Foundation believes everyone deserves quality hearing instruments and hopes to double the number of hearing aids donated to children and adults in communities across the United States. The Miracle- Ear Foundation is designed to support underserved Americans with a limited income and no other resources for hearing aids, such as insurance, Medicaid, VA or other state or federal programs.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Miracle-Ear Foundation is working to ensure that kids who need hearing aids receive them.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must have a hearing loss that requires hearing aids. Children must have a mild or greater hearing loss, and adults must have a moderate or greater hearing loss.
- The individual cannot be benefiting from other resources, including, but not limited to insurance, state Medicaid programs, VA or vocational rehab, state or local programs and other charity sources.
- Visit the website for specific income eligibility requirements.
- The individual's family must possess a commitment to intervention, rehabilitation and necessary follow-up services, which is especially important for a child applicant as they grow.
- Applicant must be a resident or citizen of the United States or Puerto Rico.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

4199 KINROSS LAKES PKWY, SUITE 300 RICHFIELD, OH 44286

WWW.THEMOBILITYWORKSFOUNDATION.ORG

SUPPORT@THEMOBILITYWORKSFOUNDATION.ORG

THE MOBILITY WORKS FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE MOBILITY WORKS FOUNDATION

The Mobility Works Foundation was founded in 2011. Headquartered in Akron, Ohio, The Mobility Works Foundation is a non-profit organization that offers transportation support and services to special needs individuals, families, and organizations throughout the United States.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Mobility Works Foundation funds a way for individuals with special needs to be able to have mobility.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines to qualify for help you can visit their website or contact them.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go to their website and select the Apply for Funds tab along the top.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

115 E 30TH ST, FL 1
NEW YORK, NY 10016
WWW.MODESTNEEDS.ORG

MODEST NEEDS FOUNDATION

ABOUT MODEST NEEDS FOUNDATION

Founded in 2002, Modest Needs is a non-profit organization with a unique, threefold mission. Modest Needs exists:

- To responsibly provide short-term financial assistance to individuals and families in temporary crisis who, because they are working and live just above the poverty level, are ineligible for most types of conventional social assistance
- To lessen the burden of state and federal agencies charged with the care of the truly indigent by doing everything in our power to stop these at-risk households from slipping into the cycle of poverty
- To promote compassion and generosity on the part of individual persons living in the United States and Canada, the areas that we serve, by standing as a living testament to the power of human kindness to change lives, no matter how much (or how little) a person has to share.

GUIDELINES

- We provide detailed information regarding our grant qualification guidelines in our Frequently Asked Questions for Applicants, but generally, if an applicant's responses to the questions we ask in our online application indicate that the applicant's household meets our employment and income guidelines, Modest Needs will always give that applicant the opportunity to apply for a Self-Sufficiency grant.
- Applicants should keep in mind that, during the application process, they will be asked to document information regarding their identities, incomes, employment, and the expense for which they are applying for Modest Needs' help to afford.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Must apply online

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

MOLLY ANN TANGO MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 15
RIDGEFIELD, CT 06877
WWW.MOLLYTANGO.ORG
INFO@MOLLYTANGO.ORG
203-403-7070

ABOUT THE MOLLY ANN TANGO FOUNDATION

The Molly Ann Tango Foundation was formed when Molly passed away and her father and mother, Todd Tango and Cathy Tango-Dykes, wanted to help other families who have children with special needs. The organization's goal is to give guidance and financial support to such families.

"It's hard enough, many times, taking care of a child with special needs. Then it seems that having the words 'special needs' added to the items that are needed to care for your child makes the cost go up. We want to help families facing those costs meet them." – Cathy Tango-Dykes.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Molly Ann Tango Foundation helps finance the purchase of much-needed medical equipment and services when insurance is exhausted and other social programs are not available.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be 21 years of age or younger.
- The child must have a special need.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website and either email or mail it to the organization.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

THE M.O.R.G.A.N. PROJECT

4241 N. HIGHWAY 1
MELBOURNE, FL 32935
WWW.THEMORGANPROJECT.ORG

ABOUT THE M.O.R.G.A.N. PROJECT

The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, established by Robert and Kristen Malfara in honor of their son Morgan, who has a rare form of leukodystrophy. The organization promotes awareness and facilitates support for parents caring for children with special health care needs. To enhance the quality of life for these special families, the organization acts as a reference source for information, financial resources, used equipment exchanges, research and clinical studies, support groups and more.

WHAT THEY FUND

The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project carries a revolving list of items that continually varies.

GUIDELINES

Contact organization for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Visit the website to apply, and submit applications electronically.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS FOUNDATION ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY GRANT

WWW.MSFOCUS.ORG/ASSISTIVE-TECHNOLOGYPROGRAM.ASPX
SUPPORT@MSFOCUS.ORG
888-673-6287

ABOUT THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS FOUNDATION – ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY GRANT

The Multiple Sclerosis Foundation is a service-based, publicly funded 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, with national headquarters in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Established in 1986, the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation provides a comprehensive approach to helping people with MS maintain their health and well-being.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Aids for daily living
- Orthotics
- Communication devices
- Seating, positioning and mobility devices
- Computers and computer aids
- Aids for vision and hearing
- Environmental control systems
- Cooling aids
- Architectural and vehicle modifications

GUIDELINES

- The individual must be diagnosed with MS or be the parent of a minor child with MS.
- The applicant must be over 18 years of age.
- The individual must have no existing financial net (such as Medicaid or private insurance) to cover the request.
- The individual must grant the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation the right to use his/her name and photograph for promotional purposes.
- The individual must be a resident of the United States.
- Request must be for specific goods or services.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process requires verification of a diagnosis of MS and a brief essay from the applicant explaining how the request will enhance his/her quality of life. Applications are accepted from June 1 to September 1 of each year.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS FDN. BRIGHTER TOMORROW GRANT PROGRAM

WWW.MSFOCUS.ORG/BRIGHTERTOMORROW-GRANT.ASPX

SUPPORT@MSFOCUS.ORG

888-673-6287

ABOUT THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS FOUNDATION – BRIGHTER TOMORROW GRANT

The Multiple Sclerosis Foundation is a service-based, publicly funded 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, with national headquarters in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Established in 1986, the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation provides a comprehensive approach to helping people with MS maintain their health and well-being.

WHAT THEY FUND

The goal of the grant is to provide individuals with MS for goods or services to improve their quality of life by enhancing safety, self-sufficiency, comfort or well-being. Recipients of the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation's Brighter Tomorrow Grant have received appliances, televisions, furniture, hobby supplies, retreats and various home modifications.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must be diagnosed with MS, or be the parent of a minor child with MS.
- The applicant must be over 18 years of age.
- The individual must have no existing financial net (such as Medicaid or private insurance) to cover the request.
- The individual must grant the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation the right to use his/her name and photograph for promotional purposes.
- The individual must be a resident of the United States.
- Request must be for specific goods or services.
- Cash, medications or items available through current programs are not included.

APPLICATION PROCESS

See website for details.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS FDN. COMPUTER GRANT PROGRAM

WWW.MSFOCUS.ORG/COMPUTER-GRANT-PROGRAM.ASPX

SUPPORT@MSFOCUS.ORG

888-673-6287

ABOUT THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS FOUNDATION – COMPUTER GRANT

The Multiple Sclerosis Foundation is a service-based, publicly funded 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, with national headquarters in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Established in 1986, the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation provides a comprehensive approach to helping people with MS maintain their health and well-being. Families can receive programming and support to keep them self-sufficient and their homes safe, while educational programs heighten public awareness and promote understanding about the disease. Their priority is to serve with empathy, resourcefulness and responsibility.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Multiple Sclerosis Foundation's Computer Grant Program provides refurbished desktop computers for individuals with MS on limited or fixed incomes. For those who do not know how to use a computer, training may be provided.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must be diagnosed with MS, or be the parent of a minor child with MS.
- The applicant must be over 18 years of age.
- The individual must have no existing financial net (such as Medicaid or private insurance) to cover the request.
- The individual must grant the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation the right to use his/her name and photograph for promotional purposes.
- The individual must be a resident of the United States.
- Request must be for specific goods or services.
- Cash, medications or items available through current programs are not included.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process requires verification of a diagnosis of MS and a brief essay from the applicant explaining how a computer will enhance his/her quality of life. If you would like to apply for a computer grant, complete the application on the website. Applications are accepted from June 1 to September 1 of each year.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS FDN. HOMECARE GRANT PROGRAM

6520 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33309-2132
WWW.MSFOCUS.ORG
SUPPORT@MSFOCUS.ORG
954-776-6805

ABOUT MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS FOUNDATION – HOMECARE GRANT PROGRAM

The MSF is a service-based, non-profit organization. With national headquarters in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, the MSF serves the nation from one central location. By eliminating the need for branch offices, we are able to maintain a more cost-effective and efficient operation while maintaining the highest quality service. Networking with independent, grassroots organizations gives us a local presence in communities around the nation.

WHAT THEY FUND

The MSF understands the daily needs and challenges that must be met by individuals with MS and their caregivers. In order to meet these needs in the most timely and efficient manner, the MSF Home Care Assistance Grant Program serves as a liaison between the patient and the local resources that are available to meet his or her specific needs. Should resources within the patient's community be unavailable, direct support will be provided on a temporary basis through the MSF Home Care Assistance Grant Program. Available Services include Home Care, Therapy Visits, Respite Care

GUIDELINES

For more information on the MSF Home Care Assistance Grant Program or to access these services, call:
(888) MSFOCUS (673-6287).

APPLICATION PROCESS

The MSF Home Care Assistance Grant Program will send the patient or other responsible party an application by mail. Applications for the MSF Home Care Assistance Grant Program are available online or via postal mail. Upon review, the Home Care Coordinator will determine what services will be provided through the MSF or if a referral to another resource is needed.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION

3300 E. SUNRISE DRIVE
TUCSON, AZ 85718
WWW.MDA.ORG
MDA@MDAUSA.ORG
800-572-1717

ABOUT THE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION – EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE

The Muscular Dystrophy Association is the world's leading nonprofit health agency dedicated to finding treatments and cures for muscular dystrophy, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and other neuromuscular diseases. It does so by funding worldwide research; by providing comprehensive health care services and support to MDA families nationwide; and by rallying communities to fight back through advocacy, fundraising and local engagement.

WHAT THEY FUND

To the extent feasible and when available, the program provides good-condition, gently used wheelchairs and other medical equipment, such as shower chairs, hospital beds, walkers and canes, communication devices and similar items. MDA offers assistance with the cost of repairs and/or modifications to all types of durable medical equipment needed in connection with your or your loved one's neuromuscular disease.

GUIDELINES

MDA's national equipment program is open to anyone — regardless of age, employment or insurance coverage — for whom medical equipment has been recommended and prescribed by an MDA clinic doctor in relation to a neuromuscular disease diagnosis.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact your local MDA office for more information. See website for local chapter location.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

MUSCULAR DISTROPHY ASSOCIATION FAMILY FUND

3300 E. SUNRISE DRIVE
TUCSON, AZ 85718
WWW.MDA.ORG
MDA@MDAUSA.ORG
800-572-1717

ABOUT THE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION – FAMILY FUND

The Muscular Dystrophy Association is the world's leading nonprofit health agency dedicated to finding treatments and cures for muscular dystrophy, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and other neuromuscular diseases. It does so by funding worldwide research; by providing comprehensive health care services and support to MDA families nationwide; and by rallying communities to fight back through advocacy, fundraising and local engagement.

WHAT THEY FUND

MDA Family Fund provides funding for services and equipment.

GUIDELINES

MDA's national family fund is open to anyone — regardless of age, employment or insurance coverage — for whom medical equipment has been recommended and prescribed by an MDA clinic doctor in relation to a neuromuscular disease diagnosis.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact your local MDA office for more information. See website for local chapter locations.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.CRISTINA.ORG
203-863-9100

NATIONAL CRISTINA FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE NATIONAL CRISTINA FOUNDATION

Founded in 1984, the National Cristina Foundation promotes the reuse of technology to give people with disabilities, students at risk and economically disadvantaged people the opportunity, through training, to lead more independent and productive lives. The National Cristina Foundation's Cristina Network is a community of hundreds of organizations across the nation. The organizations have been prescreened to verify that they are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity or school and are working to help people in need benefit from technology training and support.

WHAT THEY FUND

Organizations with nonprofit 501(c)(3) status, public schools and public agencies need to register to be a partner in the Cristina Network. Information about how to register as a partner is on the organization's website.

GUIDELINES

Contact the National Cristina Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the National Cristina Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR RARE DISORDERS

55 KENOSIA AVENUE
DANBURY, CT 06810
WWW.RAREDISEASES.ORG
203-744-0100

ABOUT THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR RARE DISORDERS

The National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD), a 501(c)(3) organization, is a unique federation of voluntary health organizations dedicated to helping people with rare "orphan" diseases and assisting the organizations that serve them. NORD is committed to the identification, treatment and cure of rare disorders through programs of education, advocacy, research and service. Any disease affecting fewer than 200,000 Americans is considered rare. There are nearly 7,000 such diseases affecting nearly 30 million Americans. NORD represents all patients and families in the United States affected by rare diseases.

WHAT THEY FUND

NORD offers programs to help patients access certain medications. These include free-drug, co-pay assistance, early and expanded access, emergency access and travel/lodging assistance.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must have an applicable diagnosis or physician referral.
- The individual must be a United States resident.
- The individual must meet NORD's financial need criteria.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for assistance or ask questions, contact a NORD representative with questions. See website for email submittal form or contact NORD.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

700 CHILDREN'S DRIVE
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43205
WWW.NATIONWIDECHILDRENS.ORG
614-722-2000

ABOUT THE NATIONAL CRISTINA FOUNDATION

Founded in 1984, the National Cristina Foundation promotes the reuse of technology to give people with disabilities, students at risk and economically disadvantaged people the opportunity, through training, to lead more independent and productive lives. The National Cristina Foundation's Cristina Network is a community of hundreds of organizations across the nation. The organizations have been prescreened to verify that they are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity or school and are working to help people in need benefit from technology training and support.

WHAT THEY FUND

Organizations with nonprofit 501(c)(3) status, public schools and public agencies need to register to be a partner in the Cristina Network. Information about how to register as a partner is on the organization's website.

GUIDELINES

Contact the National Cristina Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the National Cristina Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NATIONAL EDUCATION FOR ASSISTANCE DOG SERVICES

P.O. BOX 1100
PRINCETON, MA 01541
WWW.NEADS.ORG
INFO@NEADS.ORG
978-422-9064

ABOUT NEADS (NATIONAL EDUCATION FOR ASSISTANCE DOG SERVICES)

NEADS (National Education for Assistance Dog Services, also known as Dogs for Deaf and Disabled Americans), is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that was established in 1976. Our Assistance Dogs become an extension of their handlers and bring freedom, physical autonomy and relief from social isolation to their human partners. Service Dogs assist children with a physical disability by performing tasks that the child cannot do or has trouble doing.

WHAT THEY FUND

NEADS places Assistance Dogs with children age 12 and up with the partnership of a parent or guardian (also known as a facilitator). This facilitator must live with the client and accompany him or her in all public places whenever the dog is present. Although the child is the main caregiver for the dog and does most of the work with the dog, the facilitator may take on some responsibility for assisting the child in the care, health and safety of the dog. Ultimately, the facilitator must make sure that the dog's needs are being met and that all training criteria are adhered to. Facilitated service dogs do not attend school with children, since the facilitator must always accompany the dog and client in public places. After the child reaches the age of 15, young clients often mature enough to use their dog without the use of a facilitator, and may be retested and recertified to do so.

GUIDELINES

The average cost of raising and training a NEADS dog is over $25,000. We ask our clients to fundraise or contribute a $9,500 donation to NEADS. The balance is covered through additional donations made to the NEADS organization. We believe that it is important for our clients to participate in the fundraising process.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Fill out the proper application
- Interview with our staff
- Pay or get funding
- Train on our campus
- Graduate

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

549 MILLBURN AVE
SHORT HILLS, NJ, 07078
WWW.NEW-EYES.ORG
INFO@NEW-EYES.ORG
973-376-4903

NEW EYES

ABOUT THE CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS FUND

New Eyes empowers children and adults in the United States and overseas with the improved vision they need to pursue a better quality of life for themselves and their communities. 11 million people in the United States struggle with uncorrected vision and have no resources to buy eyeglasses. Uncorrected vision problems can seriously affect a person's life. • For children, not having glasses can lead to poor self esteem, failure in the classroom, developmental delays, learning disabilities, social maladjustment, and even juvenile delinquency. • For adults, the lack of corrective glasses can mean the difference between employment and unemployment. • For seniors, poor vision can limit their ability to read medicine labels, navigate stairs and perform other tasks required to lead an independent life.

WHAT THEY FUND

A New Eyes voucher typically covers only the cost of a basic pair of single or lined bifocal eyeglasses.

GUIDELINES

- Meet the U.S. Poverty guidelines.
- Have had a recent eye exam. New Eyes does not pay for eye exams. Contact us if you need assistance in locating a source of free or lowcost eye exams.
- Have no other resources available to them to pay for glasses, including federal or state programs or assistance from local charitable organizations.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application must be fully completed by both the social service agency and the applicant. Visit their website for more specific details.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

OBIE HARRINGTON-HOWES FOUNDATION

139 S. SHERMAN
SPOKANE, WA 99202
WWW.WISHINGSTAR.ORG
WELLFOUNDATION52@GMAIL.COM
509-744-3411

ABOUT THE OBIE HARRINGTON-HOWES FOUNDATION

In 1997, Obie Harrington-Howes was paralyzed in a swimming accident at Jones Beach, New York. Obie's spinal cord injury prompted an immediate outpouring of concern from many of his friends who had come to know him through his involvement in philanthropic work and town athletic organizations. In response to the multitude of people who expressed their desire to help, the Obie Harrington-Howes Foundation, a taxexempt public charity, was formed in 1998. In the past 14 years, the Obie Harrington-Howes Foundation has helped more than 250 individuals with spinal cord injuries in the state of Connecticut. The organization has established itself as a vital financial resource for individuals with spinal cord injuries, and no other organization provides similar grass roots support for this population. As an advocate, compassionate peer mentor and heart and soul of the organization, Obie spends countless hours visiting and counseling newly injured individuals and their families.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Wheelchairs, including sports wheelchairs
- Assorted durable medical equipment
- Computers and printers
- Tuition assistance
- Therapeutic leg braces
- Exercise equipment for rehabilitation
- Beds
- Ramps
- Donations towards the purchase of vehicles facilitating return to work or school
- Computerized speech augmentation devices
- Minor home renovations
- Door openers

GUIDELINES

Contact the Obie Harrington-Howes Foundation for specific guidelines and to request an application.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

THE OLIVE YOU FOUNDATION FUND

PO BOX 2654
THOMASVILLE, GA 31799
888-544-2317

ABOUT THE OLIVE YOU FOUNDATION FUND

The Olive You Foundation was created in honor of Maggie and Luke Tarpley. Both had speech difficulties at an early age, but with ongoing therapy and support they found their voices. OU assists in helping children with speech and language disorders by funding supplemental therapies and treatments. OU also assists charitable organizations who serve children with communicative disorders. Our purpose is to provide grants to help children who have speech and language disorders. Our goal is to allow children with communication difficulties the chance to better express themselves. The Olive You Foundation strives to provide children the opportunity to receive assistance to help improve their communication.

WHAT THEY FUND

We help pay for children with speech and language issues to receive the therapy treatments that are so necessary.

GUIDELINES

Contact organization for specific information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact organization for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

8161 NORMANDALE BOULEVARD
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55437
WWW.
PARENTCENTERNETWORK.ORG
888-248-0822

PACER CENTER

ABOUT THE PACER CENTER

The PACER Center's mission is to expand opportunities and enhance the quality of life of children and young adults with all disabilities and their families, based on the concept of parents helping parents. The ALLIANCE National Parent Technical Assistance Center (NPTAC), a project of the PACER Center, provides Parent Centers, Parent Training and Information Centers and Community Parent Resource Centers with innovative technical assistance, up-to-date information and high quality resources and materials. A major goal of NPTAC is to build the capacity of Parent Centers in order to improve results for children with disabilities up to 26 years of age in rural, urban and suburban areas and from underrepresented and underserved populations.

WHAT THEY FUND

The PACER Center offers over 40 specialty projects created to provide assistance to families of children with disabilities on a variety of special issues, including children with special health needs, assistive technology, social inclusion for children with disabilities, bullying prevention, transition issues and much more.

GUIDELINES

Contact the PACER Center for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the PACER Center for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

1056 HAZEL STREET
FREMONT, OH 43420
WWW.PARKERSPURPOSE.NET
PARKERSPURPOSE@GMAIL.COM
419-334-7275

PARKER'S PURPOSE

ABOUT PARKER'S PURPOSE

The mission of Parker's Purpose is as follows: As individuals of Parker's Purpose we commit as part of our team to provide the highest level of service to individuals or groups in need. We will perform our service with integrity and respect to all individuals or groups and also hope to foster a positive self worth and self esteem to the individual giving. We will strive to provide funds and professional services, regardless of race, color and/or religion, as representatives of Parker's Purpose.

WHAT THEY FUND

We provide monetary assistance up to $1000. These funds can be used as the recipient deems fit to help with their situation.

GUIDELINES

- Any family who has a minor (18 and under) with a life altering illness or disability that is in an immediate financial crisis due to unforeseen medical expenses.
- Families who live in Ohio will be first priority in providing assistance but will extend outside the state if deemed necessary.
- A recipient may only receive a grant once in a two year time span.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application can be completed online or downloaded and printed.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PARTNERSHIP FOR PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE

WWW.PPARX.ORG

ABOUT PARTNERSHIP FOR PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE

The Partnership for Prescription Assistance brings together America's biopharmaceutical companies, doctors, patient advocacy organizations and civic groups to help lowincome, uninsured patients get free or nearly free brand-name medicines. Our mission is to increase awareness of patient assistance programs and boost enrollment of those who are eligible. We offer a single point of access to more than 475 public and private programs, including nearly 200 offered by biopharmaceutical companies. We have already helped nearly 9.5 million Americans get free or reduced-cost prescription medicines.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Partnership for Prescription Assistance helps qualifying patients without prescription drug coverage get the medicines they need for free or nearly free.

GUIDELINES

Each patient assistance program has its own eligibility criteria. Complete the application process to see if you are eligible for one or more patient assistance programs. Please note that there some instances in which Medicaid beneficiaries may be eligible for patient assistance programs.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can obtain an application through the Partnership for Prescription Assistance program portal. It will gather information needed to determine if you might qualify for an assistance program and provide you with the forms you need to apply.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PATIENT ADVOCATE FOUNDATION

421 BUTLER FARM ROAD,
HAMPTON, VA 23666
WWW.PATIENTADVOCATE.ORG
800-532-5274

ABOUT PATIENT ADVOCATE FOUNDATION

Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF) is a national 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization which provides professional case management services to Americans with chronic, life threatening and debilitating illnesses. PAF case managers serve as active liaisons between the patient and their insurer, employer and/or creditors to resolve insurance, job retention and/or debt crisis matters as they relate to their diagnosis also assisted by doctors and healthcare attorneys. Patient Advocate Foundation seeks to safeguard patients through effective mediation assuring access to care, maintenance of employment and preservation of their financial stability.

WHAT THEY FUND

The PAF Co-Pay Relief Program, one of the self-contained divisions of PAF, provides direct financial assistance to insured patients (including Medicare Part D beneficiaries) who meet certain qualifications to help them pay for the prescriptions and/or treatments they need.

GUIDELINES

- Patient should be insured and insurance must cover the medication for which patient seeks assistance
- Patient must have a confirmed diagnosis of the disease/illness for which they seek financial assistance
- Patient must reside and receive treatment in the United States
- Patient's income must fall below 400% of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG) with consideration of the Cost of Living Index (COLI) and the number in the household

APPLICATION PROCESS

See website for details.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PO BOX 221858
CHARLOTTE, NC 28222
CONTACT@PANFOUNDATION.ORG
866-316-PANF (7263)

PATIENT ACCESS NETWORK

ABOUT PATIENT NETWORK FOUNDATION

The Patient Access Network Foundation (PAN) facilitates access to medical treatment for patients with chronic or life-threatening illness. PAN is dedicated to overcoming financial and other barriers to treatment, and works efficiently and collaboratively to help patients receive prescribed treatments and the care that best meets their needs. Since October 2004, PAN has awarded hundreds of millions of dollars in co-payment assistance to patients in need.

WHAT THEY FUND

PAN Foundation can consider for payment any co-payment, deductible, or co-insurance amount for medications that are used to treat the disease for which you have been awarded assistance. Medications that treat the side effects of your diagnosis are not covered, and charges for office visits and administration are not typically covered.

GUIDELINES

In order for patients to qualify for co-payment assistance with Patient Access Network, they must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Patient is insured and insurance covers the medication for which the patient seeks assistance.
- The medication must treat the disease directly.
- Patient's income must be below a designated percentage of the Federal Poverty Level, depending on individual fund requirements.
- Patient must reside and receive treatment in the US. They do not need to be a US citizen.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Once you have submitted the online application, you will be notified immediately on the screen whether your application has been approved. Once approved, you will be mailed a confirmation letter with eligibility dates and billing information. Or call toll-free at 1-866-316-PANF(7263) to speak with a case manager (English or Spanish speaker) who can help you through the application process and answer any questions.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PILOT DOGS — GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

421 BUTLER FARM ROAD,
HAMPTON, VA 23666
WWW.PATIENTADVOCATE.ORG
800-532-5274

ABOUT PILOT DOGS – GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

Pilot Dogs are available to legally blind individuals who would benefit from such dogs. An individual is considered legally blind if the visual acuity in their better eye is 20/200 with the best possible correction, or their visual field is 20 degrees or less.

WHAT THEY FUND

A sightless person who is physically and mentally capable of receiving benefit from the Pilot Dog may apply. Students of all races and creeds are served after being approved by the school's Student Selection Committee.

GUIDELINES

New students coming for their first guide dog will be required to live on-site for a 28-day familiarity and training session. Those who are seeking a second or third guide dog will only stay on site for two weeks.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Please complete the application form in typing or in legible pen and ink. Answer all questions as fully as possible.
- Please give as references persons, other than family members, who know you well, whose judgment concerning your living conditions, character and personal habits can be respected.
- A full length snapshot taken recently should accompany the return of the application. These can be ordinary camera shots, but must be full length, and at as close a view as possible to show height and weight proportions.
- The medical form is to be completed by your physician.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PRAYER CHILD FOUNDATION

625 WEST TOWN STREET
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

614-221-6367

ABOUT PRAYER CHILD FOUNDATION

Founded in 2000 by Karen and Curt Waisath, the Prayer Child Foundation is a 501(c)(3) that seeks to make a difference in the lives of children with physical and emotional challenges by providing financial support, opportunity for involvement to help others and a hope for a positive future.

The Prayer Child Foundation is managed by an all-volunteer staff, directed by Karen Waisath, President of the Foundation.

Many children, by no fault of their own, are in need of help each and every day. Many of the children and their parents pray daily for a healthier life. The mission of the Prayer Child Foundation is to have a hand in answering their prayers and helping these children to have the joys of a normal childhood.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Foundation seeks to provide assistance to living children that are eighteen years old and younger with physical and emotional challenges.

GUIDELINES

- The need must align with the mission of the Prayer Child
- Child must be under 18 years of age
- Must be suffering due to no fault of their own, physically, mentally or emotionally

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application must be submitted online

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PSI — PATIENT SERVICES

PO BOX 5930
MIDLOTHIAN, VA 23112
PSIOPS@UNEEDPSI.ORG
804-744-5407

ABOUT PSI

Patient Services, Inc. (PSI) is the “ground breaking” 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable organization of its kind. Over two decades ago, we recognized the importance of providing a “safety net” for patients with chronic illnesses who were struggling to keep up with expensive premiums and copayments. Since 1989 we have led the charge to provide much needed patient assistance, soliciting donations to fund thousands of patients and their families in a myriad of disease areas.

WHAT THEY FUND

Families affected by the listed Supported Illnesses are eligible to apply. Assistance is determined using a sliding scale that includes several factors such as household income, number of dependents, and the state in which you live. You are welcome to contact a Patient Service Representative (PSR) if you should have questions about your assistance. You can reach us by calling 800-366-7741.

GUIDELINES

PSI has a quick online qualification tool available for you to determine if you may qualify for assistance before completing the application. Assistance is based on your household income. Qualification criteria vary by program. Determine if you may qualify by using our Income Prescreening Tool.

APPLICATION PROCESS

See website for details.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it’s a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

RAY TYE MEDICAL AID FOUNDATION

PO BOX 850376, 175 CAMPANELLI
BRAINTREE, MA 02185-0376
WWW.RTMAF.ORG
INFO@RTMAF.ORG
781-356-4300

ABOUT THE RAY TYE MEDICAL AID FOUNDATION

My husband was a man who adored ritual, celebration and tradition. He found such joy in helping to prepare for gatherings. He loved to set the table, polish the wine glasses and help with the dishes. He was all about being together and cherishing happy moments. As a man he was gentle, understanding and always affectionate; he was infinitely supportive. He was soft spoken (except while watching the Red Sox) and looked forward to small pleasures like a bowl of popcorn or a glass of freshly-squeezed juice. It was so easy to make him happy. We humans strive for perfection but find its grasp illusive. Few among us reach the height of its calling, but I can tell you as Ray's wife that he attained a pinnacle of that great virtue, inspiring us to follow his lead in our dealings with the people we meet in this journey called life. Let me assure you that the work of The Ray Tye Medical Aid Foundation will continue with the same spirit, the same vigor and the same compassion it had during my husband's lifetime. He remains our guiding spirit; he was truly a light upon this earth and now shines on us from his eternal home. As hard as it is without him, we will move onward as Ray would have wished.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Ray Tye Medical Aid Foundation's charter and mission is dedicated to funding in-hospital life saving medical treatment and surgeries for those who do not have medical insurance, and for which no other financial resources are available.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application form can be found on the website. It can be submitted electronically or downloaded and saved as a WORD document to fax or email at a later date.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 42886
CINCINNATI, OH 45242
WWW.RXHOPE.COM
CUSTOMERSERVICE@RXHOPE.COM
877-267-0517

RX HOPE

ABOUT RXHOPE

RxHope advocates for and helps people who need to get their medications for free or at a low cost. As an integral part of the Triplefin group of companies, RxHope is a highly professional team of caring and concerned people dedicated to making the patient assistance process as easy and comfortable as possible for the patient, the healthcare provider and the pharmaceutical company. RxHope is the largest independent web-based patient assistance resource that processes, fulfills and tracks the requests of people in need.

WHAT THEY FUND

Patient Assistance Programs are designed to support low income United States residents with free or low cost prescriptions. The programs usually cover brand name drugs only and are administered individually by the pharmaceutical companies that manufacture the drugs.

GUIDELINES

Contact RxHope for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

A physician, physician assistant, office manager or social worker can access the Patient Assistance Application link on the website, choose from the available products, fill out the application and mail or fax the application for signature verification to the proper address. Some products do not require a fax or mail and can be completed electronically. All information is sent to the pharmaceutical manufacturer for final approval and shipping.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

RYAN SCOTT KAPPES FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 30647
WILMINGTON, DE 19805
WWW.RSKFOUNDATION.ORG
HELPINGFAMILIES@RSKFOUNDATION.ORG
302-539-3181

ABOUT THE RYAN SCOTT KAPPES FOUNDATION

The Ryan Scott Kappes Foundation is a nonprofit organization that was founded by Karie and Scott Kappes in memory of their son Ryan. A few hours after Ryan was born, doctors realized that he had a congenital heart defect. Ryan's condition required major surgery just days after birth to reverse his aorta and pulmonary artery, and he passed away two months later. During Ryan's hospitalization, Karie and Scott stayed at the hospital and spent every available moment by Ryan's side. They quickly realized that many children were alone at the hospital due to the financial strain extended hospitalizations impose on families with critically ill children. The realization that many families are separated due to financial constraints was the catalyst for starting the Ryan Scott Kappes Foundation. The organization's mission is to provide financial assistance to families of critically ill children so that the family can remain together during extended hospitalizations.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Ryan Scott Kappes Foundation provides grants to help with travel, lodging and living expenses for qualified participants.

GUIDELINES

Contact the Ryan Scott Kappes Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the Ryan Scott Kappes Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

290 GEER ROAD
LEBANON, CT 06249
WWW.SAVETHEKID.ORG
INFO@SAVETHEKID.ORG
860-444-5373

SAVE THE KID FUND

ABOUT SAVE THE KID FUND

Save The Kid Fund is a charity dedicated to improving the lives of children by providing them with financial support for adaptive equipment, medical treatments, medications or opportunities they may not otherwise receive. The organization was founded in 1985 by Mike, a member of the Health Physics Department at Millstone Nuclear Power Station. When Connecticut passed a bottle deposit bill, Mike suggested that the soda can refund money be used to sponsor a child through Save The Children, Inc. As soda can donations grew, Save The Kid Fund was formed, and a children's charity was born.

WHAT THEY FUND

Save The Kid Fund's Freedom Program provides adaptive bicycles to children who cannot ride regular bicycles.

GUIDELINES

Contact Save The Kid Fund for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Save The Kid Fund for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

SEEDLINGS BRAILLE BOOKS

P.O. BOX 51924
LIVONIA, MI 48151-5924
WWW.SEEDLINGS.ORG
800-777-8552

ABOUT THE SEEDLINGS BRAILLE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

This program was originally called “Anna’s Book Angel Project” and was named in memory of our Director’s 19-year-old daughter who was killed by a drunk driver in 2001. Each year, blind children who were registered received one free book in Anna’s name, but now we want to do even more.

WHAT THEY FUND

Blind children in the U.S. and Canada can receive two free Braille books per year.

GUIDELINES

Must be a resident of the U.S. or Canada. Must be under 21 years of age.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the REGISTRATION FORM & WISH LIST FOR FREE BOOKS on our website.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it’s a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

SILENT STARTS FOUNDATION

711 INDIAN ROAD
GLENVIEW, IL 60025
WWW.SILENTSTARS.ORG
847-644-6591

ABOUT SILENT STARS FOUNDATION

Silent Stars Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization founded to raise awareness of childhood apraxia of speech and raise funds for apraxia research. Apraxia is a weakness in motor planning, and children with apraxia have trouble imitating and repeating the movements that come naturally to other children.

WHAT THEY FUND

Provide AAC devices for children who cannot afford them.

GUIDELINES

Contact Silent Stars Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Silent Stars Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

2405 GRAND BOULEVARD, SUITE 300 KANSAS CITY, MO 64108
WWW.SMILESCHANGELIVES.ORG
INFO@SMILESCHANGELIVES.ORG
888-900-3554

SMILES CHANGE LIVES

ABOUT SMILES CHANGE LIVES

The Virginia Brown Community Orthodontic Partnership was established in 1997 as a communitybased orthodontic program to help children from low income families, whose self-esteem was impacted by having crooked teeth, receive orthodontic treatment. Now known as Smiles Change Lives, it has grown into a national organization with close to 750 orthodontists participating in the program. To date, over 5,000 children nationwide have received life-changing orthodontic treatment through Smiles Change Lives. Smiles Change Lives matches children who need orthodontic treatment with caring orthodontists willing to provide such treatment. Each family must agree to abide by the program's rules and contribute a set amount to the organization to be approved for the program. Smiles Change Lives uses these funds to recruit more doctors willing to treat more children. In this way, each family truly pays it forward.

WHAT THEY FUND

Smiles Change Lives funds for orthodontic treatment for children from low income families.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be between 10 and 18 years of age.
- The child must have no more than four baby teeth.
- The child's general dentist must certify that the child has good dental hygiene.
- The child's cavities must be filled.
- The child must not be currently wearing braces.
- The family must have a total household income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- The family must be willing to pay the $30 application fee and the $600 required financial contribution per child.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

STARKEY HEARING FOUNDATION

6700 WASHINGTON AVENUE
SOUTH EDEN PRAIRIE, MN 55344
WWW.
STARKEYHEARINGFOUNDATION.ORG
INFO@STARKEYFOUNDATION.ORG
866-354-3254

ABOUT STARKEY HEARING FOUNDATION

William F. Austin founded Starkey Hearing Foundation in 1984 with the premise: "Alone we can't do much, but together we can change the world." At this year's Clinton Global Initiative Annual Meeting, he reported on the "So the World May Hear" Commitment to Action: give one million people hearing aids within the decade. The organization's goal is to pursue its mission with commitment so that future generations can live in a world with more caring and peace.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Hear Now Program is committed to assisting United States residents, who have hearing loss but no resources to acquire hearing aids. Starkey Hearing Foundation provides the hearing aids and runs the program.

GUIDELINES

Contact Starkey Hearing Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Starkey Hearing Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

THE SUITE DREAMS PROJECT

400 WATER STREET, SUITE 250
ROCHESTER, MI 48307
WWW.SUITEDREAMSPROJECT.ORG
INFO@SDREAMS.ORG
248-601-0799

ABOUT THE SUITE DREAMS PROJECT

The Suite Dreams Project is a unique and innovative program of the General Sports Foundation, a Michigan nonprofit organization. The organization's mission is to bring comfort and joy to children affected by serious medical conditions by creating healing environments in their homes, hospitals and communities that improve their quality of life and speed up their recovery.

The Sweet Dreams Project utilizes the assistance of designers, artisans and volunteers to create these unique environments complete with healing elements specific to the needs of each child. The organization assists in procuring any furniture, materials and equipment necessary to create the suite of each child's dream.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Suite Dreams Project transforms bedrooms and other areas into beautiful healing spaces where children with life-threatening illnesses can rest and recover.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be under 18 years of age.
- The child must demonstrate a medical and economic need for this environment.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the Suite Dreams Project for specific information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

SUMMIT ASSISTANCE DOGS

PO BOX 699
ANACORTES, WA 98221
SUMMITDOGS.ORG
INFO@SUMMITDOGS.ORG
360-293-5609

ABOUT SUMMIT ASSISTANCE DOGS

Through innovative partnerships with community organizations and volunteers, Summit carefully selects and trains dogs to assist with tasks that allow their partners to lead lives of greater independence. These tasks might include retrieving dropped objects, opening doors, retrieving an emergency telephone, or alerting a person who is hard of hearing to sounds. Perhaps even more important, our dogs help diminish depression, anxiety and loneliness by providing unconditional love and companionship.

WHAT THEY FUND

We give the gift of independence and increased self-reliance to people living with various disabilities. Our highly-skilled mobility, hearing and therapy dogs assist our clients with daily tasks and partner with them to live life with renewed confidence.

GUIDELINES

Anyone who can demonstrate a real need for and intent to use the services of an assistance dog can qualify. We have no upper or lower age limits, but applicants must demonstrate sufficient maturity and decision-making ability to manage a dog independently and ensure its quality of life. Therapy or service dogs for young children must be under the stewardship of a responsible adult. We make placements primarily in the Pacific Northwest, but nationwide placement may be considered when follow-up care for the partnership can be assured. Eligibility for our program will be determined by the Client Services.

APPLICATION PROCESS

There are several steps to the application process. Please see website for specific details.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

THINK ALIVE FOUNDATION

PO BOX 1080
AMHERST, MA 01004
WWW.THINKALIVE.ORG
INFO@THINKALIVE.ORG
505-470-3296

ABOUT THE THINK ALIVE FOUNDATION

Growing up, I was constantly reminded of my Cerebral Palsy. My classmates tied their shoes and ran off to the playground while I sadly waited as Ms. McTaggert, my teacher, tied mine for me. Tired of such embarrassment, I became determined to overcome the barriers of my disability and become "normal" like my friends. My work began immediately. After weeks of focused effort, I tied my very first shoe by myself. Exhilarated from this triumph, I realized that setting small, reachable goals was the key to redefining my disability. Each achievement propelled me to pursue greater heights. Diligence, hard work, and time allowed me to succeed in activities I never thought I could: I became a starter on my high school's Varsity basketball team. I soon eyed two very expensive new goals: to compete in the Paralympics and move on to college. Despite my disability, I was determined achieve my newest personal aspirations. The Achievement Grant is a micro-granting program designed to provide financing for the goals of disabled adolescents. Most importantly, these grants are meant for those at all levels of individual development.

WHAT THEY FUND

Lessons, equipment, travel expenses, entrance fees, and other costs associated with personal passions, aspirations or goals are acceptable. Grants can be in the athletic, artistic, musical/ theater, or almost any other unique arena.

GUIDELINES

Youth 21 years of age and under with a documented disability are eligible.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application can be submitted online or printed and mailed to the address above.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

TRAVELERS PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

2041 EXCHANGE DRIVE
SAINT CHARLES, MO 63303
WWW.TPAHQ.ORG
1-877-872-2638

ABOUT THE TRAVELERS PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

The Travelers Protective Association of America consists of Divisions (States), each composed of Posts in various cities, with National Headquarters in St. Charles, Missouri. There are no paid salesmen or recruiting costs; growth is achieved by the voluntary efforts of existing members, one member inviting their friends and family to participate. The society's purposes are a threefold blend of benefits for its members, their families and for the community, functioning in these major areas of Fraternalism, Safety Project and Community Service and Membership Benefits.

WHAT THEY FUND

Financial aid to people who suffer deafness or hearing impairment and who need assistance in obtaining mechanical devices, medical or specialized treatment or specialized education as well as speech classes, note takers, interpreters, etc. and in other areas of need that are directly related to hearing impairment.

GUIDELINES

See application for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application is available through the website. Complete the application and mail it to: Scholarship Trust for the Hearing Impaired 2041 Exchange Drive, Saint Charles, Missouri 63303

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

TRAVIS ROY FOUNDATION

HEMENWAY & BARNES LLP
60 STATE ST, 8TH FL,
BOSTON, MA 02109
WWW.TRAVISROYFOUNDATION.ORG
INFO@TRAVISROYFOUNDATION.ORG
617-619-8257

ABOUT TRAVIS ROY FOUNDATION

Moments into his first collegiate game as a Boston University freshman, Travis Roy, a young hopeful in the world of hockey, was driven into the boards in a freak accident and was paralyzed. Though imprisoned for months in a hospital bed, then confined to a wheelchair, Travis gradually found the grit and the will to reclaim for himself a fulfilling and productive life. Ultimately, as Travis's struggle became national news, an entire country became his fan club – cheering him on as he adjusted to daily life and rooting for him when he established the Travis Roy Foundation, which is dedicated to research and one-on-one assistance for spinal injury cases. The organization is dedicated to enhancing the life of individuals with spinal cord injuries and their families by providing adaptive equipment and to finding a cure through increased funding of research, resulting in selfreliance and the ability to be as independent as possible.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Travis Roy Foundation currently funds only for necessary equipment, such as wheelchairs, beds, home modifications and more. Temporarily there is no funding available for recreational equipment.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must reside in the United States.
- The individual must be paraplegic or quadriplegic due to a spinal cord injury.
- The individual must demonstrate financial need.
- Grants available up to $7,500.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website and mail it to the organization's address.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

17186 HICKORY RIDGE COURT
CANYON COUNTRY, CA 91387
WWW.TRIUMPH-FOUNDATION.ORG

TRIUMPH FOUNDATION

ABOUT TRIUMPH FOUNDATION

Triumph Foundation is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to help individuals with spinal cord injuries triumph over their disability, minimize the obstacles they must face and inspire them to keep moving forward with their lives by pushing themselves to get better every day.

WHAT THEY FUND

Triumph Foundation helps people plan home modifications for wheelchair accessibility, assists people with financial constraint, expands disabled sports and fitness opportunities and provides mentorship and advocacy.

GUIDELINES

Contact Triumph Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Triumph Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

TWO ANGELS FOUNDATION, INC

PO BOX 740849
ARVADA, CO 80006
WWW.TWOANGELSFOUNDATION.ORG
INFO@TWOANGELSFOUNDATION.ORG
720-940-6078

ABOUT THE TWO ANGELS FOUNDATION, INC.

The Two Angels Foundation, Inc. was organized in the memory of Allyson and Rachel Mohatt, who were both diagnosed with nemaline myopathy, a rare form of muscular dystrophy. Providing them with the most normal life possible was their family's primary goal before they both passed away at the age of five. Because Allyson and Rachel touched so many lives, friends and family came together to form the Two Angels Foundation, Inc. Because obtaining funding for adaptive equipment can be a financial burden for many families, the organization will help purchase adaptive equipment for home and school.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Two Angels Foundation, Inc. helps families purchase recreational adaptive equipment for physically disabled children and equipment to allow those children to participate at school.

GUIDELINES

Contact the Two Angels Foundation, Inc. for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website, or download it and mail to the organization.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

17186 HICKORY RIDGE COURT
CANYON COUNTRY, CA 91387
WWW.TRIUMPH-FOUNDATION.ORG

TRIUMPH FOUNDATION

ABOUT TRIUMPH FOUNDATION

Triumph Foundation is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to help individuals with spinal cord injuries triumph over their disability, minimize the obstacles they must face and inspire them to keep moving forward with their lives by pushing themselves to get better every day.

WHAT THEY FUND

Triumph Foundation helps people plan home modifications for wheelchair accessibility, assists people with financial constraint, expands disabled sports and fitness opportunities and provides mentorship and advocacy.

GUIDELINES

Contact Triumph Foundation for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Triumph Foundation for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

TWO ANGELS FOUNDATION, INC

PO BOX 740849
ARVADA, CO 80006
WWW.TWOANGELSFOUNDATION.ORG
INFO@TWOANGELSFOUNDATION.ORG
720-940-6078

ABOUT THE TWO ANGELS FOUNDATION, INC.

The Two Angels Foundation, Inc. was organized in the memory of Allyson and Rachel Mohatt, who were both diagnosed with nemaline myopathy, a rare form of muscular dystrophy. Providing them with the most normal life possible was their family's primary goal before they both passed away at the age of five. Because Allyson and Rachel touched so many lives, friends and family came together to form the Two Angels Foundation, Inc. Because obtaining funding for adaptive equipment can be a financial burden for many families, the organization will help purchase adaptive equipment for home and school.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Two Angels Foundation, Inc. helps families purchase recreational adaptive equipment for physically disabled children and equipment to allow those children to participate at school.

GUIDELINES

Contact the Two Angels Foundation, Inc. for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website, or download it and mail to the organization.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

UNITED HEALTHCARE CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

PO BOX 41
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440
WWW.UHCCF.ORG
855-698-4223

ABOUT UNITED HEALTHCARE CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

The UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity dedicated to enhancing the quality of children's lives. The organization provides financial assistance to help families gain access to medically related services that are not covered, or not fully covered, by the available commercial health insurance plan, and that may have the potential to significantly enhance children's clinical conditions.

WHAT THEY FUND

The UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation provides financial assistance toward the family's share of the cost of medical services.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be 16 years of age or younger.
- The child must live in the United States and receive and pay for care/items in the United States.
- The child must be covered by a commercial health insurance plan.
- Limits for the requested service are either exceeded or no coverage is available and/or the costs are a serious financial burden on the family.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website. Note that once an application is started, progress cannot be saved and accessed later.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

VARIETY HEALTHCARE CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

4601 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
SUITE 260
LOS ANGELES, CA 90010

ABOUT VARIETY – THE CHILDREN'S CHARITY OF THE U.S.

The chapters of Variety – The Children's Charity are a multi-million dollar philanthropic organization with locations throughout the United States. Starting with a baby left on the doorsteps of a movie theater in 1928, the organization has continued to be a group of local business men and women, many of whom hail from the theater and movie business, reaching out to children in need.

Variety's National Mobility Program provides much needed assistance to children with mobility concerns. These children want to be active members of their communities, but they need what many people take for granted: access. For children with disabilities, this means having the freedom to go where they want to. With the advent of many new mobility technologies, this access is becoming available to more and more children. The goal of the Mobility Program is to see that they get it.

WHAT THEY FUND

Examples include:

- Electric and manual wheelchairs, stair glides, ramps, van lifts, adaptive car seats, strollers, walkers, standers, adaptive bicycles and tricycles, Bath equipment, assistive technology, and house modifications in cases where the family owns the home

GUIDELINES

- The child must be 21 years of age or younger.
- The family's need must not be met by any other source, including family, school, insurance and service program resources.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Check website for local chapters. If a Variety chapter exists in the child's area, the family may apply there. If not, the family may apply with U.S. Variety. Print the application found online, fill out completely and mail it. Contact the organization for assistance.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WALKING WITH ANTHONY

9903 SANTA MONICA BLVD. SUITE 1024 BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90046
INFO@WALKINGWITHANTHONY.ORG
213-986-6486

ABOUT WALKING WITH ANTHONY

Tragically thousands of individuals with SCI (Spinal Cord Injury) are needlessly trapped in a wheelchair. Every day medical establishments tell these individuals that they will never walk again. Although proven therapies and solutions for those with SCI are already in existence, they are unavailable to the average person. Insurance does not cover it. It takes hundreds of thousands of dollars to get just one victim out of a wheelchair. This astronomical cost is what prohibits many people from the reality of walking again. Walking With Anthony's mission is to forever change the recovery outcome of spinal cord injury, currently perceived as unchangeable.

WHAT THEY FUND

Provide Financial Assistance to Individuals with SCI.

GUIDELINES

See website for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Print and mail the completed application to the address above.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

1123 ENCINO LOOP
KERRVILLE, TX 78028
WWW.THEWAYOUTFITTERS.COM
INFO@THEWAYOUTFITTERS.COM
830-792-9140

THE WAY OUTFITTERS

ABOUT THE WAY OUTFITTERS

The Way Outfitters provides wholesome outdoor adventure experiences of hunting, fishing and other activities for disabled, disadvantaged and terminally ill children and veterans. The adventure experiences are intended to provide education and excitement while exposing participants and staff to positive values. The Way Outfitters is a faith- based program, and Christian values are offered by the event staff and volunteers with parental approval.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Way Outfitters provides all activity costs for the guests and their parents or guardians.

GUIDELINES

- The child must have a serious disability or a terminal illness.
- Veterans must have a serious disability or a terminal illness.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Acceptance is based on the cost needed for the activity selected and if donations are on hand to cover the costs. Applicants are encouraged to check on availability and if there is a waiting list prior to completing the entire application form. This can be done by filling out the form on the website or contacting The Way Outfitters.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

1976 S. PINELLAS AVE.
TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689
WWW.WHEELCHAIRS4KIDS.ORG
INFO@WHEELCHAIRS4KIDS.ORG
727-946-0963

WHEELCHAIR 4 KIDS

ABOUT THE WHEELCHAIRS 4 KIDS

Wheelchairs 4 Kids is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children with physical disabilities. Many children faced with living with physical disabilities are in wheelchairs that are too small, in disrepair, or do not fit the needs of the child. Children outgrow their wheelchairs before government or insurance programs will allow for a replacement. In addition, families are faced with trying to care for their special needs children in homes that have not been modified to meet their specific circumstances. Our name may be Wheelchairs 4 Kids, but we do so much more. We have provided custom wheelchairs, widened doors, built ramps and provided wheelchair lifts and carriers for vehicles.

WHAT THEY FUND

We provide wheelchairs, gait trainers, AFO's, hoyer lifts, bathing solutions, vehicle modifications (contingent on the type of vehicle) and some home modifications providing the family owns the home.

GUIDELINES

The child must be under the age of 21 and have a member of their medical team verify their medical condition and mobility needs. Every situation is unique and it is our goal to work together with the family to ensure that the best solution is reached. If covered by Medicaid or another insurer, we do request that proof of denial accompany the application.

APPLICATION PROCESS

If you know of a child that may benefit from our services, please visit the referral page and send us the information. You must be able to provide accurate contact information for the parents or guardian.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WHEEL TO WALK FOUNDATION

PO BOX 20146
PORTLAND, OREGON 97294
WWW.WHEELTOWALK.COM
INFO@WHEELTOWALK.COM
503-257-1401

ABOUT THE WHEEL TO WALK FOUNDATION

When Sandy Getman's granddaughter was diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy at the age of two, she knew she had to do something. Sandy held her first fundraiser and brought in $200, and she was thrilled to be able to donate that money to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Since then, the Wheel to Walk Foundation was formed. The organization focuses on helping disabled children by purchasing medical equipment when they are denied by their insurance company. To date, the organization has helped over 1,000 children and their families get the essential equipment needed to help with day-to-day activities.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Wheel to Walk Foundation purchases items such as shower chairs, therapy bikes, special beds, communication devices, speech therapy, wheelchairs and more that insurance companies have denied. The organization strongly believes that no child or young adult with special needs should go without items that could improve the quality of his or her daily life.

GUIDELINES

The child must be under 21 years of age.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the Wheel to Walk Foundation for more information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WHEELS WITH WINGS FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 975
CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14225
WWW.WHEELSWITHWINGS.ORG
716-668-4SCI (4724)

ABOUT WHEELS WITH WINGS

Wheels With Wings Foundation is a recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization developed to assist individuals who have suffered a spinal cord injury and their families, to Rise Above and recover from this catastrophic injury. Individual grant awards, education, resources, awareness and advocacy are ways Wheels With Wings will work on improving the lives of people with this injury to become independent and productive and truly make a difference.

WHAT THEY FUND

Wheels With Wings Foundation grants may be used to obtain and/or repair equipment such as wheelchairs, standers, FES bikes, vehicle modifications, computers or other adaptive equipment to aide in personal independence, as prescribed by a licensed medical professional. Wheels With Wings Foundation grants may be used for various home modifications such as ramps, lifts, or bathroom modifications. Wheels With Wings Foundation grants may be used for various types of rehabilitation programs under the supervision of a licensed doctor, physical therapist or other medical professional.

GUIDELINES

- Applicants must have experienced a spinal cord injury resulting in paraplegia or quadriplegia and such injuries have resulted in substantially interfering with personal independence.
- Applicants must demonstrate a financial need.
- Applicants must reside in the United States.
- There is no age requirement for applicants.

APPLICATION PROCESS

See website for more details and the application is available for download.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

DISABILITY

STATE FUNDERS

Adam Taliaferro Foundation

A.N.G.E.L.

American Foundation for Disabled Children

ATI Foundation

Avery-Fuller Welch Children's Foundation

Blanche Fischer Foundation

Building Blocks for Kids

Casey Cares Foundation

Cherish the Children Foundation

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals — Wisconsin

Children with Special Needs Fund

Hannah and Friends

Jack's Helping Hand

Kiddo's Clubhouse Foundation

Kraddick Foundation / Kidd's Kids

Muscular Dystrophy Family Fund

Ohio Department of Health

Variety of Buffalo and Western New York

Variety of Eastern Tennessee

Variety of Florida

Variety of Georgia

Variety of Illinois

Variety of Iowa

Variety of Kansas City

Variety of Memphis

Variety of National Capital Region

Variety of Nevada

Variety of New York

Variety of Northern California

Variety of Philadelphia

Variety of Pittsburgh

Variety of Southern California

Variety of St. Louis

Variety of Texas

Variety of The Desert

Variety of Western Michigan

Variety of Wisconsin

ADAM TALIAFERRO FOUNDATION

PO BOX 8232
TURNERSVILLE, NJ 08012
WWW.TALIAFERROFOUNDATION.ORG
INFO@TALIAFERROFOUNDATION.ORG
856-582-0212

ABOUT THE ADAM TALIAFERRO FOUNDATION

Adam Taliaferro was paralyzed while making a tackle for Penn State in 2000. After spinal-fusion surgery, doctors told Adam's parents their son would probably never walk again. Three months later, Adam miraculously walked out of Magee Rehabilitation Hospital in Philadelphia. The organization hopes to share the information concerning all phases of Adam's medical treatment with every high school, college and professional football team in the country. The organization also provides funding for injured athletes who need additional assistance.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Adam Taliaferro Foundation provides emotional, financial and educational support to studentathletes who suffer catastrophic head or spinal injuries in sanctioned team events in New Jersey, Pennsylvania or Delaware. The foundation also provides educational and financial support related to the research, prevention and care of such injuries.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must have been injured during a sanctioned athletic event (game or practice).
- The individual must have a catastrophic spinal cord or head injury.
- The individual must live within the geographic jurisdiction of New Jersey, Pennsylvania or Delaware or be a student athlete attending school within the aforementioned states.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please look over the application and contact a member of the Adam Taliaferro Foundation Medical Committee.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

1300 PERRY AVENUE #080947
RACINE WI 53408
WWW.ANGELAUTISMNETWORK.ORG
857-228-8476

A.N.G.E.L.

ABOUT A.N.G.E.L

ANGEL is a registered non-profit 501©3 organization. We are run by 100% volunteers raising funds and awareness for children in Wisconsin with autism.

WHAT THEY FUND

Their organization provides funding directly to family's choice of service provider. They make every attempt to ensure grant requests are fulfilled but it is based on funding and monies available.

GUIDELINES

- Age of child (must be between 2 & 18 years old)
- Child's Diagnosis (must be an Autism Spectrum Disorder)
- Your address (must be a WI resident)
- Services you are wanting to receive
- Service provider of your choice (must serve children with autism & include the providers address & contact number)
- How you heard about our grant program
- Photo of the child (not mandatory)
- You may submit one application per quarter, for a maximum of $500 per recipient per year.
- Grants will only be considered if the application is fully completed.
- Grants will be given on a quarterly basis and will be issued in the months of March, June, September and December; once your application is reviewed, you will be contacted regarding the grant status.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for Membership and receive your Username and Password to access the Grant Application Online.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

84 NEW DORP PLAZA, SUITE 207
STATEN ISLAND, NY 10306
WWW.AMFDC.ORG
CONTACT@AMFDC.ORG
718-987-6911

ABOUT THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

The American Foundation for Disabled Children, Inc. is a New York-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable corporation founded in 1991 by a group of concerned parents. Unhappy with bureaucratic delays and inadequate funding of programs for physically and mentally challenged children, these parents drew upon their many years of professional and volunteer services to create a foundation geared to provide volunteers with the resources and tools to work quickly and effectively with organizations that serve challenged children. In 2001, upon the urging of several long- term volunteers, their mission expanded to include services for disadvantaged, homeless and battered children. Recently, the organization expanded its services to children suffering from all forms of cancer.

WHAT THEY FUND

The American Foundation for Disabled Children, Inc. works to encourage and maximize the development, productivity, dignity and social interaction of challenged and disadvantaged children within society at large. Programs include resources for homeless and challenged children, horticultural therapy and camps and outdoor experiences.

GUIDELINES

Contact the American Foundation for Disabled Children for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact the American Foundation for Disabled Children for specific information.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

790 REMINGTON BOULEVARD
BOLINGBROOK, IL 60440
WWW.ATIPT.COM
855-692-8478

ATI FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE ATI FOUNDATION

Founded in 2003 by ATI Physical Therapy, the ATI Foundation was created as a way for ATI employees and patients to give back to the community. ATI is committed to exceeding customer expectations by providing the highest quality of care in a friendly and encouraging environment. The ATI Foundation strives to build off this commitment to quality care by giving to those in need, sharing expertise and resources and improving the quality of life of people within the communities ATI serves.

WHAT THEY FUND

The ATI Foundation is committed to aiding children with physical impairments in need of medical resources, equipment and funding to enhance and sustain a better quality of life.

GUIDELINES

- The child must live in Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Pennsylvania or Wisconsin.
- Contact the organization for further guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

AVERY-FULLER WELCH CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

1660 BUSH STREET, SUITE 300
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109

WWW.
AFWCHILDRENSFOUNDATION.ORG

415-561-6540

ABOUT AVERY WELCH FULLER

The mission of the Avery-Fuller-Welch Children's Foundation is to provide grant funding for early intervention and professional guidance to children with physical, behavioral, emotional, and learning challenges.

WHAT THEY FUND

Avery-Fuller-Welch Children's Foundation provides grants that allow low-income families with children in need of supportive, remedial therapy to have access to those professional services.

GUIDELINES

For more guidelines you can visit their website online.

- Children must be 24 years or younger.
- Applications are only accepted within the posted due dates.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you need to go to their website and register as a new user and follow the steps that are listed under the how to apply tab.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

BLANCHE FISCHER FOUNDATION

1509 SW SUNSET BOULEVARD,
SUITE 1B
PORTLAND, OR 97239

ABOUT THE BLANCHE FISCHER FOUNDATION

The Blanche Fischer Foundation is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization founded through a trust established by the late Blanche Fischer, a native of Long Creek and long-time resident and benefactor of Lincoln City.

WHAT THEY FUND

The desired aid may relate directly to the disability or toward fostering personal independence.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must be a resident of Oregon.
- The individual must demonstrate a financial need.
- The individual must have a disability of a physical nature.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website and include additional requested documents.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

7577 CENTRAL PARKE BOULEVARD, SUITE 111
MASON, OH 45040
WWW.BB4K.ORG
513-770-2900

BUILDING BLOCKS FOR KIDS

ABOUT BUILDING BLOCKS FOR KIDS

The mission of Building Blocks for Kids is to improve the quality of life for children with health-related needs that are unmet through traditional means. The organization offers grants, referrals and alternative resources for these children whose needs not being met due to lack of insurance, insurance coverage, government assistance and/or family resources.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Expenses associated with surgery or specific procedures or treatments such as organ transplants, craniofacial reconstruction, physical rehabilitation therapy, cochlear implants, etc.
- Expenses such as wheelchairs, van lifts, communication devices hearing aids, prosthetic limbs, etc.
- Expenses associated with the cost of displacement for a child and one family member who must relocate during a procedure/treatment. This requires that a doctor or medical specialist write a letter confirming that the procedure/ treatment cannot be done in the child's city of residence.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be under 18 years of age.
- The child must be from the greater Cincinnati area or has a strong link to the area such as a grandparent, an aunt or uncle or a relationship with a local organization.
- The cost of the surgery, procedure, treatment or apparatus is significant and not covered by the parents' insurance or the parents' assets/income or by a combination thereof.
- The case must be in a proactive stage. Requests for debt reduction of expenses already incurred will not be considered.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application the website, and mail it to the organization.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CASEY CARES FOUNDATION

3918 VERO ROAD, SUITE C
BALTIMORE, MD 21227
WWW.
CASEYCARESFOUNDATION.ORG
CASEYCARES@
CASEYCARESFOUNDATION.ORG
443-568-0064

ABOUT THE CASEY CARES FOUNDATION

The Casey Cares Foundation understands that although we can't cure the heart-wrenching illnesses of our children, we can support the families in compassionate and creative ways. The Casey Cares Foundation has a dedicated team of caring staff with years of experience in the field of helping critically ill children, many of whom volunteer their time. The Casey Cares Foundation is dedicated to providing uplifting programs with a personal touch for critically ill children and their families.

WHAT THEY FUND

Whether it is a day at the zoo or a night at a concert, fun is placed high on the priority list. The Family Festivities Program offers a multitude of different art, entertainment and culturally related activities to families to make sure they get these important opportunities. In addition, families are provided activities like sky box seats at baseball games, concert tickets, tickets to plays, passes to museums and local attractions. Always included are special touches like parking passes, vouchers for meals and souvenirs that add to their evening.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be under 18 years of age, and only immediate family members can be included.
- The child must be diagnosed with a lifethreatening illness.
- The child must be receiving active treatment and be frequently hospitalized.
- Siblings may participate in programs until 21 years of age.
- Patients must live in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, Virginia, West Virginia or Washington DC to participate.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CHERISH THE CHILDREN FOUNDATION

PO BOX 128
GLASTONBURY, CT 06033
WWW.CTCHILDREN.ORG
INFO@CTCHILDREN.ORG
860-509-5346

ABOUT CHERISH THE CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

Cherish the Children Foundation, a 501(C)(3) has been improving the lives of children for more than 25 years. The Foundation assists children in our community who's needs are not being met by traditional sources of funding or support.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Cherish the Children Foundation fund to provide a responsive and direct resource to children in need so that they have the opportunity to achieve their greatest potential.

GUIDELINES

If your family is doing everything you can to care for your child`s unique needs and are faced with unsurmountable challenges and have exhausted your financial resources you are welcome to complete and submit the attached Grant Application form with two years of detailed tax returns for confidential review.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can go to their website and download and print the application form and mail it in.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK HOSPITALS — WISCONSIN

611 ST. JOSEPH AVENUE
MARSHFIELD, WI 54449
WWW.CMNWI.ORG
715-387-9965

ABOUT CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK HOSPITALS - WISCONSIN

Children's Miracle Network began in 1983 and has since become the world's largest televised fundraising event. Saint Joseph's Hospital, Marshfield joined forces with CMN in 1989, and thanks to the efforts of local businesses, organizations and private donors, more than $680,000 was raised in 2006. Children's Miracle Network realizes that many families with special needs children in north central Wisconsin are faced not only with the emotional dilemma of dealing with a child's medical needs but also a financial strain.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Supplies, medications, transportation and other needs that will directly benefit the child - up to $500 a year.
- Durable medical equipment - up to $2,000.
- Conference registration fees for up to two people.

GUIDELINES

- The child must reside in north central Wisconsin.
- The child must be 18 years of age or younger.
- The child must have a condition requiring medical care.
- Families must have applied for at least two sources of funding and exhausted them, or do not qualify (including personal funds and health insurance).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website, and mail it to the organization.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS FUND

320 S. WALNUT
LANSING, MI 48913
WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/CSNFUND
CSNFUND@MICHIGAN.GOV
517-241-7420

ABOUT CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS FUND

The Children with Special Needs Fund provides support for children in Michigan with special health care needs not available through any other funding source. The Fund helps with the purchase of equipment and services that promote optimal health, mobility, and development, enhancing the lives of children and their families.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Children with Special Needs Fund provides partial or full funding for, adaptive recreational equipment, therapeutic bikes and many more items.

GUIDELINES

- Must be a Michigan resident.
- Under the age of 21.
- A U.S. citizen.
- Enrolled in Children's Special Health Care Services.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can download their application on their website and mail it in.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

51250 HOLLYHOCK ROAD,
SOUTH BEND, IN 46637
WWW.HANNAHANDFRIENDS.ORG
GRANTS@
HANNAHANDFRIENDS.ORG
574-217-7860

HANNAH AND FRIENDS

ABOUT HANNAH AND FRIENDS

Hannah and Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and adults with special needs. The organization fosters an ongoing campaign of "Awareness & Compassion" for all individuals with special needs. Individuals with special needs deserve the same respect as everyone else and it is our mission to educate others who do not understand this mindset.

WHAT THEY FUND

Hannah and Friends provides support for a program called Hannah's Helping Hands, which funds quality of life grants for Florida, Indiana, including the greater Michiana area, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island families that care for children and adults with special needs. The grants provide low and moderate-income families with stipends that may be used for a wide variety of supports related to their family member.

GUIDELINES

A letter of recommendation must be attached to the application from the child's doctor. For more information about the guidelines for Hannah and Friends you can contact Hannah & Friends by phone or email.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications maybe turned in electronically to kayle@hannahandfriends.org or mailed to Hannah & Friends.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O BOX 14718
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93406
WWW.JACKSHELPINGHAND.ORG
JHH@JACKSHELPINGHAND.ORG
805-547-1914

JACK'S HELPING HAND

ABOUT JACK'S HELPING HAND

Jack's Helping Hand was founded by Paul and Bridget Ready in memory of their son Jack, whose three-year struggle with a rare form of brain cancer ended in November 2004. Like all children, Jack played games, interacted with others and learned how to communicate, eat and behave. However, Jack needed special assistance to do those things. Through Jack, the Readys discovered the unique needs of children with disabilities, and learned how to facilitate his physical, emotional and mental growth and development. During the course of Jack's treatments the Readys realized that many families of children with disabilities require assistance to meet their children's special needs. Jack's Helping Hand was created to serve the unmet need within the San Luis Obispo community for an organization to assist special children with physical, mental and medical needs.

WHAT THEY FUND

- Lodging, gas, and meals during medical trips.
- Therapeutic equipment when not covered by insurance.
- Computers.
- Unique needs such as service dogs.

GUIDELINES

Contact Jack's Helping Hand for specific information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website and mail or fax it to the organization.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

KIDDO'S CLUBHOUSE FOUNDATION

11539 PARK WOODS CIR STE 502,
ALPHARETTA, GA 30005

WWW.
KIDDOSCLUBHOUSEFOUNDATION.ORG

FOUNDATION@KIDDOSCLUBHOUSE.COM

678-527-3224

ABOUT KIDDOS CLUBHOUSE FOUNDATION

Kiddos' Clubhouse Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that provides scholarships to families who are not able to pay for therapeutic services for their children with special needs. The organization also provides public education about disabilities and supports other nonprofit organizations associated with children with special needs. Kiddos' Clubhouse Foundation raises funds through corporate and private donations, grants, events, and other fundraising activities.

WHAT THEY FUND

Brett R. DeVore, owner and founder of Kiddos' Clubhouse, created Kiddos Clubhouse Foundation to help relieve some of the financial burden faced by parents of children with special needs. With insurance companies providing limited coverage for critical therapies and government assistance decreasing, he realized that, regardless of income or ability levels, children with special needs were suffering because many families simply could not afford treatment.

GUIDELINES

- Demonstrate the need for funds due to lack of insurance, lack of insurance coverage, lack of other funding sources.
- Be applying for a child under the age of 21.
- Not have received a scholarship from Kiddos' Clubhouse Foundation within the past two (2) years.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go to their website download the application and mail it in or email it in.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

P.O. BOX 1603
COLUMBUS, OH 43216-1603
ODH.OHIO.GOV
BCMH@ODH.OHIO.GOV
800-755-4769

ABOUT OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH — THE BUREAU FOR CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL HANDICAPS

The Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps is a health care program in the Ohio Department of Health. The program links families of children with special health care needs to a network of quality providers and helps families obtain payment for the services their children need. Their mission is to assure, through the development and support of high quality, coordinated systems, that children with special health care needs and their families obtain comprehensive care and services that are family-centered, community-based and culturally sensitive.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps pays for the diagnosis, treatment and ongoing care for children with handicaps.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must be under 21 years of age.
- The individual must be an Ohio resident.
- The individual must be under the care of a bureau-approved doctor.
- The individual must have an eligible medical handicap.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Call 614-466-1700, or visit the website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

VARIETY OF BUFFALO & WESTERN NEW YORK

6114 BROADWAY AVE.,
LANCASTER, NY 14086
WWW.VARIETYBUFFALO.ORG
716-854-7577

ABOUT THE VARIETY OF BUFFALO & WESTERN NY

The Variety of Buffalo & Western NY mission is to transform, uplift, and enrich the lives of children living with illness, disability, and disadvantage in Western New York. Their vision is to be the most trusted and effective children's charity in Western New York.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Children's Rehabilitation Foundation of Variety Club of Buffalo provides grants to Oishei Children's Hospital of Buffalo and dozens of local children's charities that support children who are sick, disabled and disadvantaged throughout WNY. The funds are to be used for programs and equipment, not administrative costs.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines you can visit their website online for a full list.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Variety of Buffalo & Western NY has several on-going programs to benefit children to apply you can go online to visit the Grant Programs tab to contact them.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

VARIETY OF EASTERN TENNESSEE

101 E. BLOUNT AVE.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37920
WWW.VARIETYTN.ORG
CAROL.FUSCO@VARIETYTN.ORG
865-925-9906

ABOUT VARIETY OF EASTERN TENNESSEE

Chapter 81 has raised over $9 million for children in Eastern Tennessee who are underprivileged, at risk or with special needs. Variety has made donations to numerous organizations who serve at risk Working with Carr Rehab, Variety has also provided children with special needs with wheelchairs, walkers, ramps, and special adaptive bikes through our mobility program, Kids on the Go!

WHAT THEY FUND

They are committed to their mission to assist at risk, physically challenged, abused and neglected children. They help raise funds to help provided children with special needs with wheelchairs, walkers, ramps, and special adaptive bikes through our mobility program, Kids on the Go!

GUIDELINES

This program is for children 19 years old and younger and helps local families acquire special needs equipment for children with mobility challenges. They can help with walkers, wheelchairs, specially-designed adaptive bikes, home and vehicular ramps and other types of devices which are beyond the financial means of the family. Variety will contribute up to $3,000.00 yearly per request for eligible candidates.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can download the application online and fill it out and email it to carol.fusco@varietytn.org.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

520 N. SEMORAN BLVD., SUITE 222
ORLANDO, FL 32807
WWW.VARIETYFLORIDA.ORG
407-422-5437

VARIETY OF FLORIDA

ABOUT VARIETY OF FLORIDA

Variety - The Children's Charity of Florida, Inc. is committed to helping children with mobility concerns in Florida. For children with disabilities, this means having the freedom to go where they want to, either on their own or if they need assistance, reducing the impact they make on those helping them. With the advent of many new mobility technologies, this access is becoming available to more and more children. In order to have our mobility program make the biggest impact possible, Variety partners with non-profit organizations that are dedicated to improving the lives of children with mobility issues.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety's Mobility Program provides much-needed assistance to children with mobility concerns. They have three amazing programs developed to assist children in Florida with a variety of needs.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines you can go online to their website.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can contact them on their website for information about how to apply.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

9800 MEDLOCK BRIDGE ROAD,
SUITE 1, JOHNS CREEK, GA 30097
WWW.VARIETYOFGEORGIA.ORG
CHASE@VARIETYOFGEORGIA.ORG
678-994-4210

VARIETY OF GEORGIA

ABOUT VARIETY OF GEORGIA

Variety of Georgia's mission is to enrich, improve and fulfill the lives of children living with disabilities and disadvantages. Their mission is to enrich, improve, and fulfill the lives of children living with disabilities and disadvantages. They hope is that all children of ability or circumstance can actively participate in their community and experience all the joys that come with being a child. Every child deserves the opportunity to live, laugh, and learn.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Variety of Georgia raise the much-needed funds to help children in the state of Georgia. The money raised in our community stays in our community, and our primary goal is to provide support wherever the need is greatest. Their focus is to provide health, wellness, and educational programs to underserved children who are disadvantaged or have special needs.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines you can visit their website and download the guidelines under the get support tab along the top.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can download the application and mail it to their office.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

1001 W 75TH ST. #153
WOODRIDGE, IL 60517
WWW.VARIETYOFILLINOIS.ORG
INFO@VARIETYOFILLINOIS.ORG
312-822-0660

VARIETY OF ILLINOIS

ABOUT VARIETY OF ILLINOIS

The mission of Variety of Illinois is to improve the quality of life for children with disabilities by providing the equipment and experiences needed to reach their highest potential. This is accomplished through programs such as Variety at Play, offering inclusive, accessible activities for the whole family, Kids on the Go that provides mobility equipment not covered by insurance for children with disabilities, and Live to Achieve that encourages participation & excellence in adaptive sports.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety the Children's Charity believes every child deserves access to lead a full, active life. Through an array of programs and fundraising endeavors, Variety of Illinois helps to give children with disabilities the freedom and independence to live life and fulfill their roles in society.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines you can go online an see the guidelines for the different programs available.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go online and under the grants and programs tab you can apply online.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

505 5TH AVE STE 310,
DES MOINES, IA 50309
WWW.VARIETYIOWA.COM
SHERI@VARIETYIOWA.COM
515-243-4660

VARIETY OF IOWA

ABOUT VARIETY OF IOWA

Variety- the Children's Charity of Iowa is dedicated to improving the lives of underprivileged, at-risk and special needs children throughout the state. Since the inception of the Telethon in 1975, Variety has raised more than $113 million to support the children of Iowa. Variety is making a better future for our community by connecting people who care to programs that enable children to reach their full potential. Variety is helping create opportunities for children to fully share in the experiences of life.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety provides funding to non-profit children's organizations for tangible items such as building expansions and renovations, equipment, programming needs and more. Their Kids on the Go! program provides Variety Vans to children's organizations; bikes, helmets and locks to children who have never enjoyed their own bike; and specialized bikes for children with special needs. All children should have the opportunity to experience a playground, which is why Variety is working with Iowa communities to provide all-inclusive playgrounds for children with and without special needs.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines you can download a list online. Or if you have questions you can send an email to sheri@varietyiowa.com.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can download the application online and email it or mail it in.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

VARIETY OF KANSAS CITY

P.O BOX 3446
SHAWNEE, KS 66203
WWW.VARIETYKC.ORG
VARIETYKC@GMAIL.COM
913-558-2309

ABOUT VARIETY OF KANSAS CITY

Variety Children's Charity of Greater Kansas City is a volunteer-driven organization committed to providing children with developmental disabilities the adaptive equipment and opportunities needed for activity and inclusion. At the heart of Variety's achievements are the remarkable contributions of people in the community, and it is only through your time and effort that Variety can do so much for children and families right here at home.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety of Kansas City funds for the gain of mobility and freedom and they help them get out and about in the community. The help achieve independence and increase self-esteem and assist special needs children to integrate into mainstream school and activities.

GUIDELINES

Visit www.varietykc.org for guidelines for the different programs they help.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can download the application online and email to varietykc@gmail.com or you can mail it to their office.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

505 5TH AVE STE 310,
DES MOINES, IA 50309
WWW.VARIETYIOWA.COM
SHERI@VARIETYIOWA.COM
515-243-4660

VARIETY OF IOWA

ABOUT VARIETY OF IOWA

Variety- the Children's Charity of Iowa is dedicated to improving the lives of underprivileged, at-risk and special needs children throughout the state. Since the inception of the Telethon in 1975, Variety has raised more than $113 million to support the children of Iowa. Variety is making a better future for our community by connecting people who care to programs that enable children to reach their full potential. Variety is helping create opportunities for children to fully share in the experiences of life.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety provides funding to non-profit children's organizations for tangible items such as building expansions and renovations, equipment, programming needs and more. Their Kids on the Go! program provides Variety Vans to children's organizations; bikes, helmets and locks to children who have never enjoyed their own bike; and specialized bikes for children with special needs. All children should have the opportunity to experience a playground, which is why Variety is working with Iowa communities to provide all-inclusive playgrounds for children with and without special needs.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines you can download a list online. Or if you have questions you can send an email to sheri@varietyiowa.com.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can download the application online and email it or mail it in.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

VARIETY OF KANSAS CITY

P.O BOX 3446
SHAWNEE, KS 66203
WWW.VARIETYKC.ORG
VARIETYKC@GMAIL.COM
913-558-2309

ABOUT VARIETY OF KANSAS CITY

Variety Children's Charity of Greater Kansas City is a volunteer-driven organization committed to providing children with developmental disabilities the adaptive equipment and opportunities needed for activity and inclusion. At the heart of Variety's achievements are the remarkable contributions of people in the community, and it is only through your time and effort that Variety can do so much for children and families right here at home.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety of Kansas City funds for the gain of mobility and freedom and they help them get out and about in the community. The help achieve independence and increase self-esteem and assist special needs children to integrate into mainstream school and activities.

GUIDELINES

Visit www.varietykc.org for guidelines for the different programs they help.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can download the application online and email to varietykc@gmail.com or you can mail it to their office.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.VARIETYCLUBMEMPHIS.COM

VARIETY OF MEMPHIS

ABOUT VARIETY OF MEMPHIS

To provide life-enriching assistance to Mid-South area children challenged by physical and mental disabilities, poverty, abuse and neglect since 1938. "No person stands taller than one who stoops to help a child."

WHAT THEY FUND

To fund and deliver effective programs that address the needs of all children locally and nationally. Through the provision of imperative, relevant and practical equipment, services and experiences Variety – the Children's Charity and its supporters serve children who may fall through the cracks of government funding or other aid.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines you can visit their website.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can visit their website to fill one out.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

VARIETY OF NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

1705 N ST. NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20036
WWW.VARIETYDC.ORG
VARIETY@NATODC.COM
202-719-9544

ABOUT VARIETY OF NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

Variety the Children's Charity of National Capital Region is committed to helping children in its communities. To improve the quality of life for children with mobility challenges and their families by providing funding for services, equipment and/or recreational experiences for the children. Variety – the Children's Charity of the National Capital Region will focus on children in need in DC, MD, and VA.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety focuses on multiple unmet needs of children who are sick, disadvantaged or live with disabilities and other special needs at a local, national and international level. Our aim is to maximize the real long term positive social impact for all children.

GUIDELINES

If you are seeking assistance, they invite you to download our Grant Proposal Guidelines online.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can download the application online and send it in to variety@natodc.com.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PO BOX 26701
LAS VEGAS, NV 89126
WWW.VARIETYSN.ORG
ADMIN@VARIETYSN.ORG
702-901-3040

VARIETY OF NEVADA

ABOUT VARIETY OF NEVADA

Variety will strive to meet the needs that empower Southern Nevada children who are sick, disadvantaged or have special needs to live, laugh and learn. To maximize real long-term positive impact on the future of all Southern Nevada Children.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety of Nevada funds for different programs and one is the Compassion Care Fund the Compassion Care Fund pays for unmet medical and life necessities for families who have no other way to pay for the needs of their special child.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines you can go online and fill out their contact us section and they will contact you shortly.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can contact them and they will tell you how you can apply.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

55 BROAD ST FL 18,
NEW YORK, NY 10004
WWW.VARIETYNY.ORG
INFO@VARIETYNY.ORG
323-934-4688

VARIETY OF NEW YORK

ABOUT VARIETY OF NEW YORK

Variety – the Children's Charity's purpose is to serve children who are less fortunate – children who live and grow up with a serious illness, disability or disadvantage. These are extra special children who require a special kind of help.

WHAT THEY FUND

To fund and deliver effective programs that address the needs of all children locally, nationally and internationally. Variety focuses on multiple unmet needs of children who are sick, disadvantaged or live with disabilities and other special needs at a local, national and international level. Our aim is to maximize the real, long-term positive social impact for all children.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines you can online to their website or you can call or email with any questions.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go online to their website and under the apply tab you can apply for an individual grant.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

VARIETY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

582 MARKET ST., SUITE 101
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104
WWW.VARIETYNC.ORG
INFO@VARITYNC.ORG
415-781-3894

ABOUT VARIETY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Variety - the Children's Charity of Northern California is dedicated to delivering life-enriching services and needed funds that build better futures for the children of Northern California, from the Oregon state line down to Bakersfield. They proudly served the greater Northern California region since 1947 and have evolved into a leader of programs to support the needs of disabled, critically ill and disadvantaged children without proper access or coverage by insurance, hospital services or government agencies.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety of Northern California fund and deliver effective programs that address the needs of Northern California children. They help kids gain mobility, confidence, freedom, independence and the chance to join in the life of their community by providing funding for families with the most need.

GUIDELINES

You can go online for a specific set of guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can go to their website and under the How We Help tab you can download the application.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

VARIETY OF PHILADELPHIA

1520 LOCUST ST,
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102
WWW.VARIETYPHILA.ORG
215-735-0803

ABOUT VARIETY OF PHILADELPHIA

The Children's Charity of the Delaware Valley has continued its mission to enrich the lives of children and young adults with disabilities through social, educational, and vocational programs that nurture independence and self-confidence, and prepare them for life.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety serves children between birth and age 24 with temporary and/or permanent disabilities resulting from injury, illness, or congenital conditions. They fund for children and young adults with disabilities to help them prepare for life.

GUIDELINES

You can go online and see a list of specific set of guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go online and select which program you are interested in and apply online.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

VARIETY OF PITTSBURGH

11279 PERRY HIGHWAY, SUITE 512
WEXFORD, PA 15090
INFO@VARIETYPITTSBURGH.ORG
724-933-0460

ABOUT VARIETY OF PITTSBURGH

Variety – the Children's Charity (of Pittsburgh) provides children with disabilities with unique programs, experiences, and equipment throughout 56 counties in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Quite simply, Variety strives to enable kids with disabilities to live life to the fullest with a focus on mobility, communication, and social inclusion / interaction.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety believes that no child should be left out, left behind, or isolated, and through its programs / experiences, Variety strives to give children opportunities to discover the possibilities for their own lives, and be a kid, first and foremost.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines for the things they offer, bike or the stroller, you can visit their website and click on the tab you want to learn more information about.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go online and fill out the application under the tab you wish to apply for.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

VARIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

4601 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD SUITE 260 LOS ANGELES, CA 90010
WWW.VARIETYSOCAL.ORG
ELIZABETH@VARIETYSOCAL.ORG
323-655-1547

ABOUT VARIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Variety is dedicated to inspiring hope, enriching lives and building a better future for the children of Southern California. They pride themselves on being able to act nimbly in order to meet the evolving conditions encompassing our region —addressing each case in a timely, impartial manner. We are a 501(c)3 organization.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety of Southern California focuses on three major areas of funding: Healthcare, Education, and Mobility. Within each of these three areas, Variety works hard to make sure that we get the greatest benefit possible from every dollar we receive. Click on the icons below to learn more about each of funding areas.

GUIDELINES

You can download the guidelines on their websites.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can download the application and mail it in.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

11840 WESTLINE INDUSTRIAL DR.
STE. 220 SAINT LOUIS, MO 63146
WWW.VARIETYSTL.ORG
314-720-7700

VARIETY OF ST. LOUIS

ABOUT VARIETY OF ST. LOUIS

Variety the Children's Charity has been a pillar of the St. Louis community, helping local kids with special needs for more than 80 years. They cherish our relationships with corporations, organizations, and individuals that allow us to build on our rich history and continue to be an organization the community can count on to help local kids. Variety has evolved over the years, but the passion we have for kids remains the same.

WHAT THEY FUND

They fund to help local children with disabilities reach their full potential by providing services every time they need assistance. And they provide equipment, therapy, recreation, education and transportation.

GUIDELINES

To get specific guidelines for their programs you can visit their website.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can apply on their website under the Get Help tab.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

5555 NORTH LAMAR BLVD. SUITE K113 AUSTIN, TX 78751
WWW.VARIETYTEXAS.ORG
512-328-5437

VARIETY OF TEXAS

ABOUT VARIETY OF TEXAS

At Variety of Texas, we envision a world without isolation and stigma for children with special needs and their families. Variety of Texas impacts children with special needs and their families by providing resources and empowering experiences.

WHAT THEY FUND

They provide funding for therapy, wheelchairs, walkers, specially designed adaptive bicycles, vehicle modification for wheelchair accessibility, prosthetic limbs, life experiences like throwing out the first pitch at a major league baseball game, or even going to the movies for the first time, we aim to strengthen not only a child's physical abilities, but their confidence as well.

GUIDELINES

- Applicants can apply for assistance through age 21.
- Applicants must live in the state of Texas.
- Applicants must have a diagnosis related to the request.
- Applicants can receive financial assistance no greater than $5,000 per year, with a lifetime maximum of $10,000.
- Applicants do not receive funds directly from Variety. All payments are made to the vendor of the product or service requested.
- Variety does not provide grants for services already rendered or reimbursements for products already ordered.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can visit their website and under the Get Help tab there is a section to apply for assistance.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

42600 COOK STREET, SUITE 131
PALM DESERT, CA 92211
WWW.VARIETYOFTHEDESERT.ORG
VARIETY@VARIETYOFTHEDESERT.ORG
760-773-9800

VARIETY OF THE DESERT

ABOUT VARIETY OF THE DESERT

Variety - the Children's Charity of the Desert is a passionate group of business leaders who donate their time, resources and energy to positively impact the lives of special needs and underserved children throughout the Coachella Valley. Variety of the Desert focuses on multiple unmet needs of children who are sick, disadvantaged or live with disabilities and other special needs in our valley. Their aim is to maximize the real long term positive social impact for all children through these special programs.

WHAT THEY FUND

Variety's Freedom Program delivers vital life-changing equipment and services for mobility, independence and social inclusion to individual children and children's organizations.

GUIDELINES

You can go online and request specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can go online and contact them to apply.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

2121 CELEBRATION DR NE
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49525

VARIETY.ORG/STORIES/VARIETY-OF-WESTERN-MICHIGAN/

VARIETY OF WESTERN MICHIGAN

ABOUT VARIETY OF WESTERN MICHIGAN

Variety – the Children's Charity's purpose is to serve children who are less fortunate – children who live and grow up with a serious illness, disability or disadvantage. These are extra special children who require a special kind of help.

WHAT THEY FUND

To fund and deliver effective programs that address the needs of all children locally and nationally. Through the provision of imperative, relevant and practical equipment, services and experiences Variety – the Children's Charity and its supporters serve children who may fall through the cracks of government funding or other aid.

GUIDELINES

For specific guidelines you can visit their website.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can visit their website to fill one out and submit it.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

12425 KNOLL RD STE 110,
ELM GROVE, WI 53122
WWW.VARIETYWI.ORG
CONTACT@VARIETYWI.ORG
262-777-2090

VARIETY OF WISCONSIN

ABOUT VARIETY OF WISCONSIN

Variety is a multi-faceted organization dedicated to one specific goal: Enriching the lives of children with physical or developmental special needs and their families. Each year, thousands of children in your own community are faced with challenges that no child should have to endure. That's where Variety steps in... to level the playing field! We believe that every child deserves to experience the joys of being a kid!

WHAT THEY FUND

Through their core programs – FREEDOM, DISCOVER, CARE and the Chatter Matters Communication Camp, they sponsor year-round activities, events and opportunities for children in need to pursue a limitless future. These programs improve a child's physical and emotional health & well-being; build confidence & self-esteem; strengthen resilience and create opportunities to build a brighter future for all children.

GUIDELINES

Go online to their website to form information on guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go online to the grants tab and select grants applications and forms to fill out and mail in.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

AUTISM

NATIONAL & STATE FUNDERS

4-A Healing Foundation
ACT Today
ACT Today for Military Families
ACT Today SOS
Ady's Army
Aid for Autistic Children Foundation
AMRIT Foundation
ASDF Holiday Gift Card
ASDF Social Skills Camp
Autism Cares Foundation
Autism Cares – Crisis and Hardship
Autism Escapes
Autism Family Resources
Autism Help Network
Autism Hope Alliance
Autism Now State Support Grants
Autism on the Seas
Autism Speaks
Autism Spectrum Disorder Foundation
Autism Support Daily
Blooming with Autism
Bright Steps Forward
Bridge the Gap
The Canyon Rice Hope Scholarship
Chrysalis Fund
Courage to Grow Scholarship
The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation
Danny's Wish
The Doug Flutie Foundation for Autism
Friends of Autism
Generation Rescue
The Golden Fund for Autism
Good Charity Fund
Gracie's Pridemore— Hyperbarics
HollyRod Foundation
Ipad Apps and Funding
ISSAC Foundation
Itaalk
Jack's Place for Autism Foundation
My Challenged Gym America
My Goal
NAA Family Fund
NAA Helping Hand Project
NAA Give a Voice Project
National Autism Association
Pervis Jackson Jr. Autism Foundation
Small Steps in Speech
Special Kids Therapy
Swallie Family Scholarship
TACA Family Scholarships Program
Thinking Mom's Revolution
Varghese Summersett PLLC Annual Scholarship

4-A HEALING FOUNDATION

1325 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, SUITE 2800 NEW YORK, NY 10019
WWW.4AHEALINGFOUNDATION.ORG
212-763-8688

ABOUT 4-A HEALING FOUNDATION

The 4-A Healing Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) public charity that assists families with financial needs who have children affected by Autism, ADHD, Asthma and Allergies collectively known as the 4-A Disorders. Grants provided to families are used solely to find and pursue appropriate biomedical treatment.

WHAT THEY FUND

4-A Healing Foundation understands the financial burden that a family may incur when a child is diagnosed with a 4-A disorder. The 4-A Healing Foundation can provide financial assistance for children that require biomedical treatment, as well as informational resources that may assist you as you begin the healing process and road to recovery.

GUIDELINES

- For information about their guidelines you can call 4-A Healing Foundation.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application is available online.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

6330 VARIEL AVENUE, SUITE 102
WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91367
WWW.ACT-TODAY.ORG
INFO@ACT-TODAY.ORG
877-922-8863

ACT TODAY!

ABOUT ACT TODAY

ACT Today! stands for Autism Care and Treatment Today! ACT Today! is a national nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to raise awareness and provide treatment services and support to families to help their children with autism achieve their full potential. Its goal is to introduce and help facilitate early and on-going treatment by providing the necessary resources (including referrals, funding and guidance) to individuals with autism and their families.

WHAT THEY FUND

The mission of ACT Today! is to fund effective treatments, assessments and needed life supports.

GUIDELINES

- The individual must have an immediate need for treatment/support, and if treatment is not found, the individual's physical safety is in jeopardy.
- The income level of the individual's family must be below $45,000 a year.
- The individual may not have received support from ACT Today within the past 12 months of applying.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact ACT Today for specific information. Their application is online.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ACT TODAY FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

6330 VARIEL AVENUE, SUITE 102
WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91367
WWW.ACT-TODAY.ORG
INFO@ACT-TODAY.ORG
877-922-8863

ABOUT ACT TODAY FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

Autism Care Today is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to raise awareness and provide treatment services to families that cannot afford the treatments and services their children require. Recognizing the extraordinary challenges military families experience. Autism Care Today for Military Families was created and is a dedicated fund to assist military families impacted by autism.

WHAT THEY FUND

Autism Care Today for Military Families works to improve awareness and delivery of effective autism services and provides financial assistance to military families to help defray out-of-pocket costs associated with autism treatments and other quality of life programs.

GUIDELINES

- Please use this checklist to help make sure your application is filled out correctly and completely when applying for an Autism Care Today grant. Please contact grants@act-today.org if you have questions.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Apply online on their website

https://www.act-today.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Grant-Application-Checklist.pdf

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ACT TODAY – AUTISM CARE TODAY SOS!

6330 VARIEL AVENUE, SUITE 102
WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91367
WWW.ACT-TODAY.ORG
INFO@ACT-TODAY.ORG
877-922-8863

ABOUT ACT TODAY-AUTISM CARE TODAY SOS

Autism Care Today SOS is a program dedicated to supporting the immediate and imperative needs of those impacted with autism. Applicant must have an immediate need for treatment/support and if treatment is not found, the applicant's physical safety is in jeopardy.

WHAT THEY FUND

Autism Care Today SOS Program will fund effective treatments and services to treat autism spectrum disorders and cannot fund living expenses, travel, utilities or clothing.

GUIDELINES

- Applicant must have an immediate need for treatment/support and if treatment is not found, the applicant's physical safety is in jeopardy
- Autism Care Today SOS Program will fund effective treatments and services to treat autism spectrum disorders and cannot fund living expenses, travel, utilities or clothing
- Income level of the applicant's family must be below $45,000/year
- Applicant may not have received support from Autism Care Today within the past 12 months of applying

APPLICATION PROCESS

Email SOSProgram@act-today.org for specific details. Autism Care Today will respond to your email within 2 weeks either requesting more information or stating whether your request will move to the formal application stage. Should your request move to the formal application stage, you will be emailed an Autism Care Today application. Once the application is received, a final decision and notification with regards to your request will be made within 2 weeks.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.ADYSARMY.ORG
205-824-1255

ADY'S ARMY

ABOUT ADY'S ARMY

Ady's Army is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Ady's Army focuses on hands-on assistance to families. Ady's Barracks provides yard fences and peace of mind to parents with little wanderers, Ady's Wings enables families to travel to the most appropriate medical attention, Ady's Paws supplies service dogs to special needs children, and Ady's Racers creates a fun, stress-free safe space for autism families to authentically enjoy themselves and each other.

WHAT THEY FUND

Ady's Army helps to fund featured families to provide different things they my need. For instance, they are raising money for a fence so a little girl can play safely in her back yard. Another thing they raise funds for is to raise money for children to get animals.

GUIDELINES

- More information is available online for qualifications.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go online and under the organization tab there is a contact us section. You can fill that out and they will get back to you shortly to give you more information.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

AID FOR AUTISTIC CHILDREN FOUNDATION

C/O ADMINISTRATION BOX 141
MACON, GA 31202
WWW.AACF.ORG
ADMIN@AACFINC.ORG
478-471-4941

ABOUT AID FOR AUTISTIC CHILDREN FOUNDATION, INC.

Aid for Autistic Children Foundation, Inc. was founded by musician and author Michael Buckholtz, who was diagnosed with high-functioning Asperger's Syndrome and OCD. He and his family experienced the financial disaster of coping with autism. In 1992 the family found, through much investigation, that Michael, his brothers and father, all had varying levels of autism. It wasn't until Michael's nephew was recently diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome that he decided to create a nonprofit dedicated to assisting families financially.

WHAT THEY FUND

Autistic Children Foundation, Inc. helps reduce the financial burden on poverty- stricken and disenfranchised families and caretakers coping with autism through debt forgiveness, so attention and resources can be focused on creating a proper living and learning environment for their autistic loved one.

GUIDELINES

- Visit the website for specific guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the application on the website and mail it with all documentation to the organization.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

AMRIT FOUNDATION

815 FOURTH STREET
MIAMI BEACH, FL 33139
AMRITFOUNDATION.ORG
INFO@ACT-TODAY.ORG
305-672-6734

ABOUT AMRIT (VITALITY WELLNESS FOUNDATION)

The Vitality Wellness Foundation d/b/a AMRIT Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization, that operates with the help of charitable donations from private individuals and corporations. The Vitality Wellness Foundation d/b/a AMRIT Foundation was created by Andrew Levinson, MD, a world renowned expert in biomedical interventions, detoxification and alternative therapies.

AMRIT stands for Alternative Medical Resources and Integrative Therapies and in Sanskrit means “nectar from heaven”. The Foundation’s mission is to bring healing through “AMRIT” to those who would otherwise be unable to access therapies due to financial hardship. Because most non-traditional medical interventions are not covered by insurance and those with significant chronic ailments have depleted their families savings getting therapy and medical care, we have made it our mission to create a life-stream to bridge the gap for those in need.

WHAT THEY FUND

We offer need-based grants to individuals up to $5000 to help pursue biomedical interventions for children affected with Autism and related disorders.

GUIDELINES

- Must complete application to check eligibility requirements

APPLICATION PROCESS

Families interested in applying for grants from the foundation should email and request a grant application.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it’s a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ASDF HOLIDAY GIFT CARD PROGRAM

228 W. LINCOLN HIGHWAY 301
SCHERERVILLE, IN 46375
WWW.MYASDF.ORG
MYASDF@YAHOO.COM
877-806-0635

ABOUT ANGEL AUTISM NETWORK

ASDF programs are developed to make sure that support goes directly to the families dealing with the everyday challenges and financial difficulties that come with raising an autistic child.

WHAT THEY FUND

Through the ASDF's Holiday Gift Card Program, they provide families across the country with $100 gift cards for the holidays. ASDF partners with autism organizations across the country that help in selecting and distributing to the families who have the greatest need for financial assistance.

GUIDELINES

- They offer help for families who have a child on the autism spectrum. For more information go online to www.myasdf.org.

APPLICATION PROCESS

If interested, you can email ASDF.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ASDF SOCIAL SKILLS CAMP

228 W. LINCOLN HIGHWAY 301
SCHERERVILLE, IN 46375
WWW.MYASDF.ORG
MYASDF@YAHOO.COM
877-806-0635

ABOUT ASDF SOCIAL SKILLS CAMP

ASDF partners with autism organizations around the country that offer social skills summer camps. By participating in engaging and educational programs with others on the spectrum, an individual with autism can receive a lot of benefits – such as better interaction with their peers and increased activity participation.

WHAT THEY FUND

ASDF partners with autism organizations around the country that offer social skills summer camps. ASDF provides partial and full scholarships to those families who need financial assistance to send their children to camp.

GUIDELINES

- They offer help for families who have a child on the autism spectrum.
- For more specific guidelines please go online to www.myasdf.org.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To put an application in you can go online or send them an email.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.AUTISMCARESFOUNDATION.ORG

215- 559-CARE

AUTISM CARES FOUNDATION

ABOUT AUTISM CARES FOUNDATION

The Autism Cares Foundation (ACF) was founded by the parents of a child with autism and other concerned parents, professionals and friends. The foundation was started as a means of helping others through the “puzzle” that is autism. At virtually every level, there are “twists and turns” in one’s attempt to reach the answers that many parents are seeking. As the founders discovered with their own child, answers are few, frustrations are many, and there are few places to turn to for answers.

It is the intention of the Autism Cares Foundation to assist in “unwinding” the twists and turns associated with navigating the system surrounding autism.

WHAT THEY FUND

Our mission has been to provide education for the implementation of technology into the daily lives of people with autism to enhance learning, life skill independence and communication.

GUIDELINES

- Contact organization for specific details.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete and submit form on the “Technology Center” drop down menu on our website.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it’s a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

AUTISMCARES@AUTISMSPEAKS.ORG
888-288-4762

AUTISM CARES — CRISIS AND HARDSHIP

ABOUT AUTISM CARES

Autism Cares is a one-time grant that helps cover costs associated with critical living expenses on a case-by-case basis. The program pays bills directly to the vendor and does not provide checks for individuals or families.

WHAT THEY FUND

AutismCares is an Autism Speaks grant program that provides financial support awards of up to $1,000 for individuals with autism and their families during times of crisis or unplanned hardship. To receive an AutismCares award you or your family must have experienced a qualifying event within the previous 90 days. Qualifying events are:

- Natural disaster: fire, flood, hurricane, tornado, severe storm or earthquake.
- Death or critical illness in the immediate nuclear family.
- Victim of abuse or a violent crime.
- Loss of home through foreclosure, eviction or natural disaster.
- Termination of employment for the primary income-earner within previous 90 days.
- Examples include: car payments, rent/mortgage, home repair, utility bills, childcare and funeral costs. They do NOT fund food, clothing, toys, furniture, technology devices or bills to local stores.

GUIDELINES

Financial support awards are granted on a monthly basis. Applications must be submitted by the 22nd of each month to be considered for a grant in that month. Applications received after the 22nd will be reviewed the following month.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Each individual or family member must complete online application.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

266 KING GEORGE RD.
WARREN, NJ 07069
WWW.AUTISMESCAPES.ORG
732-667-7781

AUTISM ESCAPES

ABOUT AUTISM ESCAPES

Many individuals affected by autism have co-morbid medical problems, such as seizures and gastrointestinal disorders. There are a limited number of physicians and centers nationwide that have the experience and expertise in treating autism and often-related medical complexities. Many of the behavioral problems associated with autism render commercial air travel difficult, if not impossible, for many affected individuals. Our organization depends on donations from individuals, grants from foundations, fund raising activities and donations of private jet hours from individual aircraft owners and corporations. In addition, ground transportation companies, hotel and other travel providers will be supporting this organization.

WHAT THEY FUND

Autism Escapes will serve as an Angel Network for families of children with autism. Its primary purpose is to arrange air travel on private jets for families in need of medical care for their children.

GUIDELINES

- Your child must have autism/ autism spectrum disorder (ASD).
- Your child must have a coexisting medical disorder (i.e., seizures/ gastrointestinal disorder).

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Download and complete the application from the website.
- Send the completed application to address above.
- Have your 2 referral letters (see below) sent to address as well.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.AUTISMRESOURCESFOR FAMILIES.COM

INFO@AUTISMFAMILYRESOURCES.COM

AUTISM FAMILY RESOURCES

ABOUT AUTISM FAMILY RESOURCES

Autism Family Resources is dedicated to provide online sources of information about autism and different funding sites for families and children. This resource is a place to access different resources on the internet all on one site. They provide lists of books, magazines, websites and other products that can help people and children with autism.

WHAT THEY FUND

They offer a free website service to provide information to families with children that have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

GUIDELINES

- For more information go online to see specific guidelines for different grants and scholarships listed.

APPLICATION PROCESS

See website for details.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 1525
FAIRFIELD, CT 06824
WWW.AUTISMSUPPORTNETWORK.COM
INFO@AUTISMSUPPORTNETWORK.COM
203-404-4929

AUTISM HELP NETWORK

ABOUT AUTISM HELP NETWORK

Their goal is to short-cut the uphill battle individuals and families undertake when faced with autism – whether that means the initial diagnosis, the day-to-day living and coping needed, relationship and therapeutic strategies and the latest information.

Their support community, which is free for anyone to join, is intended to further reduce the need to "reinvent the wheel" and collectively pool global knowledge and support from all those touched by ASD wherever they might live.

We all experience frustration and can feel isolation in our journeys with ASD. The Autism Support Network is designed as a place by those living with ASD for those with ASD and those seeking social connection, peer guidance and a feeling of community with those that understand.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Autism Support Network connects families and individuals touched by ASD with each other, provides support and insight, and acts as a resource guide for education, treatments, strategies and therapies for autism.

GUIDELINES

- The Autism Support Network offers a free service for anyone who has been touched by ASD. They offer support for individuals and their families.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To join their free support community, you can go online to join.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

660 CHARLOTTE STREET #5
PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA 33950
WWW.AUTISMHOPEALLIANCE.ORG
INFO@AUTISMHOPEALLIANCE.ORG
800-891-9077

AUTISM HOPE ALLIANCE

ABOUT AUTISM HOPE ALLIANCE

The Autism Hope Alliance embodies hope for families facing the diagnosis of Autism through education, financial support and volunteerism. The Autism Hope Alliance is the first non-profit foundation for Autism to emerge from the natural foods industry.

WHAT THEY FUND

Autism Hope alliance has donated to help support other non-profits over $500k, which has helped over 3,000 families nationwide.

Produced “Special Foods for Special Needs”, an instructional DVD to educate parents on shopping in a health food market.

To date, the Autism Hope Alliance has helped give education resources and spread HOPE to over 55,000 families through the lectures they have given, and the conference attended.

GUIDELINES

- A partnership program that we developed to raise dollars, bring awareness, create standards and ensure companies do their due diligence by being socially responsible to our community.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply go online and click the Gift Of Hope tab that has an application that can be filled out.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it’s a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

AUTISM NOW STATE SUPPORT GRANTS

WWW.AUTISMNOW.ORG
INFO@AUTISMNOW.ORG
855-828-8476

ABOUT AUTISM NOW STATE SUPPORT GRANTS

Many states offer family support grants or cash subsidies to offset these expenses. Depending on the state, after establishing eligibility for this assistance, families might receive monthly cash benefits or one-off grants for specific needs.

WHAT THEY FUND

The states listed aid families supporting children with developmental disability. You can discover what kinds of family support grant or cash subsidy is available for your state from the list on the website.

GUIDELINES

- Guidelines for eligibility may change state to state. All guidelines are listed under each state.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go online and click on your state and fill out the application. If your state is not listed, try contacting your local developmental disabilities organization and ask what types of financial supports are available.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.AUTISMONTHESEAS.COM
INFO@AUTISMONTHESEAS.COM
800 516-5247

AUTISM ON THE SEAS

ABOUT AUTISM ON THE SEAS

Autism on the Seas, an international organization, has been in collaboration with Royal Caribbean International since 2007 in developing cruise vacation services to accommodate adults and families living with children with Special Needs, including, but not limited to, Autism, Asperger Syndrome, Down Syndrome, Tourette Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and all Cognitive, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. These services quickly expanded to other cruise lines. Our Staffed Cruises continue to meet and exceed our guests' expectations.

WHAT THEY FUND

These Grants are fund accounts set-up by families and/or organizations that are used to Sponsor Families on an Autism on the Seas Professionally Staffed Cruise.

GUIDELINES

- Anyone can go on the cruise. For more specific guidelines you can go online to www.autismontheseas.com.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Autism on the Seas for specific information and can book a cruise online.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.AUTISMSPEAKS.ORG
FAMILYSERVICES@AUTISMSPEAKS.ORG
888-288-4762

AUTISM SPEAKS

ABOUT AUTISM SPEAKS

Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions, across the spectrum and throughout the lifespan, for the needs of individuals with autism and their families through advocacy and support; increasing understanding and acceptance of people with autism spectrum disorder; and advancing research into causes and better interventions for autism spectrum disorder and related conditions. Autism Speaks is dedicated to advancing research into causes and better treatments for autism spectrum disorders and related conditions both through direct funding and collaboration.

WHAT THEY FUND

Autism Speaks funds research and services. Our science funding seeks to be a catalyst for research breakthroughs that improve lives today and deliver a spectrum of solutions in the years ahead. Our funding to service providers focuses on programs that provide people with autism with social and educational experiences. We also provided limited funding for individuals and families in financial need due to a catastrophic life event or natural disaster.

GUIDELINES

- For specific guidelines for your location go to their website for more information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply go online for more information for your location.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER FOUNDATION

228 W. LINCOLN HIGHWAY 301
SCHERERVILLE, IN 46375
WWW.MYASDF.ORG
MYASDF@YAHOO.COM
877-806-0635

ABOUT AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER FOUNDATION

The foundation educates the public about autism; provides families with tools and educational materials to assist in the early detection of autism as well as tools to treat children suffering from autism; and provides families of people suffering from autism with information on programs available to assist them. The foundation provides financial assistance to the families and relevant community service organizations that help people suffering from autism.

WHAT THEY FUND

They provided funding for programs that benefit an autistic child's specific needs, ASDF lets families know they are not alone in their efforts and gives them hope for the future.

GUIDELINES

- They offer help for families that my need some financial support for programs or treatments. For more information contact Autism Spectrum Disorder Foundation.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for a program, you can send an email to myasdf@yahoo.com

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

600 BLAIR PARK ROAD, SUITE 240
WILLISTON, VT 05495
WWW.AUTISMSUPPORTDAILY.COM
INFO@AUTISMSUPPORTDAILY.COM
802-985-8773

AUTISM SUPPORT DAILY

ABOUT AUTISM SUPPORT DAILY

Autism Support Daily is a 501-C3 non-profit, charitable organization. Autism Support Daily provides guidance, support, informational resources and family-oriented activities, financial assistance for medical, educational or professional services, treatments or programs, building a heightened public awareness.

WHAT THEY FUND

Autism Support Daily provides funds for financial assistance, support, guidance, recreational activities and educational training to families and friends of children and young adults with autism spectrum disorder.

GUIDELINES

- Children and young adults with autism spectrum disorder and living in the state of Vermont.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply email info@autismsupportdaily.com

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

BLOOMING WITH AUTISM

125 S STATE RD 7 SUITE 104 | #213
WELLINGTON, FL 33414
WWW.BLOOMINGWITHAUTISM.ORG
BLOOMINGWITHAUTISM@GMAIL.COM
561-251-3964

ABOUT BLOOMING WITH AUTISM

They want to ensure that all families have the tools available to them so that Every Child or Adult Can Bloom! Their vision is to provide iPads to individuals with autism that otherwise cannot afford them; in order to help them become independent adults.

WHAT THEY FUND

They want to be able to help give individuals with autism iPads that cannot afford them in order to help them become independent adults.

GUIDELINES

- The family income cut off is $60,000 per child, peer application.
- Most recent tax returns.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply mail the application to their office.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

BRIGHT STEPS FORWARD

4026 N. OCEAN BOULEVARD
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33308
WWW.BRIGHTSTEPSFORWARD.ORG
954-491-6611

ABOUT BRIGHT STEPS FORWARD

Bright Steps Forward is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides funding for intensive pediatric therapy to financially disadvantaged children, who have neurological disorders such as AUTISM, cerebral palsy, disabilities of prematurity, and other congenital or acquired conditions that affect their physical functioning.

WHAT THEY FUND

Intensive pediatric therapy uses state-of-the-art therapy techniques, such as the suit therapy method and hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

GUIDELINES

- Bright Steps Forward accepts grant from individuals, regardless of their geographic location, race, gender or sexual orientation.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the registration form on the website and follow the guidelines.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PO BOX 401
BONDUEL, WI 54107
WWW.BRIDGETHEGAPWI.ORG

BRIDGE THE GAP

ABOUT BRIDGE THE GAP, INC.

Bridge the Gap, Inc. is a resource for families who are coping with an autism spectrum disorder while waiting for state funding, implementing uncovered treatment protocols or in immediate crisis directly related an autism spectrum disorder. The organization's purpose is to decrease financially related stress, increase understanding and strengthen familial ties through education and public awareness of autism and autism spectrum disorders.

WHAT THEY FUND

Bridge the Gap, Inc. funds for therapeutic devices and items that benefit a person with an autism spectrum disorder.

GUIDELINES

- Individuals having or directly supporting a person with an autism spectrum disorder will be eligible for grant consideration.
- Shawano County residents will be given first considerations for available funds.
- Leftover funding will be allotted to individuals residing in other counties in Wisconsin (based on available funds that can be awarded)
- The individual must be a Wisconsin resident to apply.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All grant requests must be mailed to the organization. Visit the website for when grants will be accepted.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

THE CANYON RICE HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

WWW.
AUTISMSUPPORTNETWORK.COM
JENNY_L_RICE@YAHOO.COM

ABOUT THE CANYON RICE HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

The Canyon Rice Hope Scholarship provides grants to children with autism and other developmental disabilities for therapeutic tools, camp fees and other expenses not covered by insurance. There are two main types of grants currently available: grants for caregiver supports (respite) and grants for therapeutic items (bean bags, body socks, weighted vests, etc).

WHAT THEY FUND

The Canyon Rice Hope Scholarship provides grants to children with autism and other developmental disabilities for therapeutic tools. Grants are usually in the $100 to $250 range to help as many children as possible.

GUIDELINES

- Children with developmental disabilities that are under the age of 22 apply. For more information you can contact Jenny Rice.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply email Jenny Rice at JENNY_L_RICE@yahoo.com.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

3495 PIEDMONT ROAD NE
SUITE 130
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30305
WWW.CHRYSALISFUND.ORG
INFO@CHRYSALISFUND.ORG

CHRYSALIS FUND

ABOUT CHRYSALIS FUND

Since 2016, their U.S. based, registered 501(c) (3) charitable organization has been dedicated to enhancing childhood development through limited educational grants focused in three strategic areas: special needs children, inner-city public schools and impoverished foreign nations.

WHAT THEY FUND

Chrysalis Fund is to help children with autism and other intellectual developmental disabilities reach their fullest academic potential.

GUIDELINES

- Special needs children
- Inner-city public schools
- Impoverished foreign nations

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply go email them at info@chrysalisfund.org.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

COURAGE TO GROW SCHOLARSHIP

PO BOX 2507,
CHELAN, WA 98816

WWW.COURAGETOGROWSCHOLARSHIP.COM

SUPPORT@COURAGETOGROWSCHOLARSHIP.COM

509-731-3056

ABOUT COURAGE TO GROW SCHOLARSHIP

The Courage to Grow Scholarship was designed to assist future college students to realize their educational dreams and aspirations. The program believes that obtaining a college degree takes much courage and determination. They realize that many students give up due to financial constraints and other factors that make forgoing a college education much more appealing.

WHAT THEY FUND

Courage to Grow Scholarship helps to give student to attend a secondary education to make their dreams come true.

GUIDELINES

- Must be a junior or senior in high school
- Have a minimum GPA of 2.5
- U.S. citizen

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for the Courage to Grow Scholarship applicants must go to their website and fill out the application.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

THE DANIEL JORDAN FIDDLE FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 1149
RIDGEWOOD, NJ 07451
WWW.DJFIDDLEFOUNDATION.ORG
LINDA@DJFIDDLEFOUNDATION.ORG
877-444-1149

ABOUT THE DANIEL JORDAN FIDDLE FOUNDATION

The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation (DJF) is a national all-volunteer-run 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that focuses exclusively on adults with autism-spectrum disorder. The DJF mission is to develop, advocate for and support programs through grant awards that enrich the lives of adolescents and adults with autism.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation's visionary leadership in adult autism assures that there will be a global focus on cutting edge program development, research, family support, vital resources and public policy for decades to come. Each endowment fund is focused on a specific area of adult autism and is led by outstanding researchers and professionals working in the field.

GUIDELINES

Young adults that are disabled, general or disability unspecified. Go online for more information about guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you email linda@djfiddlefoundation.org or go online and fill out the contact us section.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

321 EVANS AVENUE
ELMONT, NY 11033
WWW.DANNYSWISH.ORG
DANNYSWISH2018@AOL.COM
516-437-1719

DANNY'S WISH – IPADS

ABOUT DANNY'S WISH

The mission of Danny's Wish is to provide life enhancing resources to families of children with autism and autism related spectrum disorders.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Danny's Wish iPads for Autism Campaign provides free iPads to families of nonverbal children with Autism. Through the efforts and support of friends and family like you, Danny's Wish has already provided thousands and thousands of iPads to children, providing the gift of speech and communication.

GUIDELINES

- The individual you are applying for must have a diagnosis on the autism spectrum.
- Reside in the United States of America.
- Be minimally verbal or non-verbal.
- Be in financial need. Proof is required. Gross income not to exceed $75,000.
- Have access to a computer and an iTunes account.
- Documentation must be supplied showing that each of the requirements above have been met.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can print off a copy of the application on the website and mail it to the organization.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

THE DOUG FLUTIE FOUNDATION FOR AUTISM

615 CONCORD ST,
FRAMINGHAM, MA 01702
WWW.FLUTIEFOUNDATION.ORG
508-270-8855

ABOUT THE DOUG FLUTIE FOUNDATION FOR AUTISM

The Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) public charity and is audited annually. The goal of the Flutie Foundation is to help families affected by autism live life to the fullest. Through their programs and partnerships, they help people with autism get access to care; lead more active lifestyles; and grow toward adult independence.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Foundation awards grants on an annual basis to nonprofit organizations that provide direct services, family support grants, education, advocacy and recreational opportunities for individuals with autism. They fund organizations that provide opportunities to individuals and families living with autism to get access to services, lead active lifestyles and grow toward adult independence. They provide direct family support both financially and as a resource for local service providers. Advocating for greater acceptance and awareness of autism spectrum disorder.

GUIDELINES

There are different guidelines for the programs you can apply for. They each give you a list online of what you need to qualify.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go online and look through the grants the offer and apply to one that fits your needs.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 797
NEENAH, WISCONSIN 54957-0797
INFO@FRIENDSOFAUTISM.ORG
920-851-5100

FRIENDS OF AUTISM

ABOUT FRIENDS OF AUTISM

Friends of Autism is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2000 by John and Karen Sauer, parents of a child with autism, and friends who passionately believe children with autism deserve to be a public health priority. That is why we are called “Friends” of Autism. We are committed to autism research, awareness, and education.

WHAT THEY FUND

FOAGP grants are intended to be short term and specifically targeted to a family’s immediate needs resulting from, or attributable to, autism. FOAGP grants range from $1 to $500. Five hundred dollars is the maximum any individual or family can receive in a calendar year.

GUIDELINES

The Friends of Autism Grant Program (FOAGP) is designed to support families of children and adults with autism or autism spectrum disorder by providing funding assistance for extraordinary expenses resulting from, or attributable to, autism. Financial needs associated with the safety and well-being of children with autism and proven effective treatments for autism spectrum disorder receive special emphasis in the FOAGP.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Grant Applications can be submitted by email at info@friendsofautism.org or by regular mail addressed to the address above. Please include all information you want the Board of Directors to consider. Use additional sheets of paper if necessary. Feel free to submit documents supporting the need for the grant and the intended uses of the grant funds. You will be contacted at the address, phone number, or email on your application

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it’s a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

13636 VENTURA BLVD. #259
SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91423
WWW.GENERATIONRESCUE.ORG
877-98-AUTISM

GENERATION RESCUE

ABOUT GENERATION RESCUE – HOPE FOR RECOVERY

We are dedicated to recovery for children with autism spectrum disorders by providing guidance and support for medical treatment to directly improve the child's quality of life for all families in need.

WHAT THEY FUND

Two doctor visits with a medical physician specially trained in treating autism (Please note: your specialist will be assigned by Generation Rescue based on availability and geographic proximity. Some travel may be necessary.)

- A 90-day supply of vitamins, minerals and supplements.
- Comprehensive Stool Analysis Lab Test.
- Urine Porphyrins Lab Test
- The Listening Program®.
- Dietary Intervention Training.
- A Rescue Angel Grant Mentor.
- Discounts on supplements and programs after completion of the grant.

GUIDELINES

If you answer "NO" to all of the following questions, you meet the qualification parameters to apply for a Rescue Family Grant:

- Has your child ever seen a DAN! or MAPS Doctor?
- Has your child received lab testing from Great Plains, Doctors Data or Metametrix?
- Is your child currently on anti-fungal or anti-viral therapy?
- Is your child currently taking any supplements (other than fish oil)?
- Does your family make more than the median income for your state? Refer to United States Census Bureau

APPLICATION PROCESS

See website for details.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

THE GOLDEN FUND FOR AUTISM

19 WHALING AVE,
COLD SPRING HARBOR, NY 11724
WWW.GOLDENFUNDAUTISM.ORG
ADMIN@GOLDENFUNDAUTISM.ORG
516-864-9324

ABOUT THE GOLDEN FUND FOR AUTISM

The Golden Fund for Autism is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization dedicated to raising funds for children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families. The Golden Fund for Autism is committed to helping children who are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders who live in the Long Island New York area, access various treatments and therapies not otherwise covered by insurance. They provide assistance to children with autism who meet the qualifications by working in conjunction with local doctors and treatment facilities.

WHAT THEY FUND

They fund for children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families in order to assist them in obtaining various health, wellness and therapeutic treatments not otherwise covered by health insurance or by other financial means.

GUIDELINES

- For more information go online to www.goldenfundautism.org

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can contact The Golden Fund for Autism to see how to apply.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

20750 CIVIC CENTER DR, STE 180
SOUTHFIELD, MI 48076
WWW.GOODCHARITYFUND.ORG
INFO@GOODCHARITYFUND.ORG
888-551-9336

GOOD CHARITY FUND

ABOUT GOOD CHARITY FUND

Good Charity manages nine separate and unique charitable relief funds. Each is dedicated to serving individuals, families and institutions that only find funding through private philanthropy. Good Charity starts where other charities leave off, facilitating amazing accomplishments of humanity by empowering champions on the ground level who rely on funding as the lifeblood of their programs.

WHAT THEY FUND

Good Charity Inc. serves a very specific need of support for thousands of non-profits, individuals, families and institutions. Many organizations are small and rely completely on volunteers for whatever funding they can generate in their immediate circles. They raise funds for disaster relief, project home base and help a child.

GUIDELINES

- For information about Good Charity Fund Guidelines you can email them at info@goodcharityfund.org.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To Apply you can go to the website and on the right hand side of the web page there is something you can fill out to send in as an application.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

GRACIE'S PRIDEMORE – HYPERBARICS

19015 RUFFNER DRIVE
CORNELIUS, NC 28031

WWW.GRACIEPRIDMORE FOUNDATION.ORG

GRACIEPRIDMORE FOUNDATION@GMAIL.COM

704-975-3658

ABOUT GRACIE'S PRIDEMORE

Gracie's Pridemore is a non-profit organization with a 501 (c) (3) statues. Gracie's Pridemore is committed to help improve the lives of children with special needs. They help provide funding for therapies such as, but not limited to PT, OT, Speech, Chelation, and Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy. They also help provide needed equipment and assist families in finding respite care and other needed services. It all started with one family looking for hope. It was Gracie's hope and the Pridmore family that started one of the very few non-profit healing centers in the world. Groundbreaking research and clinical trails are now showing that Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy is not only a simple and non-invasive treatment, but it has the potential to help millions of Americans who suffer from brain injury and/or disease.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Gracie Pridmore Foundation is a non-profit foundation that provides grants and subsidies to special needs and/or seriously ill children and adults especially involving the Hyperbaric therapy. For more information about Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy you can visit www.hboinfo.com.

GUIDELINES

- For more information about guidelines email or visit Gracie's Hope online.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go to their website and click on the application tab and fill it out there or print it off to mail in.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

2934 1/2 N. BEVERLY GLEN CIRCLE
LOS ANGELES, CA 90077
WWW.HOLLYROD.ORG
HELLO@HOLLYROD.ORG
310-858-9630

HOLLYROD FOUNDATION

ABOUT HOLLYROD FOUNDATION

The HollyRod foundation provides compassionate care to those living with autism and Parkinson's disease. They seek to fill an unmet need by providing compassionate care and services to underserved individuals and families that are burdened financially and emotionally by a diagnosis. They strive to help individuals live the best life possible. HollyRod's mission expanded to provide resources to families affected by an autism diagnosis.

WHAT THEY FUND

The HollyRod foundation provides funding for those living with autism and Parkinson's disease. They seek to fill an unmet need by providing compassionate care and services to underserved individuals and families that are burdened financially and emotionally by a diagnosis.

GUIDELINES

- For information on the guidelines to apply contact HollyRod Foundation by email to hello@hollyrod.org

APPLICATION PROCESS

If you want to send in an application you can go online and go to the contact us tab and fill out the form online.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.DISABLED-WORLD.COM

IPAD APPS AND FUNDING

ABOUT IPAD APPS AND FUNDING

The iPod and iPad are two forms of technology that are helping students to reach for their academic goals, yet for some schools and students, availability of these items is limited. Grants through nonprofit organizations and other sources help to decrease this lack of availability. Organizations that promote the use of iPads in the classroom and aid desire to improve the educational opportunities available to students. These organizations desire to increase the quality of education students receive, as well as to facilitate students, teachers, and schools to provide education regarding technologies used in the world today. They want to ensure that students receive iPad grants for the classroom.

WHAT THEY FUND

One of the best ways to find a grant for an iPad or iPod is not to seek a grant to buy them specifically, but instead look for grants that assist with similar needs. The offer a way to look for grants that offer iPads, apps and funding.

GUIDELINES

- For more information you can go online.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for some grants you can go to their website and look for the ones that best fit your needs.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

28 W. THIRD AVE.
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON 99201
WWW.THEISAACFOUNDATION.COM
MCFADYENA@ME.COM
509-325-1515

ISAAC FOUNDATION

ABOUT ISAAC FOUNDATION

The ISAAC Foundation was founded after the death of Isaac Dennis Lytle in February, 2007. Feeling strongly that no child should be denied therapy interventions due to inadequate insurance benefits or a family's inability to pay, Holly Lytle wrote the structure of The ISAAC Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization that provides financial assistance in the form of therapy grants to children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Isaac Foundation's mission is to fund innovative research projects that aim to find a cure for MPS, a rare, debilitating, and devastating disease. They provide support for families of individuals suffering from MPS and advocate on their behalf to ensure government funding for expensive, life-sustaining treatments are covered by the health care system.

GUIDELINES

- Recognizing that families have struggles beyond the financial impact of meeting the medical needs of a special needs child, The ISAAC Foundation offers FREE educational workshops and emotional support programs for parents and neuro-typical siblings.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go to their website and research grants and there is a link to download the application and you can email it to ellen@theisaacfoundation.com.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

2040 W CENTRAL AVE
TOLEDO, OH 43606
WWW.ITAALK.ORG
INFO@ITAALK.ORG
567-377-5710

IPAD APPS AND FUNDING

ABOUT ITAALK

iTaalk Autism Foundation is a 501c3 Non-Profit, with a mission to provide assistive technology devices to individuals with autism and educate the world on the latest technologies that benefit individuals with special needs. It became apparent that the need was not only for the devices, but for the educational piece on how to use them as well. They provide an affordable Top 30 list of Apps that have been successful with children on the Autism spectrum.

WHAT THEY FUND

They fund a way to give as many as iPads to as many children with Autism and varying other special needs.

GUIDELINES

- Applicants must CURRENTLY OWN THE DEVICE for which they are requesting apps.
- When applying for this program, please be prepared to provide the following: Individual's Diagnosis or a copy of your most recent, VALID licensure for your position. Name and Contact Information of an appropriate Professional who will help ensure a successful implementation for this app/program, OR a letter from your director supervisor stating your current position and employment. The Name of the App, Cost and Developer information. A brief (250-500 words) explanation of why your app request is necessary for you, your patients, or your child's success, how it will be used, and why you have been unable to purchase yourself. Take advantage of the opportunity to tell your story. And basic contact information of parent(s) and child.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply online and view guidelines, go to their website and under the giving tab.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

MY CHALLENGED GYM AMERICA

15300 VENTURA BOULEVARD,
SUITE 523
SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91403

WWW.MYGYMFOUNDATION.ORG

INFO@MYGYMFOUNDATION.ORG

818-907-6966

ABOUT MY CHALLENGED GYM AMERICA

The My Gym Foundation is a registered 501(c) (3) nonprofit dedicated to helping children with disabilities by awarding critically-needed gifts of equipment and services. Through the generosity of our supporters, we provide much-needed items to children living with physical or cognitive disabilities. Our goal is to enhance the quality of life and improve the physical, cognitive, emotional, and social development of children who are physically or developmentally challenged and those coping with chronic illness.

WHAT THEY FUND

Through our gifting program, we help these children acquire the confidence, self-esteem, and sense of well-being they need to lead productive and rewarding lives. These invaluable gifts range from sensory equipment and classes to unique swings and seating devices that allow a child to sit at the dinner table with the family. We strive every day to improve the quality of life for as many children as possible.

GUIDELINES

- Applicants must be under the age of 18.
- We accept requests on behalf of children with physical and/or cognitive disabilities.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can fill out an application online

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

P.O. BOX 531
MONMOUTH JUNCTION, NJ 08852
WWW.MYGOALAUTISM.ORG
INFO@MYGOALAUTISM.ORG
877-88-MYGOAL

MY GOAL

ABOUT MYGOAL INC.

MyGOAL Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that exists to provide assistance to caregivers of individuals on the Autism Spectrum. The primary focus of MyGOAL is to help families with little economic power access the same therapies and programs as those with financial capabilities.

WHAT THEY FUND

MyGOAL Inc. is proud to offer a grant program for treatments (including vitamins and other nutritional needs) that may not otherwise be covered privately or by other third-party funding sources such as school districts, county programs, insurance, and/or other grant making entities. Although awarded to the primary care- ¬giver, it is with the understanding that the grant will be used to benefit the individual(s) with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

GUIDELINES

Contact organization for guidelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications must be mailed or emailed to the organization. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

CHECKLIST

- ____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
- ____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
- ____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
- ____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
- ____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
- ____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
- ____ Research funding sources for best match.
- ____ Choose your top 5 matches.
- ____ Call each funding sources chosen.
- ____ Complete all forms required by funder.
- ____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
- ____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
- ____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
- ____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ONE PARK AVENUE, SUITE 1
PORTSMOUTH, RI 02871
WWW.NATIONALAUTISM ASSOCIATION.ORG
NAA@NATIONALAUTISM.ORG
877-622-2884

NAA FAMILY FUND

ABOUT NAA FAMILY FUND

The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance and support to assist in meeting the needs of members and their families who are in unusually dire circumstances, due to calamity, debilitating hardships or illnesses, or appalling circumstances to include a member's on- duty death.

WHAT THEY FUND

The NAA Family Fund provides financial assistance and support in meeting the needs of families who are affected by autism. They offer a few different programs that help families with different needs in different areas.

GUIDELINES

- For information on guidelines go online to www.nationalautismassociation.org.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go online and choose the program that works best for your needs.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NAA HELPING HAND FUND

ONE PARK AVENUE, SUITE 1
PORTSMOUTH, RI 02871

WWW.NATIONALAUTISM ASSOCIATION.ORG

877-622-2884

ABOUT THE HELPING HAND PROJECT (NATIONAL AUTISM ASSOCIATION)

With greater autism numbers come greater need for services. Unfortunately, most insurance plans do not cover many necessary treatments. NAA's Helping Hand Program was developed as a financial aid tool for families that need it most. The program helps qualified families pay for medical services used to treat individuals diagnosed with autism.

WHAT THEY FUND

The Helping Hand Project provides families with financial assistance in getting necessary medical treatment, lab testing and physician-recommended supplements and therapies for their child with autism. Do not apply for this grant if you are seeking funds for camp tuition, respite care, fencing, trampolines, swing sets, trips to Disney World, etc.

GUIDELINES

- Annual net income must be under $50,000.
- Birth to age 21.
- Reside in the United States of America.
- Diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application form is available on website. It must be filled out clearly and completely. Mail the completed application and supporting documents to:

NATIONAL AUTISM ASSOCIATION HELPING HAND PROJECT
One Park Avenue, Suite 1
Portsmouth, RI 02871
Tel: (877) 622-2888

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

ONE PARK AVENUE, SUITE 1,
PORTSMOUTH, RI 02871
NATIONALAUTISMASSOCIATION.ORG
NAA@NATIONALAUTISM.ORG
877-622-2884

VOICE PROGRAM

ABOUT NAA'S GIVE A VOICE PROGRAM

NAA's Give A Voice program provides communication devices to individuals with autism who are non-verbal or minimally verbal. The intent of NAA's Give A Voice program is to provide communication devices to individuals with autism who are non-verbal or minimally verbal, and whose communication challenges put them at increased risk of injury or harm.

WHAT THEY FUND

NAA's Give A Voice Program will provide qualifying individuals with an assistive communication device. This program is intended for families who are in dire need of financial assistance and are otherwise unable to attain a communication device.

GUIDELINES

- This program is intended for families who are in dire need of financial assistance and are otherwise unable to attain a communication device. For more information about the guidelines you can visit the website.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can get the application online and mail it in.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

NATIONAL AUTISM ASSOCIATION

20 ALICE AGNEW DRIVE
ATTLEBORO FALLS, MA 02763

WWW.
NATIONALAUTISMASSOCIATION.ORG

877-622-2884

ABOUT THE NATIONAL AUTISM ASSOCIATION

Founded in 2003, the National Autism Association is a parent-run 501(c)(3) advocacy organization and the leading voice on urgent issues related to severe autism, regressive autism, autism safety, autism abuse and crisis prevention.

WHAT THEY FUND

The National Autism Association's Helping Hand Program provides families with financial assistance in getting necessary medical treatments, lab testing, physician-recommended supplements and therapies for their child with autism.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be 21 years of age or younger.
- The child must be a resident of the United States.
- The child must be diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder.
- The family's net income must not exceed $50,000.

APPLICATION PROCESS

If the child meets the requirements, the family must complete a grant application and include a letter from a physician that confirms the child's diagnosis and the family's most recent tax return or proof of income.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

PERVIS JACKSON JR. AUTISM FOUNDATION

PO BOX 04422
DETROIT, MI 48204
WWW.PJJRAF.ORG
313-934-6950

ABOUT PERVIS JACKSON JR., AUTISM FOUNDATION

Everyone who knew Pervis Jackson personally knew that along with being a star performer on stage that off stage he was a star human being. He was an extremely generous and kind-hearted man. His acceptance of and love for Pervis Jr. who was handicapped by autism knew no bounds. Pervis wanted to start a fund to help needy parents of children with disabilities to get respite or other support services. It is in his honor that we establish the Pervis Jackson Jr. Autism Foundation.

Our Mission: To provide a spoonful of comfort to the parents of children handicapped by autism and other disabilities.

Our Vision: Parents impacted positively which creates a paradigm shift in how they care for their children with autism and other disabilities.

WHAT THEY FUND

Our Goal: To provide mini-grants to pay for services directly to parents. Grants can be used for:

- Camp Sessions
- Respite of Parent's Choice
- Cleaning Help
- Cooking Help
- Spa Day
- Urgent Bills
- Other Parent Needs

GUIDELINES

- Contact organization for specific information

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application form can be submitted electronically on the web.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

SMALL STEPS IN SPEECH

P.O. BOX 134
COLLINGSWOOD, NJ 08108
WWW.SMALLSTEPSINSPEECH.ORG
INFO@SMALLSTEPSINSPEECH.ORG
888-577-3256

ABOUT SMALL STEPS IN SPEECH

Small Steps in Speech is a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization which provides grants on behalf of children with speech and language disorders for therapies, treatments, communicative devices, and other services aimed at improving their communication skills. Small Steps in Speech helps children with speech and/or language disorders take the steps needed to be better communicators.

WHAT THEY FUND

A grant from Small Steps in Speech provides financial support to families seeking speech and language services for their children, either not covered or not fully covered by their health care plan.

GUIDELINES

- We accept grant applications for individuals from age 3 to 22.
- Applications will not be accepted for a joint family income in excess of $100,000.
- You can go online for more information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply go online to their website and go to the grant application tab.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

1700 E SANDUSKY
FINDLAY, OHIO, 45840
WWW.SPECIALKIDSTHERAPY.ORG
CARE@SPECIALKIDSTHERAPY.ORG
419-422-5607

SPECIAL KIDS THERAPY

ABOUT SPECIAL KIDS THERAPY

Special Kids Therapy (SKT) helps special health needs children with necessities and fun therapies that are not met by insurance, other charities, and/or government agencies. SKT clients include children with moderate to severe physical, mental and/or emotional challenges. Special Kids Therapy is an all-volunteer 501(c)3 charitable organization.

WHAT THEY FUND

Special Kids Therapy is proud to offer scholarships to financially support children with special health needs and their families with the cost of non-traditional therapies or activities that are not covered by insurance. We encourage all families, regardless of financial status, to apply for our special needs scholarship.

GUIDELINES

- The child must be diagnosed as physically, mentally, or emotionally disabled and meet all criteria to be considered. Go online for more information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can apply online for any of our programs or activities, as well as for our scholarship assistance program.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

SWALLIE FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

RESEARCHAUTISM.ORG/HOW-WE-HELP/SCHOLARSHIPS

SCHOLARSHIP@RESEARCHAUTISM.ORG

703-243-3466

ABOUT SCHWALLIE FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Schwallie Family Scholarship to support the post-secondary, undergraduate education of qualified individuals with an autism spectrum diagnosis. Schwallie Family Scholarships are supported through generous gifts from the family of former Board member, Ed Schwallie.

WHAT THEY FUND

They fund a scholarship where an individual with autism spectrum diagnosis can go to post-secondary education. Their scholarship program provides $3,000 scholarships to students across the autism spectrum.

GUIDELINES

- Any individual with an established autism diagnosis and who will be attending an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education in the United States are eligible.
- Clearly stated diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder.
- Diagnosis conducted by a licensed medical professional.
- Information about testing or evaluations conducted by the medical professional.

APPLICATION PROCESS

You can apply online on the website listed above. One letter of recommendation may be submitted if the applicant chooses to do so.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.

____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.

____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.

____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.

____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.

____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.

____ Research funding sources for best match.

____ Choose your top 5 matches.

____ Call each funding sources chosen.

____ Complete all forms required by funder.

____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.

____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.

____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.

____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

TACA FAMILY SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

2222 MARTIN STREET, SUITE 140
IRVINE, CA 92612
WWW.TACANOW.ORG
949-640-4401

ABOUT TACA FAMILY SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

The TACA Family Scholarship Fund was developed to help families who are pursuing treatment for their children with autism but are struggling to find the funding. They understand how difficult it is to stretch the family budget. It is their desire to provide limited financial assistance to eligible families. Thanks to a generous anonymous donation and their participation in the CDFI Challenge they can make the following scholarship opportunities available.

WHAT THEY FUND

TACA has provided medical and treatment scholarships to families living with autism that are in the areas they offer the scholarships. They help struggling families to get the funds that they may need to help the family budget.

GUIDELINES

- You must be in one of the locations listed to be eligible; Hurricane areas, Georgia only, North Dakota or San Diego. Go online for more information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can go to their website and click the family resources tab. That will bring you to the Family Scholarship Program page and you can select to scholarship you want to apply for depending on your location.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

WWW.TEAMTMR.ORG
WWW.THINKINGMOMSREVOLUTION. COM
THINKERS@THINKINGMOMSREVOLUTION.COM

THINKING MOMS' REVOLUTION (TMR)

ABOUT THE THINKING MOMS' REVOLUTION

Team TMR is a group of parents who are paying it forward. They provide help to families struggling with medical, emotional, educational and financial hardship due to complex medical needs faced by their children diagnosed with autism and other developmental disabilities.

Team TMR is a 501(c)(3) organization that provides help to families struggling with medical, emotional, educational and financial hardship due to complex medical needs faced by their children diagnosed with autism and other developmental disabilities.

WHAT THEY FUND

Help comes via funds to defray costs for practitioner appointments, recommended treatments, travel expenses to the experts in the field, materials to start homeschooling or purchase an AAC device that helps facilitate communication, expenses related to autism conferences.

GUIDELINES

- See website for more information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

See website for information to apply.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

VARGHESE SUMMERSETT PLLC ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

300 THROCKMORTON STREET,
SUITE 1650, FORT WORTH, TX 76102
WWW.VERSUSTEXAS.COM
INFO@VERSUSTEXAS.COM
817-203-2220

VARGHESE SUMMERSETT PLLC ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Each year, their firm gives back in ways that are especially close to our hearts. They are particularly passionate about supporting education, with a focus on law students who are interested in pursuing a career in criminal justice and youth with special needs. We offer several annual scholarships, including criminal justice scholarships to law school students and special needs scholarships to youth under age 15. Two of our firm's top criminal defense attorneys, Christy Jack and Letty Martinez, have children with special needs and they are passionate advocates for youth with disabilities. The special needs scholarships can be used offset the cost of camp, tutoring, classes, secondary education, post-secondary education or tools to help the students learn and flourish.

WHAT THEY FUND

Varghese Summersett PLLC is providing scholarships for students who have been diagnosed with either Down Syndrome or Autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

GUIDELINES

- The applicant (or their guardian) must show proof that they have been diagnosed with Autism or Down Syndrome.
- To apply, the applicant, their friend, relative, or teacher must submit a letter or video stating how the financial aid will benefit them.
- Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation. These should be from teachers, employers, friends or community leaders. They should attest to the applicant's character, ability and need for financial aid for educational or recreational opportunities.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply you can send your application by email.

CHECKLIST

____ Determine what A.T. your child needs.
____ Get a cost estimate – a price quote.
____ Take a picture of your child with the A.T. item.
____ Get letter of medical necessity – L.M.N.
____ Gather insurance/financial documents needed.
____ Submit price quote and L.M.N. to insurance.
____ Research funding sources for best match.
____ Choose your top 5 matches.
____ Call each funding sources chosen.
____ Complete all forms required by funder.
____ Write a compelling ask letter – include photo.
____ Call funder if it's a no, ask why and reapply.
____ If you get a no, send a thank you letter.
____ If funded! Send a thank you letter.

NOTES

_____

_____

_____

SAMPLES OF COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER FLYERS

Long Table Dinner

TO BENEFIT
project mobility

SUNDAY
AUG. 18, 2024
4pm - 8pm

Six course al fresco waterfront dinner & craft cocktail pairing highlighting local St. Charles restaurants.

Attire: Summer Whites

20 S Riverside Ave. | St. Charles, IL

moto|imoto · ROCK 'N RAVIOLI · KIMMERS · lewis · PAMA · FEW

Donate | Sponsor | Volunteer | Silent Auction Items Needed

www.longtabledinnerbenefit.com

REGISTER NOW!

DRINK YOUR WAY THRU A 5K

HOPS FOR HOPE 5K

AND

ST. CHARLES BREW FEST

93 OCTANE BREWERY

5K STARTS 12PM

BREWFEST 12:30PM

ST. CHARLES' ONLY BREWFEST

SAT/OCT.5TH

EXCLUSIVE FOOD VENDOR

CRAFT URBAN
FOOD. COCKTAILS. LOCAL.

MT SAINT MARY PARK
ST. CHARLES, IL

TO BENEFIT

projectmobility
Changing lives one bike at a time

HOPSFORHOPE5K.COM

projectmobility
Changing lives one bike at a time

2024 SIGNATURE FUNDRAISING EVENTS

2024 EVERYBODY RIDES
PRESENTED BY ATI FOUNDATION

JUNE 9TH
JAMES O. BREEN PARK
ST. CHARLES
1.6 Mile Kid Friendly Trail Ride | 10 Mile Trail Ride | 29, 47, & 62 Mile Road Ride

AUG 18TH
DOWNTOWN ST. CHARLES
Multi-course al fresco waterfront dinner highlighting local restaurants

Long Table Dinner
TO BENEFIT projectmobility
Changing lives one bike at a time

HOPS FOR HOPE 5K AND ST. CHARLES BREW FEST
93 OCTANE BREWERY

OCT 5TH
MT SAINT MARY PARK
ST. CHALRES
DRINK YOUR WAY THROUGH A 5K | ST. CHARLES' ONLY BREWFEST

WWW.PROJECTMOBILITY.ORG

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Shriners Hospitals
for Children™

Chicago
Pediatric Speciality Care
Orthopaedics, Cleft Lip and Palate,
Spinal Cord Injury

Tammy Simmons has been working with Shriners Hospitals for Children Chicago for over 15 years now. She has assisted Shriners in getting adapted cycles for our patients and organized workshops for Shriners patients to provide an adaptive cycling experience.

Tammy is dedicated to helping others find equipment and resources they need to improve their quality of life. Her passion is to make it easier for families to learn how to do it themselves. Tammy is always interested in making things happen for kids with disabilities and very giving of her time.

She is knowledgeable of the resources that are out there that help this population and wants to spread the word so others don't have to do the leg work.

"We could not have accomplished so much for our families without Tammy's expertise and assistance. I highly recommend her Funding Guidebook, as well as her skillful instruction to anyone needing help in order to successfully navigate the challenges of supporting disabled children."

Sincerely,

Darlene Kelly

Darlene Kelly, CTRS
Director
Recreation Therapy/Child Life Department

2211 North Oak Park Avenue
Chicago, IL 60707-3392
Tel: 773.622.5400
TDD: 773.385.5419
www.shrinershospitals.org

Advocate Children's Hospital
4440 West 95th Street || Oak Lawn, IL 60453 || T 708.684.8000
1775 Dempster Street || Park Ridge, IL 60068 || T 847.723.2210
advocatehealth.com

Dear Tammy,

I have been waiting about three years for your book, it is finally here and it is amazing! It is everything you said and more! It is family friendly, easy to use, and proven to work as a tool to obtain funding.

I am so proud of you…..and your dedication and mission to help families. Your knowledge, perseverance, and strength shine through in the completion of this project. Through your hard work, you were able to design a usable resource book that will enrich the lives of so many.

Your Funding Guide is easy to navigate and has proven results. It will open up opportunities for funding the many types of assistive technology necessary to insure more fulfilled lives for those living with disabilities. You are to be rewarded and praised!

You will touch the lives of so many children (and adults) in our world and make their lives BETTER!

Congratulations it brought tears to my eyes reading your dedications, the thank you section and learning all about your wonderful family.

You are an inspiration!

All the best,

Kathleen Brummet
Education Specialist
Pediatric Rehabilitation and Development
Advocate Children's Hospital
4440 W. 95th Street
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-684-1249 (phone)
708-684-4717 (fax

Abilities EXPO
16501 Ventura Blvd.
Suite 510
Encino, CA 91436
Tel: 310.450.8831
Fax: 424.238.6358
www.abilities.com

To Whom It May Concern:

For more than 10 years I have been the director of education and events for Abilities Expo. During that time I have developed programming for more than 60 shows, educating several thousand people at EACH show. I've met hundreds of families every year at these events, and the one common theme that I have heard from them is:

> It's SO challenging to find the funding to cover the costs of items needed for their children with disabilities – products, services, and therapies. Items that would change the lives of these children and their families! Insurance covers some costs, but not all.

There is a resource that was published in 2015 that can change this entire situation for all of these families!

Disability Funding Guide is that resource and it stands to change everything for these families AND for the companies who produce the products, services, and therapies that these children need.

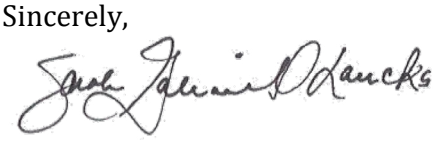
Disability Funding Guide is backed by nearly 20 years experience applying for and securing funding for children with disabilities. Tammy Simmons is the expert in this space. Not only does she raise many thousands of dollars each year for Creative Mobility, a division of The Bike Rack, to help children who need adaptive bicycles, but she also has taken the time to distill her process and all her resources into a guide so that others can do the same thing.

Families who use this guide will be able to walk step-by-step through a clear process, apply for funding, and, with Tammy's ongoing support via email and social media, successfully find funding to acquire the products, services, and therapies that will help their children - items that are not being covered by insurance.

Those companies and programs that share this guide with the families they serve will likewise benefit. As the families find the funding they need, they'll be able to acquire more of the items that the company and programs provide.

I encourage all professionals working to meet the needs children with disabilities to get a copy of the guide and share it with the families they serve.

Sincerely,



Sarah Galbraith Laucks
Director, Education and Events

Acknowledgements

I started The NICU Funding Guide and formed The Funding Project in 2019. Immediately after, I went to a conference in Florida, where I met some amazing people who were excited about being able to support my project. Three weeks later, Covid hit — and that was that! I made the best of it and took the time to put out the best book that I could.

Now, here I am about to have my second book released in a few days. I am beyond excited!

Everyone who helped make my books a reality gave so much of their time. I could not have done it without a single one of them.

It was about 8 months ago that I realized I needed more help, so I hired a few pros. There is one person who I can't thank enough — Terri, my editor. I found her on Upwork, where I received 35 responses to my job posting. Terri was the second one, and I knew from the first sentence of her profile that she was the one. I didn't even bother looking at anyone else, and that was the right call. She's been perfect for the job, and the best part is that she's going to continue working with me on my many other projects. I can't wait to actually meet her someday so we can cele-

brate the teamwork that made this book the best it can be! THANKS, Terri!

In my first book, I talked about my family a lot, so I decided to keep it simple this time and focus on the most special thing in my life — my beautiful, wonderful grandchildren. I've been married for 46 years, have three amazing children, and had expected to have grandchildren some time ago. As anybody reading this book knows well, when it comes to having babies, things don't always go as planned. It took quite some time and tears, but we finally have four of the most beautiful, sweet grandbabies, Brody, Russell, Cali, and Shelby. Four born over six years, and I absolutely love every minute with them. I've included a few of my favorite photographs of them since the book is all about babies in the NICU. I am thankful to have been there when they were born.

I hope this book helps each and every one of you, and hope you know that you really can reach out to me any time and I will do what I can to help you! If you see

an error, please let me know. I don't care how many times you read something, you'll still find a typo here and there.

If you know of a funding source, let me know so I can share it with others. If you have a tip you think will help, let us know! We welcome any new information we can share. Don't forget to check our social media for updates, giveaways, and announcements about new sponsors and partners. It's because of their generosity that this book is free to you.

Brody, Cali, Russell, and Shelby