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DISABILITY
COMPANION WORKBOOK

A Practical Financial Roadmap for Families of Children with Disabilities

Tammy Simmons

Executive Director | The Funding Project

DEDICATION

In honor of my dad, Dale Honeyman, whose dedication to Hoffer Plastics continues to inspire my work.

This Disability Companion Workbook was created to help families of children with disabilities organize the financial steps, funding options, and support systems that can feel overwhelming when a child needs equipment, therapy, adaptive technology, medical care, or services that insurance does not fully cover.

This mission carries meaning far beyond funding. My father, Dale Honeyman, devoted over 30 years of his life to Hoffer Plastics. When I reached out to share this work, I will never forget my conversation with Gretchen Hoffer Farb. During our call, she looked out from her office and shared that she could still picture my dad across from her in his office, a moment that spoke to the lasting impact he had on the company and the people around him.

Mom, Dad, Melissa, and Grandson Russell

That moment reminded me that this work is rooted in legacy, integrity, and service.

The Hoffer family has built more than a company. Through Hoffer Plastics and the Hoffer Foundation, they have carried forward a family legacy of generosity, community, and purpose. In many ways, that reflects the same values my father lived every day.

Those values have continued through our own family's commitment to service, through more than 23 years of giving back and the two nonprofits our family has built, Project Mobility and The Funding Project. Like the Hoffer family, we believe legacy is not only measured by what we build, but by the opportunities, support, and hope we make possible for others.

With gratitude and deep respect,
Tammy Honeyman Simmons

WELCOME TO YOUR FINANCIAL ROADMAP

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Families raising children with disabilities often leave appointments, evaluations, therapy sessions, or hospital stays with care plans, but without a clear financial roadmap for what comes next. This workbook was created to help close that gap with practical steps, tools, and support you can use as you advocate for your child and your family.

This workbook is designed to be your companion during long waits, quiet moments at home, before or after appointments, or whenever you are ready to take one small step forward for your child.

When everything feels overwhelming, this workbook gives you one place to begin. It is here to help you organize financial next steps, keep important information together, and move forward at your own pace.

Remember: there are organizations, programs, and people who want to help. But when your child needs equipment, therapy, medical support, adaptive technology, or services that insurance will not fully cover, it can be hard to know where to start. That is why this workbook exists.

As you have learned from the stories in The Disability Funding Guide, you are not alone in this journey. Other families have sat where you are sitting now, and step by step, they found support, answers, and a way forward.

Just like my Grandma Vaughn taught me, "Don't take no for an answer! If you get a No, you keep going until you get a Yes!"

Warmly,

Tammy

> Just like my Grandma Vaughn taught me, **“Don’t take no for an answer! If you get a No, you keep going until you get a Yes!”**

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THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS

You are not the first family to need support, and you will not be the last. The people, programs, and organizations you may reach out to exist because helping families is part of their mission. They want to help improve your child's quality of life.

- I raised over $12,000 for Jacob's hyperbaric treatments.
- Christopher received $6,500 for medical bills.
- Melissa Copp raised over $100,000 for a fully accessible home, and more.
- Thousands of parents have been where you are right now and have found ways to get the funding, equipment, and support their children needed.
- **You can find support, funding, and resources for your family, too.**

Before we dive into the process, remember the most important lesson in The Disability Funding Guide: It is okay to ask for help!

QUICK CONFIDENCE BOOSTER:

This Workbook Is Designed to Help You:

- Break financial advocacy into manageable steps.
- Stay organized during a complicated time.
- Keep important information all in one place.
- Celebrate each win, no matter how small.

It's OKAY to Ask for Help!

HOW TO USE THIS WORKBOOK

Keep this workbook with you during doctors' appointments, therapy visits, school meetings, hospital conversations, phone calls with insurance, and quiet moments at home. It is meant to help you capture notes, organize next steps, and keep important details from getting lost.

- **Work through the sections at your own pace.**
- **Use a pencil so you can update information as things change.**
- **Follow this step-by-step financial advocacy process exactly as outlined.**

Some pages may take only a few minutes. Others may take more time.
That is okay. You do not need to do everything at once.

Remember: if you do not ask, you will never get a yes.

All the content in this workbook is also available digitally through the QR code.

Do not skip any steps, each one helps build the path forward.

SECTION ONE

WHAT YOUR CHILD NEEDS MOST RIGHT NOW

A practical place to start building your financial roadmap

- Adaptive bike or adaptive tricycle
- Wheelchair, stander, walker, gait trainer, or positioning equipment
- Sleep-safe or safety bed
- Communication device or speech technology
- Hearing aids, vision supports, or Braille books
- Feeding therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, or intensive therapy
- Accessible vehicle, van modification, ramp, lift, or home modification
- Service dog or assistance dog
- Medical equipment, prescriptions, supplies, or specialty care
- Sensory tools, educational supports, adaptive recreation, camps, or sports programs
- Transportation, lodging, or travel help for medical care
- Assistive technology, computer access, or adaptive gaming equipment

Tammy's Tip: Remember, it takes just as should it much effort to put on a small event as it does to put on a big one. GO BIG!

SECTION ONE

WHAT YOUR CHILD NEEDS MOST RIGHT NOW

Your Priority List:

Need / item / service _____

Timeline: _____ Est. Cost: $ _____

Priority:

☐ **Critical** (need within 1 week)
☐ **Urgent** (need within 1 month)
☐ **Important** (need within 3 months)

Need / item / service _____

Timeline: _____ Est. Cost: $ _____

Priority:

☐ **Critical** (need within 1 week)
☐ **Urgent** (need within 1 month)
☐ **Important** (need within 3 months)

Need / item / service _____

Timeline: _____ Est. Cost: $ _____

Priority:

☐ **Critical** (need within 1 week)
☐ **Urgent** (need within 1 month)
☐ **Important** (need within 3 months)

Need / item / service _____

Timeline: _____ Est. Cost: $ _____

Priority:

☐ **Critical** (need within 1 week)
☐ **Urgent** (need within 1 month)
☐ **Important** (need within 3 months)

Need / item / service _____

Timeline: _____ Est. Cost: $ _____

Priority:

☐ **Critical** (need within 1 week)
☐ **Urgent** (need within 1 month)
☐ **Important** (need within 3 months)

Need / item / service _____

Timeline: _____ Est. Cost: $ _____

Priority:

☐ **Critical** (need within 1 week)
☐ **Urgent** (need within 1 month)
☐ **Important** (need within 3 months)

Need / item / service _____

Timeline: _____ Est. Cost: $ _____

Priority:

☐ **Critical** (need within 1 week)
☐ **Urgent** (need within 1 month)
☐ **Important** (need within 3 months)

SECTION TWO

MY 13-STEPS FINANCIAL ADVOCACY ROADMAP

Follow the process one step at a time

STEP 1: Identify what your child needs

What product or service will help your child physically, socially, academically, recreationally, or increase their independence?

STEP 2: Get a cost estimate

Get quotes from vendors. Ask about discounts, especially if a nonprofit or funder may be paying.

STEP 3: Take a picture

The best part of your ask letter will be a photo of your child with the item, service, therapy, or support you are requesting.

STEP 4: Get a Letter of Medical Necessity

From a physician, therapist, teacher, or other professional explaining why your child needs what you are requesting.

STEP 5: Gather important documents

Use this step to collect the paperwork that helps funders understand your child's needs, your family's situation, and the cost of the support you are requesting.

- [ ] Previous year's W-2
- [ ] Recent pay stubs
- [ ] Insurance information
- [ ] Medical history with diagnostic codes
- [ ] School, therapy, or provider documentation if applicable

STEP 6: Submit your request to your insurance company to get a denial letter

Call first to ask the best way to get a denial letter quickly.

STEP 7: Write your Ask Letter - THE MOST IMPORTANT STEP!

Tell your child's story from your heart.

STEP 8: Research funding sources and support options

Find the perfect fit: geography, what they fund, eligibility, timing, and your child's needs.

STEP 9: Call the funders

Even if you don't have questions, come up with one. Let them hear your name!

STEP 10: Complete required forms

Follow instructions exactly. Never leave blanks, use "N/A" if needed.

STEP 11: Follow up after 30 days

Most funders meet monthly. Check to see if they need anything else.

STEP 12: Send a thank-you letter if your request is approved or supported

Include a photo of your child with the item, service, therapy, or support you received.

STEP 13: If you get a NO, keep going!

Send a thank you letter if your request is approved or denied. Then keep asking until you get a yes.

You don't have to do everything, just take the next step.

SECTION THREE

YOUR CHILD'S STORY

My child's name _____ Age _____

Diagnosis / disability / medical needs _____

The product, service, therapy, or support we are requesting _____

_____

OUR CURRENT CHALLENGES:

_____

_____

_____

WHY WE NEED THIS SPECIFIC ITEM OR SERVICE:

_____

_____

_____

HOW THIS WILL CHANGE OUR LIVES:

_____

_____

_____

SECTION FOUR

FUNDING & RESOURCE RESEARCH TRACKER

Find the best-fit support for your child and family

For Step #8: Action Plan Finding Your Perfect Matches

Remember my tip: "Check GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION first! Don't waste time researching if they don't fund where you live.

Organization	Geographic Area	What They Fund	Your Match	Applied?
United Healthcare Children'S Foundation	See website	Medical care or treatment support	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
4 Paws For Ability	See website	Service dog support	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Ability Found	See website	Medical care or treatment support	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Able-Gamers Foundation	See website	Adaptive Gaming Equipment	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Alexander Grambell associate for death and heart of hearing	See website	Hearing support or hearing-related needs	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Alternatives In Motion	See website	Mobility equipment or accessibility support	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No

Your Custom Research:

Organization Found	Contact Info	Requirements	Good Match?	Status
_____	_____	_____	☐ Yes ☐ No	_____
_____	_____	_____	☐ Yes ☐ No	_____
_____	_____	_____	☐ Yes ☐ No	_____

SECTION FIVE

YOUR ASK LETTER

The letter that helps others understand your child's needs

This is THE MOST IMPORTANT STEP. Please take your time here.

Help the reader understand your child's needs clearly and personally.

Key Elements to Include:

- Your child's story, diagnosis, disability, and current needs
- Current challenges and limitations
- Specific item, service, therapy, or support needed and cost
- How it will improve quality of life, including physical, social, emotional, educational, and independence benefits
- Your financial situation (be honest!)
- Insurance denial (if required)
- Thank them for considering your request

Before sending, ask yourself:

- Would this letter make someone not want to put it down until they'd read it all?
- Does it clearly explain why my child NEEDS this item/service?
- Did I include both practical and quality-of-life benefits?
- Am I being honest about our financial situation?

SECTION FIVE

ASK LETTER TEMPLATE & TIPS

The letter that helps others understand your child's needs

Ask Letter Draft Space:

SECTION FIVE

ASK LETTER TEMPLATE & TIPS

The letter that helps others understand your child's needs

Ask Letter Draft Space:

SECTION FIVE

ASK LETTER
TEMPLATE & TIPS

The letter that helps others understand your child's needs

Ask Letter Draft Space:

SECTION SIX

SAMPLE FUNDING RESEARCH PAGE

An example to help you find your best matches

UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation

Mission: Helps children access health-related services and equipment not covered, or not fully covered, by the family's commercial health insurance.

Perfect For: Families with a child age 16 or younger who has commercial insurance and eligible medical needs.

Geographic Area: United States

What They Fund:

- ✔ Medical services or equipment not fully covered by commercial insurance
- ✔ Eligible medical expenses that may improve a child's quality of life
- ✔ Therapies, equipment, prescriptions, and related medical needs when eligible

How to Apply: Visit www.UHCCF.ORG

My Application Checklist:

- ☐ Date initial research completed. _____
- ☐ Confirmed we're a geographic match. _____
- ☐ Reviewed eligibility, income limits, and timing _____
- ☐ Prepared our story. _____
- ☐ Application submitted - Date: _____
- ☐ Follow-up scheduled - Date: _____

SECTION SEVEN

COMMUNITY SUPPORT IN YOUR AREA

Local groups that may be able to help your family

These are what I call "The Grand Poobahs" (like Fred Flintstone!)

Call your Chamber of Commerce or scan local papers for organizations that help community members.

- Moose - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

- Rotary Club - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

- Kiwanis - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

- Eagles - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

- Elks - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

Tammy's Tip: If you know someone who is a member, ask them for help. You always have a better chance of getting help if you personally know an actual member.

SECTION SEVEN

COMMUNITY SUPPORT IN YOUR AREA

Local groups that may be able to help your family

- Knights of Columbus - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

- Local churches - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

- Hospital auxiliaries - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

- Lions Club - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

- Jaycees - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

- School groups / PTAs - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

- Local disability organizations - Contact: _____

  Phone: _____

SECTION EIGHT

YOUR KEY CONTACTS

Keep the people and phone numbers you need in one place

RESEARCH LIST

	Name	Phone:
Physician / Specialist		
Therapist		
Teacher / IEP or 504 contact		
Case Manager		
Insurance Representative		
Vendor / Equipment Provider		
Financial Counselor		
Social Worker /Family Resource Contact		

YOUR ADVOCATES

	Name	Phone:
Primary Support Person		
Backup Contact		
Family Member Helper		

There is nobody who would help you more than your mom!

SECTION NINE

CROWDFUNDING & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Ideas for raising larger amounts when needed

If you need to raise larger amounts, like Melissa Copp's $100,000+, use a bigger plan and stay consistent.

Tammy's Crowdfunding Success Tips:

- Update followers EVERY day
- Tell your complete story with photos/videos
- Set a goal for what you actually need
- Get the word out in as many ways as possible
- Stay active with fresh content

Crowdfunding Options:

- ☐ Help Hope Live (Tammy recommends them for tax benefits!)
- ☐ GoFundMe
- ☐ Other: _____

Community Fundraising Ideas:

- ☐ Restaurant partnership
- ☐ Raffle events
- ☐ School fundraisers
- ☐ Church events
- ☐ Workplace campaigns
- ☐ Bike ride, walk, adaptive sports, or community event
- ☐ Other: _____

If you need a more structured way to raise support, turn to the next section.

SECTION TEN

HELP HOPE LIVE SUPPORT

A trusted way to gather support for your child

When your child needs support beyond what your family can manage alone, Help Hope Live can give you a trusted way to bring people together.

Help Hope Live offers structure and guidance so families can share their child's story, organize important details, and invite others to help in a meaningful way.

Why Help Hope Live?

- **They bring trusted experience.** Help Hope Live's 40+ year history speaks volumes and gives families confidence that they are working with an established nonprofit, not starting from scratch.
- **They help families organize support.** Instead of trying to manage everything alone, families can use Help Hope Live to bring relatives, friends, neighbors, and community members together around their child's needs.
- **They provide structure and guidance.** Help Hope Live offers one-on-one support, customizable campaign pages, and bill pay support, which can help families feel less overwhelmed.
- **They help create accountability.** As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Help Hope Live provides a more formal way to receive and manage support, which can also help donors feel more comfortable giving.
- **They help turn community care into practical help.** Whether the need is large, ongoing, or hard to explain, Help Hope Live gives families a trusted place to gather support for their child.

Help Hope Live helps you keep going, offering guidance, structure, and steady support as your family gathers help for your child.

SECTION TEN

HELP HOPE LIVE SUPPORT

Getting Started Checklist

- Visit www.helphopelive.org
- Review eligibility and application requirements
- Gather medical and financial documentation
- Talk with your Help Hope Live contact about next steps

What we are raising funds for:

My Help Hope Live fundraising goal:

TAMMY'S TIP: Start simple. Share your story with the people closest to you first, then build from there.

SECTION TEN

HELP HOPE LIVE
SUPPORT

What I need to gather

- [ ] **Diagnosis or medical summary**
- [ ] **Letter of Medical Necessity, if needed**
- [ ] **Cost estimates or invoices**
- [ ] **Photos that help tell our story**
- [ ] **Short update I can share with supporters**

Our story in 3-5 sentences:

HOW I WILL SHARE	DATE / NOTES
Facebook / Instagram	
Email family and friends	
Text 3-5 people directly	
Church, school, workplace, or community	

TRACK YOUR PROGRESS	
Campaign link:	
Total raised so far:	$
Number of donors:	
Last update posted:	
Next follow-up step:	

SECTION TEN

FUNDING & SUPPORT TRACKING SYSTEM

Track every application, follow-up, approval, denial, and thank-you note in one place.

Applications Submitted

Organization: _____

Amount Requested: $ _____

Contact / Email / Phone: _____

Notes/ Next Step: _____

_____

Status:

- ☐ Submitted
- ☐ Need more documents
- ☐ Followed up
- ☐ Approved
- ☐ Denied

Date sent: _____

Organization: _____

Amount Requested: $ _____

Contact / Email / Phone: _____

Notes/ Next Step: _____

_____

Status:

- ☐ Submitted
- ☐ Need more documents
- ☐ Followed up
- ☐ Approved
- ☐ Denied

Date sent: _____

Organization: _____

Amount Requested: $ _____

Contact / Email / Phone: _____

Notes/ Next Step: _____

_____

Status:

- ☐ Submitted
- ☐ Need more documents
- ☐ Followed up
- ☐ Approved
- ☐ Denied

Date sent: _____

Organization: _____

Amount Requested: $ _____

Contact / Email / Phone: _____

Notes/ Next Step: _____

_____

Status:

- ☐ Submitted
- ☐ Need more documents
- ☐ Followed up
- ☐ Approved
- ☐ Denied

Date sent: _____

SECTION TEN

FUNDING & SUPPORT TRACKING SYSTEM

Track every application, follow-up, approval, denial, and thank-you note in one place.

Applications Submitted

Date Sent: _____
Organization: _____
Amount Requested: $ _____
Contact / Email / Phone: _____
Follow-Up Date: _____
Notes/ Next Step: _____
_____

Status:

- ☐ Submitted
- ☐ Need more documents
- ☐ Followed up
- ☐ Approved
- ☐ Dnied
- ☐ Waiting

Date Sent: _____
Organization: _____
Amount Requested: $ _____
Contact / Email / Phone: _____
Follow-Up Date: _____
Notes/ Next Step: _____
_____

Status:

- ☐ Submitted
- ☐ Need more documents
- ☐ Followed up
- ☐ Approved
- ☐ Dnied
- ☐ Waiting

Date Sent: _____
Organization: _____
Amount Requested: $ _____
Contact / Email / Phone: _____
Follow-Up Date: _____
Notes/ Next Step: _____
_____

Status:

- ☐ Submitted
- ☐ Need more documents
- ☐ Followed up
- ☐ Approved
- ☐ Dnied
- ☐ Waiting

Date Sent: _____
Organization: _____
Amount Requested: $ _____
Contact / Email / Phone: _____
Follow-Up Date: _____
Notes/ Next Step: _____
_____

Status:

- ☐ Submitted
- ☐ Need more documents
- ☐ Followed up
- ☐ Approved
- ☐ Dnied
- ☐ Waiting

SECTION TEN

FUNDING & SUPPORT TRACKING SYSTEM

Record support received and see your progress at a glance.

Funding Received

Organization / Donor: _____
Amount Received: $ _____
What It Helped Pay For: _____
Notes: _____
_____

Thank-You Sent?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Not yet
- ☐ Photo sent

Organization / Donor: _____
Amount Received: $ _____
What It Helped Pay For: _____
Notes: _____
_____

Thank-You Sent?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Not yet
- ☐ Photo sent

Organization / Donor: _____
Amount Received: $ _____
What It Helped Pay For: _____
Notes: _____
_____

Thank-You Sent?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Not yet
- ☐ Photo sent

Organization / Donor: _____
Amount Received: $ _____
What It Helped Pay For: _____
Notes: _____
_____

Thank-You Sent?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Not yet
- ☐ Photo sent

Total Funding Received: $ _____
Original Goal / Need: $ _____
Remaining Need: $ _____

SECTION TEN

FUNDING & SUPPORT TRACKING SYSTEM

Stay on top of next steps, follow-ups, and thank-you notes.

Follow-Up & Thank-You Log

Organization _____

Who I Spoke With _____

What They Said / Next Step _____

Notes _____

_____

Action Taken

- ☐ Called
- ☐ Emailed
- ☐ Left message
- ☐ Need documents
- ☐ Thank-you sent
- ☐ Closed

Organization _____

Who I Spoke With _____

What They Said / Next Step _____

Notes _____

_____

Action Taken

- ☐ Called
- ☐ Emailed
- ☐ Left message
- ☐ Need documents
- ☐ Thank-you sent
- ☐ Closed

Organization _____

Who I Spoke With _____

What They Said / Next Step _____

Notes _____

_____

Action Taken

- ☐ Called
- ☐ Emailed
- ☐ Left message
- ☐ Need documents
- ☐ Thank-you sent
- ☐ Closed

Organization _____

Who I Spoke With _____

What They Said / Next Step _____

Notes _____

_____

Action Taken

- ☐ Called
- ☐ Emailed
- ☐ Left message
- ☐ Need documents
- ☐ Thank-you sent
- ☐ Closed

Tammy's Tip: Most funders meet monthly. If you have not heard back after 30 days, follow up kindly and ask if they need anything else.

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DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

UNITEDHEALTHCARE CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: www.UHCCF.ORG

Contact: 855-698-4223

Good fit : Families with a child age 16 or younger who has commercial insurance and eligible medical needs.

HOW THEY MAY HELP

The UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation provides financial assistance toward the family's share of the cost of

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Question to ask: _____

Dates:

Contacted: _____

Applied: _____

Follow-up: _____

TAMMY'S 13-STEP CHECKLIST

Use this same checklist for each source so nothing gets missed.

☐ 1. Identify the product or service needed.
Note _____

☐ 2. Get a cost estimate or price quote.
Note _____

☐ 3. Take a picture of your child with the item/service.
Note _____

☐ 4. Get a letter of medical necessity.
Note _____

☐ 5. Gather insurance and financial documents.
Note _____

☐ 6. Submit the price quote and submit to insurance for a denial letter.
Note _____

☐ 7. Write a strong Ask Letter with your child's story.
Note _____

☐ 8. Research funding sources for the best match.
Note _____

☐ 9. Choose your top funding source matches.
Note _____

☐ 10. Call each funder and ask questions.
Note _____

☐ 11. Complete every form required by the funder.
Note _____

☐ 12. Follow up after 30 days if you have not heard back.
Note _____

☐ 13. Send thank you letters, and if it is a no, keep going until you get a yes.
Note _____

Most important reminders:
Check eligibility, income limits, and timing first.
Gather IRS 1040, insurance card, medical form.

Keep it simple: check the website, call if allowed, and use the 13 steps to save time

4 PAWS FOR ABILITY

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.4PAWSFORABILITY.ORG

Contact: KAREN@4PAWSFORABILITY.ORG 937-374-0385

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ 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
- ☐ Support

Good fit : Families who need gas cards.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

Contacted: _____

Applied: _____

Follow-up: _____

TAMMY'S 13-STEP CHECKLIST

Use this same checklist for each source so nothing gets missed.

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☐ 13. Send thank you letters, and if it is a no, keep going until you get a yes.
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Most important reminders:
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Keep it simple: check the website, call if allowed, and use the 13 steps to save time

DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

ABILITY FOUND

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.ABILITYFOUND.ORG

Contact: INFO@ABILITYFOUND.ORG 801-505-0529

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ Ability Found's mission is to provide medical and rehabilitation equipment free of charge to people with disabilities

Good fit : Families who need medical care or treatment support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

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ABLE-GAMERS FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.ABLEGAMERS.COM

Contact: Use website contact form

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ The Able-Gamers Foundation is proud to offer a onetime grant for gaming equipment

Good fit : Families who need medical care or treatment support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

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ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.LISTENINGANDSPOKENLANGUAGE.ORG

Contact: INFO@AGBELL.ORG 202-337-5220

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ 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

Good fit : Families who need hearing support or hearing-related needs.

QUICK NOTES

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DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

ALTERNATIVES IN MOTION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.ALTERNATIVESINMOTION.ORG

Contact: INFO@ALTERNATIVESINMOTION.ORG
877-468-9335

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ Alternatives in Motion provides wheelchairs to individuals who do not qualify for other assistance and who could not

Good fit : Families who need mobility equipment or accessibility support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

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ANGEL FLIGHT

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.ANGELFLIGHT.COM

Contact: ANGEL@ANGELFLIGHT.COM
918-749-8992

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ We will arrange free air transportation for any legitimate
- ☐ Charitable
- ☐ Medically related need
- ☐ This service is available to individuals

Good fit : Families who need medical care or treatment support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

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ANGEL WHEELS TO HEALING

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.ANGELWHEELS.ORG

Contact: Use website contact form

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ Angel Wheels to Healing utilizes the following resources for assisting patients: Gas cards (Provided to help off-set

Good fit : Families who need medical travel or transportation support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

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ASSOCIATION OF BLIND CITIZENS ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FUND

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.BLINDCITIZENS.ORG

Contact: PRESIDENT@BLINDCITIZENS.ORG
781-961-1023

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ 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

Good fit : Families who need vision, Braille, or assistive technology support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

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ATHLETES HELPING ATHLETES FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.ATHLETESHELPINGATHLETES.ORG

Contact: AHA@ROADRUNNERSPORTS.COM
888-566-5221

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- [ ] Handcycles free of charge

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

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DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

BRIGHT STEPS FORWARD

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.BRIGHTSTEPSFORWARD.ORG

Contact: 954-491-6611

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ Intensive pediatric therapy uses state-of-the-art therapy techniques
- ☐ Such as the suit therapy method and hyperbaric oxygen therapy

Good fit : Families who need therapy or therapeutic support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

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CANINES FOR KIDS

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.CANINESFORKIDS.ORG

Contact: INFO@CANINESFORKIDS.ORG
978-422-5299

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ Trained service dogs for kids
- ☐ Supporting the creation of child-canine service teams to promote independence and social awareness

Good fit : Families who need service dog support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

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CANINE PARTNERS FOR LIFE

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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,.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.K9A4LIFE.ORG

Contact: INFO@K94LIFE.ORG 610-869-4902

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ The total cost to raise
- ☐ Train
- ☐ Place
- ☐ Provide lifetime support for each Canine Partners for Life The organization utilizes a sliding scale based on income to

Good fit : Families who need service dog support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

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CHALLENGED ATHLETES FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.CHALLENGEDATHLETES.ORG

Contact: CAF@CHALLENGEDATHLETES.ORG
858-866-0959

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ Individuals can only apply for one each year: Coaching/training fees
- ☐ Like gym fees and coaching fees
- ☐ Competition expenses
- ☐ Like entry fees

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

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CONOVER MOBILE TECHNOLOGY GRANT

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.CONOVERCOMPANY.COM

Contact: 800-933-1933

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ The grants are currently targeted to the use of iPod and iPad devices to assist individuals in improving their ability
- ☐ Schools
- ☐ Workplaces and communities
- ☐ Successful

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

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☐ 13. Send thank you letters, and if it is a no, keep going until you get a yes.
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Most important reminders:
Tell your child's story. Call the funder. Follow up. Send a thank-you note either way.

Keep it simple: check the website, call if allowed, and use the 13 steps to save time

FIRST HAND FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

First Hand is a not-for-profit, 501 (c)(3) organization that provides funding for individual children with healthrelated needs when insurance and other financial resources have been exhausted. The heart of the.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.FIRSTHANDFOUNDATION.ORG

Contact: 216-904-5151

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ Treatment: Clinical procedures
- ☐ Medicine
- ☐ Therapy
- ☐ Prosthesis

Good fit : Families who need mobility equipment or accessibility support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

Contacted: _____

Applied: _____

Follow-up: _____

TAMMY'S 13-STEP CHECKLIST

Use this same checklist for each source so nothing gets missed.

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FRIENDS OF DISABLED ADULTS AND CHILDREN

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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,.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.FODAC.ORG

Contact: Use website contact form

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ 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

Good fit : Families who need mobility equipment or accessibility support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

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Questions to ask: _____

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DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

FRIENDS OF MAN

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.FRIENDSOFMAN.ORG

Contact: 303-798-2342

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ Mobility equipment: Prostheses
- ☐ Wheelchairs
- ☐ Van lifts
- ☐ Ramps and home modifications

Good fit : Families who need mobility equipment or accessibility support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

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DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

FUND IT FORWARD

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.FUNDITFWD.ORG

Contact: 303-619-3514

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ Augmentative Communication Devices Bath & Feeding Chairs Enclosed Beds (such as the Safety Sleeper) Sensory Equipment

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

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DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

GOOD DAYS BY CDF

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.GOODDAYSFROMCDF.ORG

Contact: INFO@CDFUND.ORG 972-608-7141

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ We help patients suffering from chronic medical conditions who have limited financial means get access to the
- ☐ Our program helps qualified patients pay their insurance co-pays

Good fit : Families who need medical care or treatment support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

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HEALTHWELL PEDIATRIC ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: Check website / search organization name

Contact: 800-675-8416

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- [ ] Support and resources related to your child's needs

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

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TAMMY'S 13-STEP CHECKLIST

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DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

JOEY'S FRIENDS TOO

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.JOEYSFRIENDSTOO.ORG

Contact: VIRGINIA@JOEYSFRIENDSTOO.COM
516-354-0654

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ Joey's Friends Too assists in the purchase of medical equipment deemed necessary to promote independence and enhanced

Good fit : Families who need medical care or treatment support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

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Follow-up: _____

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DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

KYA'S KRUSADE

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.KYASKRUSADE.ORG

Contact: INFO@KYASKRUSADE.ORG
614-750-2198

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ Support and resources related to your child's needs

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

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THE LINDSAY FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.LINDSAYFOUNDATION.ORG

Contact: Use website contact form

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ The primary goal of the Lindsay Foundation is to assist families with the resources necessary to provide medical
- ☐ Therapies and rehabilitative equipment in order to improve the

Good fit : Families who need medical care or treatment support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

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Follow-up: _____

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DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: Check website / search organization name

Contact: INFO@LPAONLINE.ORG

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ Jack Zembsch's family and friends (Team Jack) are honored to be able to provide "out-of-pocket" expenses for a

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

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DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

MAGGIE WELBY FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: Check website / search organization name

Contact: INFO@MAGGIEWELBY.ORG 314-330-6947

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ 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

Good fit : Families who need medical care or treatment support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

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DISABILITY COMPANION WORKBOOK

MARK'S MONEY

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.MARKSMONEY.ORG

Contact: 678-642-8787

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ Mark's Money funds for items that will improve quality of life through daily living
- ☐ Employment
- ☐ Medical
- ☐ Residential or social needs

Good fit : Families who need medical care or treatment support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

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MIRACLE-EAR FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.MIRACLE-EAR.COM

Contact: 1-800-464-8002

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ The Miracle-Ear Foundation is working to ensure that kids who need hearing aids receive them

Good fit : Families who need hearing support or hearing-related needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

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MODEST NEEDS FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.MODESTNEEDS.ORG

Contact: Use website contact form

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ Support and resources related to your child's needs

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

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Follow-up: _____

TAMMY'S 13-STEP CHECKLIST

Use this same checklist for each source so nothing gets missed.

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☐ 11. Complete every form required by the funder.

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☐ 12. Follow up after 30 days if you have not heard back.

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☐ 13. Send thank you letters, and if it is a no, keep going until you get a yes.

Note _____

Most important reminders:
Tell your child's story. Call the funder. Follow up. Send a thank-you note either way.

Keep it simple: check the website, call if allowed, and use the 13 steps to save time

THE M.O.R.G.A.N. PROJECT

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.THEMORGANPROJECT.ORG

Contact: Use website contact form

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ The M.O.R.G.A.N
- ☐ Project carries a revolving list of items that continually varies

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

Contacted: _____

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Follow-up: _____

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MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS FOUNDATION ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY GRANT

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.MSFOCUS.ORG/ASSISTIVE

Contact: SUPPORT@MSFOCUS.ORG 888-673-6287

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ Aids for daily living Orthotics Communication devices Seating
- ☐ Positioning and mobility devices

Good fit : Families who need mobility equipment or accessibility support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

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MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.MDA.ORG

Contact: MDA@MDAUSA.ORG

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ To the extent feasible and when available
- ☐ The program provides good-condition
- ☐ Gently used wheelchairs and other medical equipment
- ☐ Such as shower chairs

Good fit : Families who need mobility equipment or accessibility support.

QUICK NOTES

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Application link/form: _____

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NATIONAL CRISTINA FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.CRISTINA.ORG

Contact: 203-863-9100

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ 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

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

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Application link/form: _____

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NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR RARE DISORDERS

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.RAREDISEASES.ORG

Contact: 203-744-0100

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ NORD offers programs to help patients access certain medications
- ☐ These include free-drug
- ☐ Co-pay assistance
- ☐ Early and expanded access

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

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NEW EYES

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.NEW-EYES.ORG

Contact: INFO@NEW-EYES.ORG 973-376-4903

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ A New Eyes voucher typically covers only the cost of a basic pair of single or lined bifocal eyeglasses

Good fit : Families who need vision, Braille, or assistive technology support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

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Questions to ask: _____

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PACER CENTER

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.PACER.ORG

Contact: 888-248-0822

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ The PACER Center offers over 40 specialty projects created to provide assistance to families of children with
- ☐ Including children with special health needs,

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

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PATIENT ADVOCATE FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.PATIENTADVOCATE.ORG

Contact: 800-532-5274

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ 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

Good fit : Families who need vision, Braille, or assistive technology support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

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PRAYER CHILD FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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,.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: Check website / search organization name

Contact: 614-221-6367

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ The Foundation seeks to provide assistance to living children that are eighteen years old and younger with physical and

Good fit : Families who need support related to your child's disability needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

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RAY TYE MEDICAL AID FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.RTMAF.ORG

Contact: INFO@RTMAF.ORG 781-356-4300

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ The Ray Tye Medical Aid Foundation's charter and mission is dedicated to funding in-hospital life saving medical
- ☐ For which no other

Good fit : Families who need medical care or treatment support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

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SEEDLINGS BRAILLE BOOKS

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.SEEDLINGS.ORG

Contact: 800-777-8552

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ Blind children in the U.S
- ☐ And Canada can receive two free Braille books per year

Good fit : Families who need vision, Braille, or assistive technology support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

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SMILES CHANGE LIVES

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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,.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.SMILESCHANGELIVES.ORG

Contact: INFO@SMILESCHANGELIVES.ORG
888-900-3554

HOW THEY MAY HELP

☐ Smiles Change Lives funds for orthodontic treatment for children from low income families

Good fit : Families who need medical care or treatment support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

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STARKEY HEARING FOUNDATION

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.STARKEYHEARINGFOUNDATION.ORG

Contact: INFO@STARKEYFOUNDATION.ORG
866-354-3254

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ 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

Good fit : Families who need hearing support or hearing-related needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

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Note _____

Most important reminders:
Tell your child's story. Call the funder. Follow up. Send a thank-you note either way.

Keep it simple: check the website, call if allowed, and use the 13 steps to save time

SUMMIT ASSISTANCE DOGS

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.SUMMITDOGS.ORG

Contact: INFO@SUMMITDOGS.ORG
360-293-5609

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ 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

Good fit : Families who need service dog support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

Contacted: _____

Applied: _____

Follow-up: _____

TAMMY'S 13-STEP CHECKLIST

Use this same checklist for each source so nothing gets missed.

☐ 1. Identify the product or service needed.
Note _____

☐ 2. Get a cost estimate or price quote.
Note _____

☐ 3. Take a picture of your child with the item/service.
Note _____

☐ 4. Get a letter of medical necessity.
Note _____

☐ 5. Gather insurance and financial documents.
Note _____

☐ 6. Submit the price quote and submit to insurance for a denial letter.
Note _____

☐ 7. Write a strong Ask Letter with your child's story.
Note _____

☐ 8. Research funding sources for the best match.
Note _____

☐ 9. Choose your top funding source matches.
Note _____

☐ 10. Call each funder and ask questions.
Note _____

☐ 11. Complete every form required by the funder.
Note _____

☐ 12. Follow up after 30 days if you have not heard back.
Note _____

☐ 13. Send thank you letters, and if it is a no, keep going until you get a yes.
Note _____

Most important reminders:
Tell your child's story. Call the funder. Follow up. Send a thank-you note either way.

Keep it simple: check the website, call if allowed, and use the 13 steps to save time

TRAVELERS PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

NATIONAL

Region: Check website and guidelines

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.TPAHQ.ORG

Contact: 1-877-872-2638

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ Financial aid to people who suffer deafness or hearing impairment and who need assistance in obtaining mechanical
- ☐ Medical or specialized treatment or specialized education as well as speech

Good fit : Families who need hearing support or hearing-related needs.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

Contacted: _____

Applied: _____

Follow-up: _____

TAMMY'S 13-STEP CHECKLIST

Use this same checklist for each source so nothing gets missed.

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Keep it simple: check the website, call if allowed, and use the 13 steps to save time

VARIETY – THE CHILDREN'S CHARITY OF THE U.S.

NATIONAL

Region: National

One source. Key information. Tammy's 13-step checklist.

ABOUT THIS FUNDING SOURCE

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,.

Note _____

WEBSITE & CONTACT

Website: WWW.USVARIETY.ORG

Contact: Check website for local chapter contact information

HOW THEY MAY HELP

- ☐ Examples include: Electric and manual wheelchairs
- ☐ Stair glides
- ☐ Ramps
- ☐ Van lifts

Good fit : Families who need mobility equipment or accessibility support.

QUICK NOTES

Best contact person: _____

Application link/form: _____

Referral needed from: _____

Questions to ask: _____

Dates:

Contacted: _____

Applied: _____

Follow-up: _____

TAMMY'S 13-STEP CHECKLIST

Use this same checklist for each source so nothing gets missed.

☐ 1. Identify the product or service needed.
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Most important reminders:
Tell your child's story. Call the funder. Follow up. Send a thank-you note either way.

Keep it simple: check the website, call if allowed, and use the 13 steps to save time

SECTION TWELVE

ENCOURAGEMENT & SELF-CARE

Support for you, too.

Daily Reminders from Tammy & NICU Families:

- Do not take no for an answer. If you get a No, you keep going until you get a Yes. - Grandma Vaughn's wisdom
- You are your child's voice, advocate, and storyteller.
- Never give up. Follow your instincts and ask questions when something does not feel right.
- Believe support is possible, because it is.

When You Feel Overwhelmed:

- Remember Jacob's story, from a child who needed support to an adult still enjoying the freedom of adaptive biking.
- Think about Melissa Copp, who kept asking until her family received the accessible home they needed.
- Remember every parent who started with one small step and kept going until a yes came.
- YOU are building the same strength and resilience.

Weekly Goals (Keep It Simple):

This week I will:

- [ ] This week I will complete _____ step(s) of the 13-step process.
- [ ] Research _____ funding organizations or support resources.
- [ ] Submit _____ applications.
- [ ] Follow up on applications sent on _____ .

CAREGIVER JOURNAL

A private space for parents and caregivers to write down thoughts, feelings, questions, prayers, memories, and small victories along the journey.

Take care of myself by :

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

TODAY I AM FEELING

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

WHAT FEELS HEAVIEST RIGHT NOW IS

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

WHAT I WISH PEOPLE UNDERSTOOD IS

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

ONE THING I'M PROUD OF MYSELF FOR TODAY

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

ONE THING THAT GAVE ME HOPE TODAY

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

WHAT I NEED MOST RIGHT NOW IS

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

CHECK WHAT YOU NEED TODAY

- ☐ Rest
- ☐ Prayer
- ☐ Food
- ☐ Sleep
- ☐ Help
- ☐ A hug
- ☐ Answers
- ☐ Quiet
- ☐ Courage
- ☐ Hope

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

ONE SMALL WAY I CAN CARE FOR MYSELF TODAY

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

A NOTE TO MY CHILD

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

A NOTE TO MYSELF

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

TODAY'S TINY WIN

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

A NOTE TO MY SPOUSE / PARTNER

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

A NOTE TO MY OTHER CHILDRENS

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

A NOTE TO SOMEONE WHO IS HELPING US

REMINDER: You are not failing. You are loving your child through a hard chapter.

SECTION TWELVE

WHEN YOU FEEL OVERWHELMED

A quick reset for hard moments.

TRY ONE SMALL THING

- [ ] Pause and take one deep breath.
- [ ] Ask for help with one small thing.
- [ ] Write down the next step, not every step.
- [ ] Drink water or eat something simple.
- [ ] Give yourself grace today.

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

RIGHT NOW, I CAN CONTROL

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

RIGHT NOW, I CAN ASK FOR

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

RIGHT NOW, I CAN RELEASE

Use this space for anything your heart needs to say today.

WRITE FREELY

SECTION THIRTEEN

CELEBRATE PROGRESS & PAY IT FORWARD

Milestones to Celebrate:

- [ ] Completed my first application for support
- [ ] Received my first approval
- [ ] Built my support team
- [ ] Got all documentation organized
- [ ] Reached an important support goal
- [ ] Paid for my child's needed equipment/service
- [ ] Other: _____

Paying It Forward (When You're Ready):

- [ ] Share resource lists with other NICU families
- [ ] Mentor new families in the midst of the funding process
- [ ] Volunteer with NICU support groups
- [ ] Help other families apply for support
- [ ] Donate the equipment your child has outgrown to families in need
- [ ] Share your success story to inspire others

Tammy's Tip: If you plan to donate outgrown items, mention it in your application. Funders love to see people paying it forward!

SECTION FOURTEEN

IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR THE ROAD AHEAD

Things TO Do:

- Geographic location matters - Check this FIRST
- Follow instructions exactly - If they ask for 3 pages, give them 3 pages
- Apply to MULTIPLE sources of support
- Take photos - A picture really is worth a thousand words
- Call if you can - Even without questions, let them hear your name
- Always send thank you letters - Whether you get a Yes or a No
- Don't give up - You will get some denials, but you will get a YES

Things NOT To Do:

- Don't apply if you don't meet the funder's requirements
- Don't pay anyone for lists of funding or support resources
- Don't give up after the first "No"
- Don't forget to follow up
- Don't skip sending thank you letters
- Don't assume that a funder knows your child's limitations based on their diagnosis

Every step you take brings you closer to the support your family needs.

YOU'VE GOT THIS

Everything I have done to help families, and every lesson I teach, comes from the most 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!

Your child's disability journey has already proven that you are stronger than you know. Now you have practical tools to help you take the next steps toward support, stability, and a clearer path forward for your child and your family.

- **Every step you complete matters.**
- **Every question you ask matters.**
- **Every resource you discover brings you closer to what your child needs.**

You are not just surviving this experience. You are building knowledge, confidence, and resilience that will serve your family for years to come.

Your child is lucky to have such a dedicated advocate. You are exactly the parent your child needs.

NOTES, CONTACTS & IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Use this space for contact information, important reminders, or additional notes:

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Use this space for contact information, important reminders, or additional notes:

THE SUPPORT SYSTEM THAT FITS IN YOUR HANDS

You are already doing the hardest thing, being there for your child and advocating for what they need. This workbook was created to help with one of the things families are too often left to navigate alone: the financial realities that come with disability-related equipment, therapies, medical care, adaptive technology, and support services.

The Disability Companion Workbook is the practical companion to The Disability Funding Guide. Together, they are designed to help families organize next steps, gather important information, tell their child's story, track funding opportunities, and move forward with greater clarity.

Everything in this workbook is designed to work with real life right now

- **Write your child's story once and use it in more than one place.**
- **Keep medical letters, insurance denials, and quotes organized together.**
- **Track funding sources, contacts, and next steps.**
- **Follow clear checklists so nothing gets missed, even when you are exhausted.**

Whether you are waiting for an appointment, sitting at home after a long day, or trying to make sense of the next step, this workbook meets you where you are and gives you one place to begin.

Families raising children with disabilities often have care plans, but not always financial roadmaps. This workbook was created to help change that.

All the content in this workbook is also available digitally through the QR code.

TAMMY'S PROMISE TO YOU

You do not have to figure this out alone

You do not have to figure this out alone. Let this workbook carry some of the load for you.

I cannot take away every hard moment of this journey, but I can promise you this: you now have a place to begin, a path to follow, and words to lean on when everything feels overwhelming.

This workbook was created to carry part of the load. It helps organize the steps, questions, contacts, documents, and resources that can get lost when your focus is where it should be, on your child.

You do not have to do everything today. You do not have to have the whole road figured out. You only need the next step.

You can do this. Your family can move forward. And you do not have to figure this out alone.

With you every step of the way,

- **I will show you where to start.**
- **I will remind you that asking for help is not weakness.**
- **I will help you take the next step, one page, one call, one application at a time.**
- **I will remind you to keep going when the first answer is no.**
- **I will help you believe that support is possible, because it is.**

Keep going
Keep asking
Keep believing

Tammy

You do not have to figure this out alone. Let this workbook carry some of the load for you.

You Don't Have to Figure This Out Alone

You are already doing the hardest thing:
being there for your child and advocating for what they need.

Inside, you'll find simple pages to help you:

- Write your child's story
- Gather medical letters, denials, and cost estimates
- Track funders, applications, and follow-ups
- Stay organized when life feels overwhelming

FOR FRIENDS, FAMILY MEMBERS, AND LOVED ONES

Want to help a family raising a child with disabilities but do not know what to do?

HERE'S HOW:

Use this workbook to help gather the family's story, organize documents, and start a fundraiser for medical, therapy, accessibility, transportation, housing, and care-related expenses.

A FEW KIND WORDS...

> *"With Tammy's guidance and The NICU Funding Guide, we found the confidence to apply for help. What felt impossible became the dream of a lifetime."*
>
> *Melissa Copp, mom to Calen and Lawson*

> *"This workbook offers a calm, organized path forward for NICU families facing financial stress."*
>
> *Jessica F., RN I NICU Nurse*

> *"You and your books are a gift to humanity."*
>
> *Kathi Brummet, Education Specialist, Advocate Children's Hospital*

the FUNDING PROJECT

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