

EDUCATIONAL AND POTENTIAL FUNDING ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

Government Resources:

Cancer Program

Division of Public Health
Chronic Disease and Injury
1915 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1915
TEL: 919-707 5200
FAX: 919 870 4800
WEBSITE: www.communityhealth.dhhs.state.nc.us/cancer/ccp.htm

A funding program that covers the cost of health-related services for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. If a person has a condition suspicious of cancer, the program will pay for up to 8 days of service per year to diagnose or rule out the disease. If a person is diagnosed with cancer and has a 25% or better chance of five year survival based on the National Cancer Institute SEER data, the program will pay for up to 30 days of treatment per year. The program also covers 2 days per year for follow-up visits if the diagnostic and treatment limits have not been met. Reimbursement for any professional fee, outpatient service, or inpatient admission is limited to 1% of the program's annual budget. This limit is approximately \$25,000.

To qualify, an applicant must be a NC resident, and have a gross family income at or below 115% of the federal poverty level. Covered services also include:

- Inpatient admissions;
- Outpatient hospital care;
- Physician's office visits;
- Short term motel stays; and
- Meals for patients undergoing program funded treatment in a facility that is over 50 miles from home.

For more information, contact program staff at the number above. Program forms can be downloaded from the following website: www.dhhs.state.nc.us/control/pomcs/pomcs.htm. Forms are submitted to the address on the back of the form rather than the address above.

CARE-LINE

Office of Citizen Services

TEL: 800 662 7030 (Toll Free)

TEL: 919 855 4400 (Local)

TEL: 877 452 2514 (TTY/Toll Free) Dedicated to and accessible only by deaf and hard of hearing individuals

TEL: 919 733 4851 (TTY/Local)

FAX: 919 715 8174

WEBSITE: www.ncdhhs.gov/ocs/careline.htm or www.ncdhhs.gov/ocs

EMAIL: care.line@ncmail.net

Mailing Address

2012 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-2012

Physical Address

Royster Bld

1020 Richardson Dr.

Raleigh, NC 27603

The CARE-LINE is the NC Department of Health and Human Services' (NCDHHS) toll-free information and referral telephone service. Information and Referral Specialists provide information and referrals regarding human services in government as well as non-profit agencies. Currently, eight individuals staff the CARE-LINE, one of which is dedicated to handling calls from Spanish-speaking customers. NC residents can reach the CARE-LINE toll free (Monday-Friday), except state holidays at the numbers listed above. Those calling outside of NC must dial the local numbers.

Visit their website to access their On-Line Care-Line database of over 10,000 agencies across the state. The database is still under construction so resources in all cities in NC may not yet be available.

Children's Special Health Services (CSHS)

Division of Public Health/Children & Youth Branch
1928 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1928
TEL: 800-737-3028

A funding program that pays for services such as durable medical equipment, adaptive aids, and communication equipment; supplies and medication; oral formulas; home ramps; and sometimes surgeries that are not covered by Medicaid, Medicaid Waiver Programs, or private insurance. To qualify, child must:

- be a NC resident;
- be under age 21;
- be enrolled with Medicaid;
- have a diagnosis that is covered by the program; and
- need funding for a service not covered by any other program in which the child is enrolled, such as Medicaid, Medicaid Waiver Programs or private insurance.

For more information, contact the Children with Special Health Services Help Line at the number above. Forms are submitted to the address on the back of the form rather than the address above. Program forms can be downloaded from the following site: www.dhhs.state.nc.us/control/pomcs/pomcs.htm.

Community Alternatives Program for Children (CAP-C)

Division of Medical Assistance
2502 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2502
TEL: 919 857 4021
WEBSITE: www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma

A Medicaid waiver program that allows medically fragile children, who are at risk for institutionalization in a nursing facility or hospital, to remain in the community with their family and still access the services they need. CAP-C waiver services include: case management; nursing and personal care; medical supplies; oral and enteral formulas and other nutritional supplements; home modification aids, in-home and out-of-home respite care. Regular Medicaid services are also available under the guidelines for those services. Eligibility is determined by the Division of Medical Assistance. To qualify, an applicant must:

- be a NC resident under age 19;
- be medically fragile;
- be Medicaid eligible;
- require a nursing facility level of care;
- will have (if eligible) access to resources for the health, safety, and well-being to be maintained at home within the program's budget limit; and
- have the desire to receive treatment services within the community versus institutional care.

Community Alternatives Program for Persons with Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities (CAP-MR/DD)

State CAP-MR/DD Office
Division of Medical Assistance
2501 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2511
TEL: 919 855 4294
Contact: Patti Kirk

CAP-MR/DD is a Medicaid waiver program that provides funding for many services including augmentative communication devices, accessibility adaptations, family training, nursing respite care, respite care services, supportive living, supportive employment, day habilitation, etc. Local programs are administered by area mental health programs (called Local Management Entities or LME's). To qualify the application must:

- be a resident of NC;
- have a diagnosis of mental retardation or a developmental disability before age 21;
- need a level of care equal to that provided in an Intermediate Care Facility for those with mental retardation;
- have demonstrated need for this level of service; and a
- desire by individual or parent to receive treatment services within the community versus institutional care.

To learn more, contact the LME for your county. For a listing of LME's, visit the following website:
<http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/mhddsas/lmedirectory.htm>

Health Check and Health Choice Programs

Division of Medical Assistance
2501 Mail Service Center (mailing address)
1985 Umstead Dr., Kirby Bldg. (physical address)
Raleigh, NC 27699-2501
TEL: 919 855 4100
FAX: 919 733 6608

NC Health Check (Medicaid for Children) Program provides health care coverage for children birth – 21 years of age. Once enrolled, Medicaid can be used in combination with a private insurance plan. Applications are processed by the local Department of Social Services in the county where the child resides. Applicant must be a U.S. citizen, a resident of NC, and have a gross family income that is within the allowable gross income range. The income eligibility level is dependent upon family size, and age of the child. Medicaid is housed with the Division of Medical Assistance (DMA). **For more information, visit the DMA website below or contact the Care Line at 800-662-7030.** An application and Medicaid Member Handbook can be downloaded from the following website: www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma/cpcont.htm.

NC Health Choice Program provides health care coverage for children ages 6 - 19. Health Choice cannot be used in combination with other insurance plans. Applicants are processed by the local Department of Social Services in the county where the child resides. Applicant must be a U.S. citizen, resident of NC, and have a gross family income that is within the allowable gross income range. The income eligibility level is dependent upon family size, and age of the child. The applicant must also be uninsured on the day of enrollment in the program. The income limit for Health Choice is a little higher than that allowed under the Medicaid Program. The Health Choice Program is housed with the Division of Public Health and includes both a core and a special needs plan. The core plan is much like typical private plans, while the special needs plan includes some additional benefits for children with special needs. Those additional benefits are similar to those covered under Medicaid.

You can download an application as well as review both the core plan Member Handbook and the Special Needs Plan Booklet at the following website: www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma/cpcont.htm. Health Check (Medicaid for children) and Health Choice use the same application. This prevents a family having to apply separately for each program. The core plan is administered by the NC State Employees and Teachers Plan of NC through Blue Cross/Blue Shield of NC. The special needs portion of Health Choice is administered by the Division of Public Health. For more information, visit the website above or contact the **Children with Special Health Care Needs Help Line 800-737-3028**.

HIV/AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)

HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch
Dept of Health and Human Services
1902 Main Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27609-1902
TEL: 919 733 7301
TEL: 919 715 3111
FAX: 919 733 0195
WEBSITE: www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/hiv/adap.html
EMAIL: HIVSTDPrevention@ncmail.net

The NC AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) is also known as the HIV Medication Program. The program covers the cost of life sustaining medications to fight HIV/AIDS and the opportunistic infections which often accompany the disease. The program purchases medications in bulk from a pharmaceutical wholesaler and has a central pharmacy that fills the prescriptions and mails them to the patient. To qualify, an applicant must:

- be a NC resident;
- be HIV positive (have HIV disease or AIDS);
- have a net family income at or below 200% of the federal poverty scale;
- not have other funding resources such as Medicaid, Medicare or private insurance; and
- have prescription(s) for medications that are covered by the program and used for the treatment of HIV Disease/Aids.

For a listing of medications covered by the program, and the income eligibility chart, visit their website at the address above. Forms are submitted to the address on the back of the form rather the address above. Program forms can also be downloaded from www.dhhs.state.nc.us/control/pomcs/pomcs.htm.

Infant Toddler Program (ITP)

Division of Public Health
Early Intervention Branch
1916 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1916
TEL: 919 707 5520
FAX: 919 870 4834
WWW: www.ncei.org/ei/index.html

The Infant-Toddler Program is a variety of agencies working together to provide early intervention services for children ages birth to three who have special needs and their families. These services are provided by many different agencies including Children's Developmental Services Agencies (CDSAs), specialty providers (like physical, occupational and speech therapists), and service coordinators. Children with developmental delays, atypical development or those who are considered high risk for delays may qualify for the program. Recommendations on the types of services a child needs are determined by the Consortium which consists of a variety of people who are involved with children with special health care needs. These might include health care providers; a service coordinator; the local mental health agency; the health department; CDSA agencies; and of course, the parent(s) of the child with special needs. Once enrolled, a Service Coordinator is responsible for completing the Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) and coordinating services that the child is to receive.

For information on covered services and eligibility requirements please visit their website. You will also find contact information there for various agencies that can help you determine if your child qualifies.

Kidney Program

Division of Public Health
1915 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1915
TEL: 919 707 5200
FAX: 919 870 4800
WEBSITE: www.communityhealth.dhhs.state.nc.us/
EMAIL: laura.edwards@ncmail.net

A funding program that covers some of the cost of condition-related services for persons with End Stage Renal Disease, who require dialysis or transplantation. Applicant must be a U.S. citizen, a resident of NC, and have a gross family income that is within the allowable gross income range. Patients may apply at any time during the year. Reapplications are processed April through June for the 12 month period beginning July 1.

Covered Services include:

- Chronic maintenance dialysis,
- Home training dialysis,
- Inpatient hospital dialysis,
- Condition-related drugs and supplies (limited to \$300 per year).

Forms are submitted to the address on the back of the form rather than the address above. Program forms can be downloaded from the following site: www.dhhs.state.nc.us/control/pomcs/pomcs.htm. For additional information on the program visit their website at the location indicated under the address above.

NC Assistive Technology Program (NCATP) (3/07)

Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
1110 Navaho Drive, Suite 101
Raleigh, NC 27609-7322
TEL/TTY: 919-850-2787
FAX: 919-850-2792
EMAIL: alauber@ncatp.org (funding specialist)
WEBSITE: www.ncatp.org

The NC Assistive Technology Program serves children and adults disabilities and their families through its nine centers and 13 satellite sites by providing free AT services such as:

- Hands-on demonstration of AT for computer use, activities of daily living, listening communication, telecommunication, mobility, education, learning, leisure, play, alarm/emergency systems, and environmental control
- Short-term AT loan to try out devices
- AT resource information & referral to other programs
- Awareness activities on AT & general overview of NCATP services
- Advocacy for individuals & their families on their rights to AT services
- Funding resource information based on the person's needs

For a fee, additional services are available, such as:

- Technical assistance in selecting devices showing the range of AT options
- Assistive technology assessments

- Feature matching & device trial
- Training on a specific devices and software
- Consultation services
- Specialized workshops/seminars, group training, and technical presentations

Centers

Center Location	Staff	Phone Number
<i>CENTRAL</i>		
Navaho Dr., Raleigh	Lynn Deese/Rebecca Sitton	919 850 2787
Silas Creek Parkway, Winston Salem	Harriet Forbis	336 718 1660
Brewer Rd., Winston Salem	Jeremiah Pegram	336 718 1612
Miller St., Winston Salem	Page Norris-Mikol	336 716 8030
<i>EAST</i>		
Executive Park Circle, Greenville	Star Vaught	252 830 8575
Griffin St., Elizabeth City	Linda Buff	252 338 5507
Station Square, Rocky Mount	Lorene Roberson	800 999 6828
Shipyards Blvd., Wilmington	Ja Medlicott	910 790 3468
<i>WEST</i>		
Bonnie Lane, Sylva	Sonya VanHorn/Mary Kay Dulin	828 631 9461
Enola Rd., Morganton	Shelby Kennerly	828 433 2431
Blythe Blvd., Charlotte	Celeste Heiling/Molly Shannon	704 355 2703
Executive Center Dr., Charlotte	Molly Shannon	704 568 8804 ext. 299
<i>ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE</i>		
Director	Maureen Schepis	919 850 2787
Funding Specialist	Annette Lauber	919 850 2787
Consumer Resource Specialist	Carol Williams	919 850 2787

Sickle Cell Program

Division of Public Health
 1929 Mail Service Center
 Raleigh, NC 27699-1929
 Client Resource Line: 866 627 2355 (toll free)
 TEL: 919 707 5700 (local)
 FAX: 919 870 4827
 WEBSITE: www.ncsicklecellprogram.org

A funding program that covers the cost of health-related services for persons with Sickle Cell Syndrome or Sickle Cell Disease. To qualify an applicant must:

- be a NC resident or any age,
- be diagnosed as having Sickle Cell Syndrome or Sickle Cell Disease, and
- have a net family income at or below 100% of the federal poverty level.

Covered Services include:

- Inpatient care (one admission per year with a 7 day maximum);
- Outpatient care, emergency room visits up to 12 per year;
- Physician's office visits;
- Medications;
- Condition-related medical equipment and supplies;
- Special therapies;
- Preventive and maintenance dentistry; and

- Eye care if the service needed is not available through NC Services for the Blind.

Forms are submitted to the address on the back of the form rather than the address above. Program forms can be downloaded from the following site: www.dhhs.state.nc.us/control/pomcs/pomcs.htm. To talk with someone in your area, call the Client Resource Line at the number above. To learn about other services offered under the program, such as genetic counseling, educational materials and a listing of community-based programs, visit their website at the location indicated under their address above.

Vocational Rehabilitation

2801 Mail Service Center
 Raleigh, NC 27699-2801
 TEL: 919-855-3500
 FAX: 919-733-7968
 WEBSITE: <http://dvr.dhhs.state.nc.us/>

The goal of the Vocational Rehabilitation Program is employment. Vocational rehabilitation counselors work with business and community agencies to help them prepare their worksites to accommodate employees who have physical or mental disabilities. The division also provides services that encourage and reinforce independent living for the disabled, through two main components: the Vocational Rehabilitation Program and the Independent Living Services Program.

Rehabilitation counselors in vocational rehabilitation offices across the state are available to assist people with disabilities with individualized plans to meet their unique needs. Counselors can provide vocational evaluations, job training, guidance and counseling. They help disabled people make the transition from rehabilitation to employment and educate them about the kinds of technology available that could increase independence. Services may include:

- Job Placement
- Guidance and Counseling
- Restoration Training, and
- Post-employment support.

You are eligible for VR services if:

- You have a physical, mental, learning disability, or emotional impairment that affects your ability to find or maintain employment, and
- You require VR services to get ready for, find or keep a job
- You and your rehabilitation counselor will develop a partnership and explore your options throughout the rehabilitation process.

Assisting individuals with significant disabilities in achieving independence is the primary objective of VR's **Independent Living Program**. That means providing services that enable these individuals to live and function in the homes and communities of their choice. Counselors and program participants jointly develop a plan that will provide a viable, cost-effective alternative to institutional living and in many cases help maintain or improve employment opportunities. In addition to evaluation, counseling and coordination of resources, typical Independent Living services include:

- Independent living skills training
- Home and vehicle modifications
- Peer counseling and advocacy
- Rehabilitation engineering
- Adaptive aids, prosthetics, orthotics
- Consumer-managed personal assistance services
- Recreational therapy, leisure activities
- Communication/environmental control systems

Miscellaneous Private Resources:

American Cancer Society

11 S Boylan Ste 221

Raleigh, NC 27603

TEL: 919 834 8463 (your local office)

FAX: 919 839-0551

WEBSITE: www.cancer.org

TEL: 800 ACS 2345 (National Cancer Information Center)

The American Cancer Society (ACS) is a nationwide, community-based voluntary health organization. Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, the ACS has state divisions and more than 3,400 local offices. People facing cancer need clear, reliable information in order to understand their disease and make informed decisions about their health. Trained cancer information specialists are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to answer questions about cancer, link callers with resources in their communities, and provide information on local events. Callers who speak languages other than English and Spanish can also be assisted. The National Cancer Information Center includes an email response center staffed by cancer information specialists who respond to questions and comments submitted through the Society's web site. Get help:

- Making treatment decisions
- Understanding the effects of treatment
- Finding treatment centers and doctors
- Coping with side effects, and talking with others
- Meeting other survivors
- Finding or offer support on the Cancer Survivors Network
- Find lodging, workshops, transportation, and other services for cancer patients, survivors, and loved ones
- Finding information on specific types of Cancer

The Society publishes a large number of patient education brochures and pamphlets, books, and professional journals to help patients, families, and health care professionals. These include books on specific cancer types, coping issues, and prevention; cookbooks; and textbooks and other specialized cancer-related topics for health care professionals. For more information, call 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit our online bookstore at www.cancer.org. **Visit their website to locate the office nearest you if not already provided above.**

American Diabetes Association

2418 Blue Ridge Rd., Suite 206

Raleigh, NC, 27607

TEL: 919 743 5400 (your local office)

TEL: 888 342 2383 (National Call Center)

FAX: 919 783 7838

WEBSITE: www.diabetes.org

The American Diabetes Association is the nation's leading nonprofit health organization providing diabetes research, information and advocacy. Founded in 1940, the American Diabetes Association conducts programs in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, reaching hundreds of communities. The mission of the Association is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. To fulfill this mission, the American Diabetes Association funds research, publishes scientific findings, provides information and other services to people with diabetes, their families, health professionals and the public. The Association is also actively involved in advocating for scientific research and for the rights of people with diabetes.

Visit their on-line store for a variety of cookbooks, meal planners, self-care guides and other educational materials to assist you in managing diabetes. Find out what is happening in your area by visiting their site and entering your zip code.

American Kidney Fund (9/06)

6110 Executive Blvd. Suite 1010

Rockville, MD 20852

TEL: 800.638.8299 (Eng)

TEL: 866.300.2900 (Español)

WEBSITE: www.akfinc.org

EMAIL: helpline@kidneyfund.org.

The American Kidney Fund offers direct financial assistance to kidney patients, and is a leader in providing education to those with and at risk for kidney disease. Their programs address all stages of kidney health, including kidney disease awareness and prevention; community outreach to individuals at high risk for kidney disease; and treatment-related support for those requiring renal dialysis or transplantation.

Programs include:

- Patient Aid Programs - direct financial assistance programs are offered to needy dialysis and kidney transplant patients nationwide. For further information about these and other programs please call the Patient Services Department toll-free at 1-800-638-8299 or contact the social worker at your dialysis center.
- Individual Grants Program – provides financial assistance to qualified dialysis patients who are referred by their physicians and social workers. Grants are provided for treatment-specific expenses such as transportation, over-the-counter medicines, medication co-payments, kidney donor expenses and other necessities such as dentures.
- Pharmacy Grant Program - enables qualified renal patients to receive urgently needed medications, nutritional products, and durable medical supplies. The Kidney Fund has contracted with ECHO Pharmacy®, a mail order pharmacy, to provide medications and supplies at discount prices, thereby increasing the purchasing power of patients' grants.
- Disaster Relief Program - provides funds to replace medications, food, household items and pay for other necessities lost because of natural disasters.
- Sherer Travel-Related Dialysis Program - assists dialysis patients to afford treatment while traveling. Patients or facilities may be reimbursed for the 20% of treatment costs not covered by Medicare or any other source for emergency transient dialysis. Grants are limited to travel necessitated by death or serious illness in the family or for the purpose of kidney transplant workup only.
- Health Insurance Premium Program (HIPP) – a financial assistance program for needy dialysis patients nationwide. Through HIPP, the Kidney Fund pays Part B Medicare, Medigap and Cobra premiums for dialysis patients who have insufficient income and savings, allowing them to continue their coverage. HIPP is funded 100% by voluntary contributions from corporations and the renal community, and serves as a “last” resort source of financial assistance. For further information about this program please contact the social worker at your dialysis center.
- Summer Enrichment Program - makes it possible for needy children to go to a special kidney camp of their choice.

ARC Chapters

PO Box 20545

4200 Six Forks Rd, Ste 100

Raleigh, NC 27619
TEL: 800 662 8706
TEL: 919 782 4632
WEBSITE: www.arcnc.org/

Forty four local ARC chapters in our state may have special funds available for numerous resources. Funding is available to both children and adults with developmental disabilities. Applicant must live in the community served by that specific Arc chapter. Services for children under 5 years of age include: advocacy, residential services, supported living services, counseling, medical support, public info on specific topics, respite care, info/referral, social/recreational activities, and case management.

Brain Injury Association of America (9/06)

8201 Greensboro Dr., Ste 611
McLean, VA 22102
TEL: 800 444 6443 (Information Ctr)
TEL: 703 761 0750 (Main Office)
FAX: 703 761 0755
WEBSITE: www.biausa.org
EMAIL:

Brain Injury Association of NC

PO Box 748
Raleigh, NC 27601
TEL: 919 833 9634
FAX: 919 833 5415
WEBSITE: www.bianc.net
EMAIL: Sandra.Farmer@bianc.net

Founded in 1980, the Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA) is the leading national organization serving and representing individuals, families and professionals who are touched by a life-altering, often devastating, traumatic brain injury (TBI). Together with its network of more than 40 chartered state affiliates, as well as hundreds of local chapters and support groups across the country, the BIAA provides information, education and support to assist the 5.3 million Americans currently living with traumatic brain injury and their families.

Bubel-Aiken Foundation (4/06)

P.O. Box 90307
Raleigh, NC 27675
WEBSITE: thebubelaikenfoundation.com
EMAIL: contactus@thebubelaikenfoundation.org

Provide services and financial assistance to facilitate the full integration of children with disabilities into the life environment of those without. The Foundation will work to create awareness about the diversity of individuals with disabilities and the possibilities inclusion can bring by extending the boundaries of the human experience for all. Through collaborations with the disability community as well as education, entertainment, and media organizations, the Foundation will recognize individuals whose commitment for inclusion has broken barriers and made inclusion possible.

Priorities for funding include but are not limited to:

- development of inclusion/integration curricula, primarily K-12
- educational approaches that engage different learning styles
- inclusion strategies for minority populations including those for whom English is a second language
- service learning opportunities and program development, training, and implementation
- job training
- development, training, and implementation for recreational programs aimed at both paid staff and volunteers
- recruitment of special education teachers
- assistance to families through eligible programs
- continuing education programs/symposia aimed at the development of best practices protocols and strategies
- programs that create awareness, change attitudes and behaviors about the abilities of young people with special needs and foster full life experiences

Catastrophic Injury Fund

c/o National Transplant Assistance Fund (NTAF)

150 N. Radnor Chester Rd., Ste F-120

Radnor, PA 19087

TEL: 800 642-8399

WEBSITE: www.transplantfund.org/Catastrophic/

Recovering from a catastrophic injury can be an overwhelming experience for patients and families - emotionally, physically and financially. The Catastrophic Injury Fund can help patients to mobilize their community to fundraise for uninsured expenses related to catastrophic injury. For those with a spinal cord injury (SCI):

- Only 52% of SCI individuals are covered by insurance at the time of their injury
- Post injury hospitalization averages sixteen days, costing \$140,000
- Average rehabilitation stay is 44 days
- Average first year expenses are \$329,841
- Average lifetime costs for paraplegics: \$730,277
- Average lifetime costs for quadriplegics: \$1,270,000
- 56% of SCI individuals are unemployed 10 years after injury

Expenses often covered by the fund include:

- Insurance premiums, deductibles/co-payments
- Specially equipped vans and durable medical equipment
- Home modification related to the injury
- Home health care services
- Physical therapy and vocational rehabilitation
- Experimental treatments
- Travel expenses for rehabilitation and treatment
- Insurance premiums, deductibles and co-pays

NTAF will be with you every step of the journey - from the initial discussions about fundraising, through phases of active fundraising through bill payment and back through the cycle again if needed. The compassionate, professional staff at NTAF offers support at many levels - fundraising ideas and how-to guides, media relations, creating event flyers, patient websites, and being there for you when you have financial questions and concerns.

Community Foundation of Gaston County (3/07)

PO Box 123

Gastonia, NC 28053

TEL: 704 864 0927

FAX: 704 869 0222

EMAIL: info@cfgaston.org

WEBSITE: www.cfgaston.org/grantseekers/roberts_miller.aspx

Robert Miller Children's Fund provides grants to children who need special equipment, orthodontic care, or specialized treatment. Child's attending physician must provide a proposed treatment plan or document need for equipment or services being requested. Application paperwork can be downloaded from their website.

Eligibility Criteria: Resident of NC
Under age 18

Diagnosed with a developmental disability or medical condition that results in significant disfigurement or that threatens the child's health.

Financial need documented by reporting family income and needs not covered

by programs in which the child is already enrolled with like Medicaid or health insurance.

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (9/06)

6931 Arlington Road
Bethesda, Maryland 20814
TEL: 800 344 4823 (FIGHT CF)
FAX: 301 951 6378
EMAIL: info@cff.org
WEBSITE: www.cff.org

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation supports and accredits more than 115 CF care centers nationwide which provide high-quality, specialized care for those with CF. These centers, located at major teaching and community hospitals, offer comprehensive diagnosis and treatment for people with CF and their families. In addition to information on CF, they provide pharmacy services, through which staff is able to provide:

- One-stop shopping for all your CF prescription medication needs
- Ability to refill and track the status of an order online or by phone
- E-mail notification of shipped orders
- Free shipping on orders totaling more than \$25
- Free PARI[®] nebulizer set for Pulmozyme[®] and TOBI[®] per the manufacturer's and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's guidelines for nebulization care
- Contacting prescribing physicians to obtain a new prescription when a prescription expires or runs out of refills
- [HomeLine](#), a newsletter CF Services publishes with information about new therapies and advances in CF treatment and care

Visit their website to search for the chapter nearest you if not already listed above.

Disabled Children's Relief Fund (3/07)

P.O. Box 89
Freeport, New York 11520
TEL: 516-377-1605
WEBSITE: www.dcrf.com

A potential funding resource for children throughout the U.S. who are under age 18 and do not have adequate health insurance. Financial assistance provided for assistive devices and rehabilitative services. Although there are no restrictions on the type or eligible disabilities, preference is given to applications that benefit children with physical challenges in need of prosthetic and other assistive devices (not computers). The amount of financial assistance is generally between \$25 and \$200 and is most often for wheelchairs, orthopedic braces, walkers, lifts, hearing aids, eyeglasses, medical equipment, physical therapy, and surgery. Visit their website for a lengthy listing of the types of services and equipment funded most often.

Easter Seals/United Cerebral Palsy of NC (3/07)

2315 Myron Dr
Raleigh NC 27607
TEL: 800 662 7119
919 783 8898
WEBSITE: www.nc.eastersealsucp.com

The primary goal of the agency is to provide programs and services to help children and adults with physical disabilities to live as independently as possible through residential services, supported living programs, family support services, employment services and inclusion programs. Also provide developmental services for children birth to five years of age through a network of inclusive developmental day care centers. Services at those centers include physical, speech and occupational therapies.

Family support services include things like personal care services, supported living assistance, respite and foster care, community based services, supported employment, durable medical equipment and support groups. **Financial assistance is also available through their Lennox Baker Special Assistance Fund.**

The fund is most often used for durable medical equipment, treatment, medication, transportation (except for maintenance of personal vehicles) and is not for daily living expenses (utilities, rent, premium payments, etc.). Expensive expenditures such as vans or lift installations will not be provided. Assistance is for one time expenditures and not for ongoing treatment. Often only partial funding for a request will be available. No funding is available for hyperbaric oxygen therapy. There is a formal application process.

Eligibility Criteria: Resident of NC
Have a physical disability
No other source of funding like Medicaid or insurance available to the applicant
No previous requests for assistance submitted in the same year

Exceptional Children Assistance Center

907 Barra Row, Suites 102/103

Davidson, NC 28036

TEL: 800 962-6817

FAX: 704 892-5028

WWW: www.ecac-parentcenter.org

ECAC offers a variety of projects and services to meet the needs of NC parents, families, students, educators, and other professionals.

Two key parent educational programs are:

- NC parent training will offer skills and information on becoming their child's BEST advocate.
- ECAC offers a parent centered education on No Child Left Behind.

Families of Spinal Muscular Atrophy

P.O. Box 196

Libertyville, IL 20048-0196

TEL: 800-886-1762

FAX: 847-367-7623

WWW: www.caresma.org

Families of SMA provide comprehensive online information for SMA.

Topics include: Understanding SMA and daily life, research, SMA annual conference, forums and chat rooms. Equipment assistance can be requested.

Family Support Network of NC (FSN-NC)

CB#7340 Chase Hall

University of NC

Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7340

TEL: 919 966 2841

800 852 0042

FAX: 919 966 2916

EMAIL: cdr@med.unc.edu

WEBSITE: www.fsnn.org

Local offices of the FSN-NC work to improve the lives of children with special needs by working with their families and the professionals who serve them. They facilitate the development of family-centered services through a statewide network of community based parent-to-parent programs, parent-professional collaboration and its Central Directory of Resources, which offers information and referral services. They also have a lending library. Locally based parent-to-parent programs offer support, information and training on a variety of topics including parent mentoring. Parent-to-parent chapters offer suggestions on

resources and **sometimes cash assistance**, etc. so children with disabilities may live as much like other children as possible. Visit their main website at: www.fsnnc.org for more information and for the office nearest you if it is not already listed above.

First Hand Foundation (national)

Cerner Corporation

2800 Rockcreek Parkway

Kansas City, Missouri 64117-2551

TEL: 816 221 1024 secretary

816 201 1569 case manager

FAX: 816 201 7569

Contact: Shanna Hill, Foundation Case Manager

WEBSITE: www.firsthandfoundation.com

Nationwide resource for grants to cover cost of treatment, surgery, equipment, and even travel expenses when a child must travel to a provider outside of their community. Family must complete an application and indicate their income and family size. This is a good resource for kids who don't qualify for Medicaid, CSHS, Health Choice or can't obtain private insurance or have a policy that is inadequate to cover what is needed. Average income of those helped by the program to date is \$15,000 per year.

First Hand assists individual children who have clinically relevant, health-related needs and no financial net to cover the expenses. Types of expenses covered:

- Treatment – Expenses associated with clinical procedures, medicine, therapy, prosthetics, etc.
- Equipment – Wheelchairs, assistive technology equipment, van modifications, care devices, hearing aids, etc.
- Displacement – expenses associated with families of seriously ill children who must travel away from home for treatment. Helps with lodging, food, gas, parking and transportation.

Types of Funding not covered:

- Construction or home renovation projects
- Any alternative and experimental drugs, treatment or therapy where there is significant controversy in the medical community with respect to specific treatment
- Wheelchair-accessible van purchases
- Any request for research funding, mass population grants, or other nonprofit organizational grants
- Any request for debt reduction.

Criteria for Funding:

- Child must be under the care of a pediatrician
- The case must involve a specific child with a specific need
- The grant request must be clinically relevant to the health of the child
- There must be no existing financial net (like Medicaid or private insurance) to cover the expenses
- The case must be in a proactive stage (service not yet provided). An application for debt reduction for expenses already incurred will not be considered for First Hand Foundation funding.

Process for Funding Requests

First Hand accepts applications on an on-going basis from anywhere in the world. Any person may submit an application on behalf of a child with a special need. Upon receipt of an application, several things will take place.

- Case manager will review application to determine if any additional information is needed.

- Once application is complete, it is forwarded to the Clinical Decision-Making Committee, which meets once a month.
- Case manager will follow up with the applicant within seven to ten business days after the committee makes its decision.

First in Families of NC (FIFNC)

PO Box 1665
 Durham, NC 27702-1665
 TEL: 919-781-3616
 WEBSITE: www.firstinfamiliesofnc.org/
 EMAIL: fifnc@fifnc.org

Provides financial assistance to groups as well as individuals. The First In Families (FIF) local Projects offer support to families and individuals according to their self-defined needs. Examples of supports include recreational items, home furnishings or modifications, childcare or respite, or repairs to vehicles. Support can also be the connecting of an individual to vocational, social, and educational opportunities in the community; whatever it takes - for people to live and participate fully in their community. To respond to a particular need, FIF partners with local businesses, citizens, and agencies. Sometimes they work to get the lowest possible price, or might barter or exchange something. Other times they simply make a referral to an appropriate agency. As FIFNC engages the community, relationships often develop. Through this process, the original need gets met, and the community becomes a richer place.

Foundation for the Carolinas Children's Medical Fund (11/06)

217 S. Tryon St.
 Charlotte, NC 28202
 TEL: 800 973 7244
 TEL: 704 973 4547
 WEBSITE: www.ffc.org

Geographic focus: Priority given to residents of the greater Charlotte area, including Cabarrus, Cleveland, Davidson, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Richmond, Rowan, Stanly and Union Counties in NC and Cherokee, Lancaster and York in South Carolina.

Type services: Provide one-time financial assistance to children 17 and under to cover a wide variety of medical needs. One time awards up to \$2500. Requests under \$400 for medication, supplies, small equipment and miscellaneous needs. Requests for \$400 to \$2500 to cover surgical procedures, special treatment and large equipment needs.

How to apply: Direct applications from clients are not considered. Application must be made by referral from health or social service professionals, such as physicians, dentists, nurses, social workers or representatives of agencies. All assistance must be approved in advance of treatment. No past medical bills can be considered. To refer a case for consideration, contact Community Health Services, which provides casework for Foundation for the Carolinas. A phone call to 704 375 0172 can usually determine if the case is eligible for consideration. You may also send case information to: Community Health Services, 1401 E. Seventh St., Charlotte, NC 28204.

HealthWell Foundation

P.O. Box 4133
 Gaithersburg, MD 20878
 TEL: 800 675 8416
 FAX: 800 282 7692
 EMAIL: info@healthwellfoundation.org
 WEBSITE: www.healthwellfoundation.org/index.aspx

The HealthWell Foundation® is an organization that helps individuals afford prescription medications and treatment for specific disorders by helping with some of the cost of a patient's out-of-pocket health care costs. Their services include:

- Prescription drug coinsurance, copayments, and deductibles
- Health insurance premiums
- Other selected out-of-pocket health care costs

Applicants for assistance must also meet the financial requirements of the program. Families with incomes up to four times more than the federal poverty level may still qualify. In addition to family income, the foundation takes other factors into consideration. Those include the cost of living in a particular city/state and an individual's medical, and insurance situation. Even those who have private insurance plan that cover prescription drugs may qualify.

Assistance is made on a first-come, first-served basis and to the extent that funding is available. For more information on applying; what medications are covered; and what disorders are covered by the program, visit their website listed above.

Leukemia/Lymphoma Society of America – NC Chapter

Patient Services
5950 Fairview Rd., Ste 250
Charlotte, NC 28210
TEL: 800 888 9934
TEL: 704 998 5012

Patient Aid Fund offers supplementary financial assistance to pay for specific drugs (including radiation and chemo drugs), lab work, specific x-ray therapy, and transportation to and from office visits, hospital or support group meetings. Eligibility Criteria:

Resident of NC
Diagnosis of leukemia, lymphoma and related diseases Financial need

Lions Clubs International

300 W 22nd Street
Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842
TEL: 630 571 5466, Ext. 393 (Headquarters)
WEBSITE: <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/index.shtml>
EMAIL: programs@lionsclubs.org

NC Lions Foundation, Inc.

Camp Dogwood Drive, PO Box 39
Sherrill's Ford, NC 28673 0039
TEL: 800 662 7401 or 704 478 2135
EMAIL: nclions@abts.net
WEBSITE: <http://nclf.org> (under Prog & Serv)
DIRECTOR: Steve Walker

Lions Club International collects and assists with funding for eyeglasses and hearing aids for individuals in need. Today, in addition to their international SightFirst program, Lions extend their commitment to sight conservation through countless local efforts. Lions are also involved in a variety of other activities to improve their communities and help people in need, such as assisting the hearing impaired, providing diabetes awareness and education materials, working on environmental projects and developing youth programs. Visit their website to locate the chapter nearest you if not already listed above.

The NC Lions Foundation provides mobility and support canes, educational grants, and hearing aids. It supports Camp Dogwood, VIP Fishing Tournament, Radio Reading Services, Governor Morehead School, Clinical Eye Research and many other blindness related programs.

Love INC of Mecklenburg County

P.O. Box 18517
Charlotte, NC 28218

TEL: 704 536 5588
FAX: 704 536 5338
WEBSITE: www.loveinc-charlotte.org
EMAIL: Information@Loveinc-Charlotte.org

Love INC of Mecklenburg County is a national, non-denominational Christian ministry. More than 100 social service agencies, including the Department of Social Services, the Police Department, both major hospitals and their clinics, home health agencies, and many churches call Love INC when they have a client/patient with a need that no one is able to meet. Love INC is a network of more than 150 churches in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area and consists of many volunteers.

How Love INC Works

Participating churches survey their congregations and establish a file, listing members who are willing to volunteer their services to help those in need even once or twice during a year. No one is committed to serving every time they are called.

Social Service agencies, organizations, Victims Assistance programs, hospitals, clinics, churches and police officers refer people who have special needs that no one else is able to meet to the Love INC office.

A Love INC office volunteer analyzes the need to make sure it is legitimate and manageable. Love INC then phones volunteers from a network church, who go out to meet the need.

These "field volunteers" can minister to, pray with and befriend the person in need if they wish, although clients are not required to be Christians or to convert to Christianity to receive services from Love INC churches and volunteers.

Performance of any requested service is dependent upon the availability of a church volunteer willing to donate that service. Below are some of the services that have been provided for the poor, elderly, and disabled in Charlotte Mecklenburg by Love INC church volunteers. Examples of services provided to date include:

Minor home repairs	Minor appliance repairs
Baby furniture donated	Help with budget planning
Cleaning for elderly or disabled	Clothing donations
Delivering food	Pest extermination
Financial counseling	Food donations
Help with legal forms	Dental help
Vision exams	Wheelchair ramps for disabled
Painting (interior and exterior)	Minor plumbing
Shopping for the elderly or homebound	Telephone visitation
Transportation	Respite care for caretakers
Reading to the blind	Yard work for elderly or disabled
Visitation	Tutoring

Each year, thousands of individuals are helped by Love INC network churches and their volunteers. Love INC functions as a "clearinghouse", or connector, between the person in need and network churches mobilized to meet the need.

Modest Needs Foundation

115 E 30th St, FL 1
New York, NY 10016
TEL: 212 463 7042 (9:00-5:30 Mon.-Fri.)
CONTACT: Dr. Keith Taylor
WEBSITE: www.ModestNeeds.org
EMAIL: keith@modestneeds.org

Modest Needs Foundation is an organization that assists those who are experiencing a minor financial crisis, such as an unexpected car repair, unanticipated visit to the doctor, or an unusually high winter heating bill. To apply for assistance, you must first register on-line at the website above. Registration is free, easy, completely secure and takes about 15 minutes. You may be asked to provide additional information, such as a photo ID, employment paystub and a copy of the unexpected bill you are asking Modest Needs Foundation to cover. You can also submit your request by mail as long as you include their required application form that is available on their website. Requests cannot be submitted by phone.

Individuals helped by the Modest Needs Foundation often repay the kindness by making a monetary donation to the foundation so that others can be helped as well. Donations are tax deductible.

Muscular Dystrophy Association – USA (3/07)

National Headquarters
3300 E. Sunrise Drive
Tucson, AZ 85718
TEL: 800-344-4863
EMAIL: mda@mdausa.org
WEBSITE: www.mdausa.org

Dedicated to the eradication of the muscular dystrophies, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease), myasthenia gravis, the spinal muscular atrophies, Fredreich's ataxia and a host of other neuromuscular diseases. The Muscular Dystrophy Association is a voluntary health agency — a dedicated partnership between scientists and concerned citizens aimed at conquering neuromuscular diseases that affect more than a million Americans. MDA combats neuromuscular diseases through programs of worldwide research, comprehensive medical and community services, and far-reaching professional and public health education. NC associations are listed below:

Muscular Dystrophy Association
2306 W. Meadowview Rd., Ste 125
Greensboro NC 27407
TEL: 336 856 1591

Muscular Dystrophy Association
3724 National Drive, Ste 113
Raleigh NC 27612
TEL: 919 783 0222

Muscular Dystrophy Association
1518 Harbour Dr
Wilmington, NC 28401
TEL: 910 791 8585

Muscular Dystrophy Association
5950 Fairview Rd., Ste 320
Charlotte, NC 28210
TEL: 704 567 2912

Patients can receive free medical care for authorized procedures at one of the muscular dystrophy clinics in NC, as well as financial assistance for durable equipment (wheelchairs, scooters, and braces) up to \$2000. Individuals under 18 may receive assistance buying a new wheelchair every three years, and individuals over 18 receive assistance buying a new chair every five years. Also up to \$500 per year available for equipment repairs. Eligibility Criteria:

- Resident of NC
- Diagnosed with any one of 43 neuromuscular diseases
- Request for DME has been denied by health insurance or public programs

To learn about support groups, area camps and local activities, contact the association in your area.

National Organization for Rare Disorders

55 Kenosia Avenue
P.O. Box 1968
Danbury, CT 06813-1968
TEL: 203-744-0100
FAX: 203-798-2291
WWW: www.rarediseases.org/; genetic-counselor@rearediseases.org;

NORD promotes awareness of rare diseases with stories by affected individuals and families.

- Medicine assistance program for uninsured and insurance co-pay programs.
- Early or expanded access to investigational products.
- Travel and relocation assistance for clinical trial participants.
- Emergency or limited access to products in short supply.

National Transplant Assistance Fund (NTAF) (12/06)

150 N. Radnor Chester Road, Suite F-120
Radnor, PA 19087
TEL: 800 642-8399
WEBSITE: www.transplantfund.org

The mission of NTAF is to help raise funds for transplant and catastrophic injury patients by providing compassionate support, education and expertise to them, their families and communities. NTAF has over 23 years experience empowering individuals to raise money in their communities to cover uninsured medical expenses related to transplantation and catastrophic injury. NTAF staff will be by your side every step of the way -- from your first phone call, through the fundraising process, through expense payment and reimbursement, and back for more fundraising if you choose. NTAF will be your partner in financing transplantation and recovery.

NC Department of Insurance (DOI) (12/06)

**1201 Mail Service Center (mailing address)
Raleigh, NC 27699-1201**

Dobbs Building (physical address)

430 N. Salisbury St.
Raleigh, NC 27603-5926
TEL: 800 546 5664 (in NC only)
TEL: 919 807 6750 (outside NC)
WEBSITE: www.ncdoi.com/

The NC DOI provides services to the people of NC by regulating the insurance industry; licensing insurance professionals and others; educating consumers about different types of insurance; handling consumer complaints, and much more. Some of the services they provide to families include:

- overseeing motor clubs and collection agencies;
- protecting consumers from fraud and illegal behavior;
- educating residents about safety issues such as child safety seats, fire protection, natural disaster preparation and other family safety issues; and
- assisting the elderly and others with Medicare and Medicaid questions through our nationally recognized Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program.

In NC, **Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS)** has been identified as the insurer that must provide coverage to all residents who apply, regardless of any health conditions that they may have. This is called guaranteed issue. Residents can purchase an individual health insurance policy from BCBS Cross Blue Shield, but unfortunately, you may be required to pay a higher premium because of existing health conditions). You can contact the NC Insurance Department at the numbers above or BCBS directly at (877) 258-3334 for more information on this type of coverage.

If you are self-employed, you may be eligible to purchase either a small group policy or a business group of one policy. You must be offered the basic or standard health plan, but can be denied other health policies. Insurers may ask to verify your small group or group of one status by asking for your tax records. If you are having a problem with your state-regulated health plan and you are unable to resolve it with the plan directly, file a complaint with the insurance department. They may be able to provide you with assistance in reaching a conclusion.

Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA) (4/07)

TEL: 888 4PPA NOW (888 477 2669)

WEBSITE: <https://www.pparx.org/Intro.php>

WEBSITE SPECIFIC TO NC: www.pparxnc.org/pap/

The Partnership for Prescription Assistance brings together America's pharmaceutical companies, doctors, other health care providers, patient advocacy organizations and community groups to help eligible patients, who lack prescription drug coverage, get the medicines they need through the public or private program that's right for them. Many will get their medications free or nearly free. The PPA website offers a single point of access to more than 475 public and private patient assistance programs, including more than 180 programs offered by pharmaceutical companies. To find a patient assistance program that offers your specific medications, you will be asked to answer a few short eligibility questions on their website. You can also contact them by phone. The website and phone number are listed above.

Patient Advocate Foundation's Co-Pay Relief (PAF CPR) (4/07)

PAF Co-Pay Relief

700 Thimble Shoals Blvd., Suite 201

Newport News, VA 23606

TEL: 866 512 3861 (toll free)

FAX: 757 952 0119

EMAIL: pap@patientadvocate.org or help@patientadvocate.org

WEBSITE: www.copays.org

The Patient Advocate Foundation's Co-Pay Relief (CPR) Program provides direct co-payment assistance for pharmaceutical products to insured Americans who financially and medically qualify. The Program offers personal service to all patients through the use of CPR call counselors; personally guiding patients through the simple enrollment process.

PAF Co-Pay Relief currently assists patients diagnosed with:

- Autoimmune Disorders
- Breast Cancer
- Colon Cancer
- Diabetes
- Head and Neck
- Kidney Cancer
- Lung Cancer
- Lymphoma
- Malignant Brain Tumors
- Pancreatic Cancer
- Prostate Cancer
- Sarcoma
- Macular Degeneration
- Secondary issues as a result of cancer treatment

Assistance may also be available to patients who are experiencing secondary issues as a result of cancer treatment. To learn more, visit their website or call toll free. Contact information is listed above.

Rotary International (10/06)

One Rotary Center

1560 Sherman Ave.

Evanston, IL 60201

TEL: 847 866 3000

FAX: 847 328 8554

WEBSITE: www.rotary.org/

Rotary International is an organization of business and professional leaders, which provides humanitarian services worldwide. In more than 160 countries worldwide, approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 30,000 Rotary clubs. Local clubs focus their broad range of service projects upon the needs of their community. Community projects often include issues like:

Children at Risk
Disabled Persons
Health Care

Literacy
Poverty and Hunger
Population Issues

Visit their website to locate the club nearest you if not listed above.

Shriners Hospital

2425 Stockton Rd.
Sacramento, CA 95817
TEL: 916 453-2000
FAX: 916 453-2352
WEBSITE: www.shrinershq.org/shc/northerncalifornia/index.html

Shriners Hospital

950 W. Faris Rd.
Greenville, SC 29605
TEL: 864 271 3444

The Shriners Hospital team of professionals include doctors, nurses, physical and occupational therapists, therapeutic recreation specialists, social workers, dietitians, and teachers. Their ultimate goal is to help the child with physical health care needs to become as independent and as knowledgeable about his/her condition as possible. Services provided through Shriners Hospital are free of charge.

Telability

1101 Weaver Dairy Rd, Ste 202
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
TEL: 919 843 0427
WEBSITE: www.TelAbility.org

A community-oriented, interdisciplinary program that uses telecommunications to improve the lives of children with disabilities. Using real time video-conferencing and internet technologies, Telability helps to provide comprehensive, coordinated, family centered care to children with disabilities across NC and offers education, training, and peer support for people who care for them.

At www.TelAbility.org you can:

Ask an expert any question related to children with disabilities

Locate an expert provider in your area through the expertise directory

Watch a video about pediatric disability

Join an online chat with other parents/providers across the state in the TelAbility chat room

Join an online discussion with other parents/providers across the state in the TelAbility discussion forum

Read/print out handouts (available in English in Spanish) to help you care for a child with special needs

Get directions to Developmental Evaluation Centers and United Cerebral Palsy Developmental Day Care Centers in NC.

Read and learn from interesting cases of the month

Learn about new medications for children with disabilities

Learn about new clinical trials

Read article reviews about recent scientific studies

Buy, sell, trade, and/or find specialized equipment at the trading post

Find and buy books about childhood disability at the bookstore

Review a list of upcoming state and national conferences with the Telability calendar

Participate in continuing education programs through our educational link

Find links to and descriptions of over 500 internet websites for children with special needs

Browse the online resources and educational offerings of their affiliates.

The National Kidney Foundation of North Carolina

5950 Fairview Road, Suite 550

Charlotte, NC 28210

TEL: 800 356-5362

TEL: 704 552-1351

FAX: 704 552-7870

NC Web Address: www.nkfnc.org

National Web Address: www.kidney.org

Provides the following local services and benefits to dialysis and transplant patients in all 100 counties of North Carolina:

- K.E.E.P., Kidney Early Evaluation Program, is a health-screening program designed to identify individuals at increased risk for kidney disease and encourage these individuals to seek further evaluation and follow up from a physician. K.E.E.P. is a free program that focuses on high-risk individuals- those with known diabetes and /or hypertension or who have first-degree relatives with hypertension, diabetes or chronic kidney failure. If you would like more information about K.E.E.P. and to schedule a program in your community please contact Kendra Welch by email at: kwelch@nkfnc.org. or at the phone numbers above.

- Dialysis patients are eligible to receive emergency financial assistance for rent, transportation, utilities and medications. Funds are distributed by the social workers at local dialysis centers. Patient requests for emergency financial assistance should first be directed to the dialysis facility social worker.

- Dialysis and transplant patients can receive FREE medical alert jewelry from the NKFNC by ordering through their social worker.

- Dialysis patients and their families can purchase reduced cost nutritional supplements from the dietitian at their dialysis facility. These supplements, normally very expensive, are available for 20% less than retail prices because the NKFNC subsidizes the purchase of supplements for each dialysis center.

- Brochures and information about kidney disease, transplantation and organ donation are available to patients free of charge from the NKFNC office.

The United Healthcare Children's Foundation (3/07)

MN012-S286

PO BOX 41

Minneapolis, MN 55440-0041

TEL: 800 328 5979 - *Ask for extension 24459 or*

TEL: 952 992 4459 (Voice mail line only)

WEBSITE: www.unitedhealthcarechildrensfoundation.org/ or www.uhccf.org/

The United Healthcare Children's Foundation offers support to meet the needs of children nationwide with financial assistance grants for health care services that are not fully covered by their health insurance.

Parents and caretakers are eligible to apply for grants of up to \$5,000.00 for health care services that will help improve a child's health and quality of life. Examples of the types of health care services covered by the foundation include:

- speech therapy
- physical therapy
- mental health services
- medical equipment (such as wheelchairs and braces)
- hearing aids and eye glasses
- orthodontic and other dental treatments

The child needing services must:

- be under 17 yrs. of age and live in any UnitedHealthcare region of the United States;
- be covered by a commercial health insurance policy (available through an employer);
- have an insurance policy that has limitations on the health care service needed, does not cover the service at all, and/or the required co-payments will be a serious financial burden on the family;
- live in a family whose adjusted gross income does not exceed \$20,000 for each individual in the home; and
- there are no other financial resources to meet this health care need.

Health insurance sponsored by the Federal government, such as Medicaid or NC Health Choice does not qualify as a commercial health insurance policy. Applications must be submitted prior to the child's 17th birthday and before the needed health care service is provided. Visit the website listed above to learn what information must be submitted with an application. The application is completed and submitted on line as well.

The Vest Foundation
1020 W. County Road F
St. Paul, Minnesota 55126
TEL: 877 674 4442 (Toll-free)
TEL: 651 787 9028
FAX: 651 234 1525
EMAIL: info@vestfoundation.org
CONTACT: Mary Probst

Advanced Respiratory
TEL: 800 426 4224
FAX: 877 368 5081
WEBSITE: www.advresp.com

The Vest Foundation is a non-profit foundation established by Advanced Respiratory, to assist individuals with limited financial resources, to pay for the Vest Airway Clearance System. Once a client and his/her health care provider decide that the Vest Airway Clearance System is needed, the client is referred to the Foundation by the Advanced Respiratory Reimbursement Department. Assistance is based on the client's financial need. The application process takes about two weeks.

Triangle Community Foundation (5/07)
324 Blackwell Street, Suite 1220
Durham, NC 27701
TEL: 919 474-8370
FAX: 919 941 9208
WEBSITE: www.trianglecf.org

The Durham Cerebral Palsy Fund provides funding for equipment; special one-time services or treatment; and accessibility modifications. Funds for van lifts or other accessibility modifications will not exceed \$1500 per application. Financial assistance is not provided for living expenses; ongoing long-term expenses, therapy, or equipment that has already been paid for in full. To qualify an application must:

- be a NC resident;
- be under age 19; and
- have Cerebral Palsy or other neuro-muscular disorder;

Family income is considered but is not a limiting factor in application approval. Applications require a doctor's prescription of a letter from a medical professional justifying the request for equipment or services and the cost of the service or equipment for which funds are being requested.

United Way
PO Box 110387
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-4428
TEL: 919 460 8687
FAX: 919 460 9019

EMAIL: tuw@unitedwaytriangle.org
WEBSITE: www.unitedwaytriangle.org

United Way is a local and regional partnership of volunteers, donors, staff, agencies and those who have received services in the past, which raises and distributes funds and works to strengthen communities. They often provide financial assistance to individuals with special health care needs. Visit their website for more information and to locate the office nearest you, if not already listed above.

Variety – The Children’s Charity of the United States (5/07)

5757 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 445
Los Angeles, CA 90036
WEBSITE: www.usvariety.org/mobility.html
EMAIL: info@usvariety.org

Variety’s Children’s Charity is a group of business leaders who donate their time and resources to positively impact the lives of children with special needs. Through their national mobility program, “Kids on the Go”, they provide financial assistance to help cover the cost of equipment such as:

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| prosthetic limbs | adaptive bikes and tricycles | walkers |
| adaptive car seats | communication devices | standers |
| van and stair lifts | home and van ramps | |
| strollers | wheelchairs – manual and power | |

To qualify, the child must be under age 21 and whose equipment need cannot be met by any other source (such as private insurance, school, family or public programs such as Medicaid). Funding is limited to no more than \$5,000 per application and is paid directly to the equipment vendor. Although there is no limit on the number of applications that can be submitted on behalf of an individual, funding to that individual is awarded no more than once every three years. Family income is taken into consideration and the applicant must show documentation of attempts to obtain funding through other resources before submitting to the “Kids on the Go” program. Visit their website to download the required application forms

Wheels for the World

Joni and Friends Headquarters
PO Box 3333
Agoura Hills, CA 91376-3333
TEL: 818 707 5664
FAX: 818 707 2391
TTY: 818 707 9707
WEBSITE: www.joniandfriends.org

Wheels for the World aims to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the disabled around the world by providing wheelchairs and sharing the love of Jesus Christ. They do this by connecting the disabled with the church through creating disability awareness and by educating and training the local churches in disability ministry. The Joni and Friends Christian Fund for the Disabled also offers funding for assistive equipment as well as special education. Requests must be channeled through a Christian church or area Joni and Friends coordinator. Contact the main office at the address, phone number, or website above.