

## *Helping Hand Fund Guidelines*

### **What is the Helping Hand Fund?**

The Helping Hand Fund is a program of the Humboldt Area Foundation & Wild Rivers Community Foundation. It provides small grants to women, trans-men, and/or children that are struggling, for whom a small grant will provide some relief during times of crisis.

### **Who can apply?**

- Applications must be made through a qualified sponsor, such as a recognized social service agency, school counselor or medical provider, where the sponsor is working in a professional capacity to address the community member's health and wellness needs.
- **Applicants may not apply for themselves**
- This sponsor takes on the responsibility of administering the grant if the application is approved.
- Applications cannot be submitted by the sponsor for payment of their goods or services.

### **What are the Grant Requirements?**

- The Helping Hand fund is designed to provide assistance for women (including trans women), children ages 0-19 years old. **Applications may be submitted on behalf of male identifying guardians for resources for the youth in their care.**
- Clients must be Humboldt County residents.
- Funds are granted on a **one time basis per person per 365 day period.**
- Items that are of a recurrent nature are generally not funded.
- Funding will not be provided for items that have other identifiable sources of funding, either from insurance, government organizations or other charitable organizations.
- The fund cannot pay for expenses already incurred.
- Decisions to grant funds are contingent upon funding criteria and the availability of funds at the time of review.
- There is a **two week turn-around time required** for application review and check processing. Occasionally the committee will ask for additional information before making a decision. This will often result in a longer turn-around time. During the pandemic, it can take 3-4 weeks for checks to be received, if applications are approved.
- The Helping Hand Fund Committee meets every Tuesday, with the exception of holidays.
- **All applications must be complete and submitted by 12:00 p.m. on Friday to be considered by the committee on Tuesday.** Applications should be submitted using our online portal at [hhfgrants.smapply.io](https://hhfgrants.smapply.io)
- **The maximum request amount is \$150.** Additional funding may be considered based on current available funds.

**Who to contact:**

- Get in touch first with your doctor's office, social worker, or other entity who will act as your sponsor.
- For questions, please call the Humboldt Health Foundation office at (707) 442-2417 or email [info@humhealth.org](mailto:info@humhealth.org).
- Questions about an application that has already been submitted? Contact your sponsor for a status update.

*For health and wellness related needs, please apply to the [Angel Fund](#).*

**Regularly Considered (List is not prioritized):**

***Please include itemized prices in the application description***

- Clothing
- Blankets
- Bus passes
- Home repairs
- Car Repairs
- Overdue Bills (PG&E, Water, Electric, Internet, etc.)
- Baby necessities (Diapers, Cribs, Baby Gates, etc.)
- Furniture (Mattresses, Dressers, Oven, etc.)
- Car Repairs
- Washing Machines
- Propane
- Laptops for school, work, or telehealth
- Hotel Funding Requests
- Birth Certificates
- Parenting Classes
- Driver's Licenses
- Driver Ed Class
- ID Cards
- Childcare
- Immigration Fees

**The following items are not generally considered:**

- Pet Care/ Dog Training
- Pet Medication
- Summer Camps
- Waste Removal
- Smoke Alarms
- Counseling (long term)
- Burial/Cremation Costs
- Tattoo Removal
- Woodstove Barriers/Fireplace Gates
- Dumpsters
- Hotel Funding Requests
- Parenting Classes