



Funding Request Frequently Asked Questions

Who is the applicant?

The applicant is the person who is completing the form.

How often are requests reviewed?

Requests are reviewed on a weekly basis, via case staffing with the Vice President of Programs, applicant, and applicant's supervisor. Scheduling appointments for reviews are the responsibility of the applicant and must be made following the request submission, using the scheduling link provided in confirmation email. Requests will be fulfilled based on the availability of funds. Please allow at least two weeks for request fulfillment, following approval. Voices for Children reserves the right to deny requests with incomplete information or if the request does not align with the program's scope of service.

My child's case originated within the 17th Circuit but resides in another county. Can I still submit a request?

Voices for Children of Broward County supports children whose cases originated in the 17th Circuit. If the child was placed outside of the 17th Circuit and still has an active and open case within the 17th Circuit, their request is still eligible to be reviewed.

Can I submit a request for a child who is living in the home that is not in the dependency system?

No.

Can I request funding for a phone or phone service for a child?

No. Although we understand phones are a normalcy need for our teens, we do not provide funds for phones or phone cards. Many of our youth use old phones or devices that are Wi-Fi capable and can be utilized when they are in a location with Wi-Fi access.

Do you provide funding for family vacations with caregivers, foster families, etc.?

No.

How do I know what type of request to put in?

The following is a guide of the request forms and categories, with a general explanation. If you are unsure, please reach out to the Vice President of Programs.

General Funding Request Form includes:

- Educational Need: This includes requests for anything related to the schooling, such as school trips, tuition, GED, books, graduation fees, etc. School uniforms and backpacks are only available during appropriate times of the year.
- Emergency Need: This request includes any emergency need that is not available from one of the other categories and is an emergency need that is an unexpected need that needs to be taken care of immediately.
- Basic Essential Need: This includes requests for This includes: hygiene products, baby essentials, bedding, clothing, shoes, etc.
- Normalcy Need: This includes requests for any social/emotional need. This includes: after school activities, clubs, toys, hair cuts, makeup, yearbooks, senior pics, etc.
- Parent/Relative/Non Relative Caregiver Need: This is to support placement stability or reunification with relative, non relative, or biological parent(s).
- Transportation Need: This includes requests for bus passes, Brightline, etc. to help the child get to places.
- The Linda Saraniti Fine Arts Fund: This includes requests for music, theatre, arts, and other fine arts..

School Break Food & Wellness Request Form includes:

- Food Assistance: This includes emergency food assistance, food during a school break and/or summer, and holiday meal (not including Thanksgiving, which is provided during the Thanksgiving Day distribution event)
- The Luke Hoyer Athletic Fund: This is for funding associated with any sport or wellness activity and can include: registration fees, equipment, clothing and shoes, etc.

Fostering Hope Referral Form:

- This form is used to refer a youth ages 17-22 that are transitioning out of foster care and would like additional support through this process.

All forms require a case staffing once the form is submitted, please follow the instructions on how to schedule this meeting in your email confirmation of submitted form .



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I don't have all the information the request form is asking for, what do I do?

Requests forms need to be completed to the best of your ability, however, we understand you might not have all the information. Simply put N/A and during your case staffing, please be sure to have that information ready to discuss further with the Vice of Presidents of Programs.

The form asks for "type of payment," how do I know what type of payment I should put there?

Our preferred form of payment for purchases is credit card but if you are uncertain that the vendor will take a credit card payment, please call and ask the vendor prior to filling out the form. We understand that sometimes, smaller businesses or individuals do not accept credit cards; we will make every effort to ensure funds can be provided by check or other approved online payment methods. Please leave ample time for a check and ensure the correct information is provided. As a reminder, reimbursements will not be provided.

If I submit a request for the Luke Hoyer Athletic Fund or Linda Sariniti Fine Arts Fund, how many sessions will it include?

Requests for non-recurring programs such as football for a semester at school, soccer camp, theatre camp, or any definitive time-framed program, will be considered. In the event the child wishes to continue the activity beyond its end date, caregivers should have plans to provide funding for continuation. For programs that operate on a 'pay-per-day' participation, further evaluation will be required.

My teen needs a bus pass to get to work or school, can I request one?

Yes. These will be reviewed for teens who have educational needs or need a means to get to and from work but will not be available on a reoccurring basis. Please do check first with the child's DCM at ChildNet or Case Manager in their group home to assess transportation needs.

My child needs a laptop or tablet, can I request this?

No. Although we understand many of our children are using laptops or tablets more frequently in the age of virtual school, technology cannot be purchased. Should Voices receive a donation of devices during Back-to-School season, they will be made available to all eligible cases via a reservation sign-up sheet.

Can I request a toys or gifts for my GAL child/teen?

Voices for Children offers an array of items at our administrative office, The Mimi Center of Hope. A request is still required and, if approved, the Vice President of Programs will schedule a day and time for you to select items needed from our office. While we may not have the specific item you request on your form, you will have the opportunity to select something from the inventory we have currently. Voices for Children hosts several pop-up shops, the Baskets of Love, Back-to-School Backpack Extravaganza, and Holiday Wishes drives throughout the year to help meet your needs. We encourage you to register for those events, as they become available.

A teen is getting a driver's license and needs help with insurance, can we submit a request for that?

It depends. On May 1, 2017, Governor Rick Scott signed SB 60 into law allowing [Keys to Independence](#) to reimburse youth and caregivers for the costs associated with driver education, licensure, and motor vehicle insurance for young adults in foster care so they can have the same opportunity as children who are not in foster care. [The Keys to Independence website](#) includes an application form and all other details. Please contact your Case Manager or Child Advocacy Manager for assistance with these requests. If an aged out young adult is struggling with insurance costs and is participating in post-secondary education, please reach out to us to discuss individual needs.

If I get a gift card do I need to keep receipts?

Yes. Please upload the receipts for the items purchased with the gift card provided by Voices for Children to the Follow-Up Request Form within 60 days of distribution.

Once I have a request fulfilled, is there anything else I must do?

Yes. Once you submit your request, you must schedule a funding request review with Voices for Children, using the link provided on the submission page and in your submission confirmation email. Please ensure you identify a time and day that works for you and your supervisor to attend. All meetings are held virtually, through Zoom. Following the distribution of your request, you must fill out a Follow-Up Request Form no more than 60 days past the time of distribution. It will only take you 5 -10 minutes, and it helps Voices for Children report to our funders. We anonymize any information that we receive prior to sharing success stories. Applicants with follow-up reports outstanding will not be able to submit new requests until the follow up report is completed.

I have more questions, who can I talk to?

If you have any questions or need help completing the form, please reach out to Lammy, Vice President of Programs at lammy@voicesbroward.org or (954) 367-9185.