

Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund

A Special Program to Assist Families Who Are Facing Daunting Medical Bills Due to a Child's Illness or Injury

The Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund (CICRF) helps New Jersey families, regardless of income, whose un-reimbursed medical and related expenses have become a financial burden. Since its creation in 1988, the CICRF has been a financial safety net for thousands of children and their families. Grants cover expenses such as hospital and physician bills, medications, disposable medical goods and medical equipment, in addition to home care, medically-related transportation, and home and vehicle modifications.

To receive a grant from the Fund, a family must reside in New Jersey for at least three months and have uncovered medical bills or expenses for the care of a child age 21 or younger. Expenses are considered retroactively back to the inception of the program in 1988, and the Fund does not exclude based on diagnosis.

Uniquely, there is no income limitation on who is eligible to apply to the Fund. To qualify, uncovered eligible expenses must be greater than 10% of the family's first \$100,000 of income, plus 15% of any excess income over \$100,000. The program recognizes that families of all incomes can easily become overwhelmed when bills begin arriving to cover the care of their child.

Families can learn more and request an application by calling 1-800-335-FUND (3863).