



## Marin Foster Care Association's Opportunity Fund Grants Policy

Marin Foster Care Association provides Opportunity Grants to assist in paying for services that meet a foster child's immediate needs, interests and abilities. Fundable services include, but are not limited to, tutoring, enrichment classes, sports programs and camps. Grants may also be used to purchase items that will contribute substantially to a particular foster child's physical, mental or emotional well-being. Such items might include, for example, a musical instrument for a budding musician, a laptop for school, a prom dress, or a sports uniform.

### Eligibility:

All current foster children placed by Marin County Department of Health and Human Services are eligible to apply. In addition, former Marin foster children who have reunified with their family or have completed the adopted process remain eligible for Opportunity funds for 12 months from the date of their departure from foster care.

### Funding Limits:

Except in extraordinary circumstances, funding will be limited to a maximum of \$500 per child, per year.

### Award Criteria:

Requests are considered in the order received by the Marin Foster Care Association Opportunity Fund Committee. Funding is limited and is insufficient to support all requests. Therefore, the Committee will weigh the severity of the child's need and the value of the services sought in determining whether, and how much, to award.

### Application and Award Procedure:

- **Always ask the vendor for a scholarship or discount prior to submitting application.** The vast majority of camps, sports leagues, etc will discount or scholarship a foster child. This will extend our funds, allow us to approve more requests and advance awareness of the child welfare system.
- **Submit proof of activity/item cost with the application.** A flyer, screenshot of website, invoice, receipt, etc all suffice.
- **Complete all fields of form,** especially age of child and zip code.
- Families may apply for and receive multiple grants in the same calendar year, up to the annual funding limit.

**Opportunity Grants are made possible through the generous donations of individuals and foundations to Marin Foster Care Association.**



### Opportunity Fund Request

All information must be supplied before application will be considered

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Caregiver: \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete Address** (Street, City, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number & Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s), age(s) and county of placement of child/ren to receive funds:** \_\_\_\_\_

Circle title of person filling out this form and supply your name: Foster Parent   CASA  
Adoptive Parent   Relative Care Provider   Non-Relative Care Provider   Social Worker  
Family Advocate \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of funding requested: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name, description and why activity/item was chosen/is needed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of time grant will cover (include start and end date): \_\_\_\_\_

Proof of activity/item cost is attached: \_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

My request for a scholarship/discount was approved \_\_\_ denied \_\_\_ by vendor.

Email completed application to [info@marinfostercare.org](mailto:info@marinfostercare.org) OR  
mail a hard copy to MFCA, 4280 Redwood Highway, Suite 1B, San Rafael, CA 94903.