

CHILDREN'S MERCY HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

Social Work and Community Services

TITLE: Congenital Heart Defects (CHD) Families Fund Policy

NUMBER:

EFFECTIVE: 2/11

REVISION DATE:

REVIEWED WITH NO CHANGES:

RETIRED:

PURPOSE:

To provide staff with guidelines for using the CHD Families Support Fund. Per guidelines, use of this fund is restricted to assist families whose child has a congenital heart defect. The founding donor to this fund is the Congenital Heart Defects Families Association (CHDFA). CHDFA reserves the right to modify the fund's restrictions in the future if needed with the consent of Children's Mercy Hospital.

POLICY:

Families should be encouraged to use their existing resources to obtain transportation, food, and lodging during their child's stay at Children's Mercy Hospital. Funding for family needs should generally be sought from the Children's Mercy Family Support Fund or outside sources before using the CHD Families Support Fund.

Some of the uses of the CHD Families Support Fund include: medical equipment and supplies for home use, adaptive strollers, cribs, assistance with funeral expenses and transportation costs for travel to other centers of excellence. Uses may also include bus, taxi, or plane fares; gasoline cards, food, lodging, long distance phone calls, and special food products required for a child's treatment following the general guidelines of the CMH Family Support Fund for these items. Other needs or uses may be identified through a comprehensive social work assessment of the patient and family.

Funding is limited; requests over \$50.00 must be approved by a Supervisor. Funding for assistance with funeral expenses may not exceed \$200.

The fund will be administered by Social Work Services.

Bi-annual reports to the CHDFA on usage of the Fund. This report will be prepared by the Cardiology Social Workers.