

Support from Charitable Organisations

General information

There can be difficulties for all parents when raising child, but for the most, parents of disabled children will have many more factors to consider when juggling their parenting roles, which can be a full-time job. This can sometimes mean that there is only one income within the household and many families may struggle to make ends meet. Charity organisations have been set up to give advice and support, and supplement some of the shortfalls and financial difficulties that some of us may face without the additional assistance. Most of us have all at some time given to charities and still continue to support such worthy causes.

There is no embarrassment in applying for funding to any of these organisations. They are used to dealing with individuals and families, who from time to time require that little bit of extra help and support. Funding applications to charitable organisations could assist in providing expensive specialist equipment, leisure activities/breaks, educational aids, essential items and other necessities to improve the joys and the quality of life for a child, whilst the benefits can also be shared by other members of the family.

Charities play an important role in our society, they can assist by filling in the gaps where funding for specific items or services may not be available, or may be over and above statutory support that may not fully cover the specific requirements at present.

Reasons why people do not apply

- Too embarrassed
- Fear of rejection Will not be eligible
- Life is private/do not want exposure Limited time
- Not sure where to start
- Have sufficient income

Reasons to apply

- Can be very costly otherwise
- Get the best specialist equipment for your child
- Charities are there to help/support above statutory support

General information

Eligibility criteria - to have a child with a learning and/or physical disability (clinical/medical diagnosis and/or proof of disability or need). Some charities only assist or support specific conditions or syndromes. Contacting the relevant charity would be advised in the very first instance where possible. Life shortening or life limiting conditions and illness are mostly able to make applications to 'wish making' type charities.

Funding is sometimes dependent on household income and other benefits.

Some examples of what could be applied for (this list is by no means exhaustive):

- Driving lessons (for the carer)
- Therapies and activities e.g. horse riding, swimming lessons (for the child)
- Touch screen computer and educational software Clothing/bedding
- Sensory toys and other educational aids
- Holidays (UK/abroad) and short breaks (for the carer, family and child)
- Trampoline
- Travel cot and car seats
- Upgrade wheelchair/buggy and other mobility aids Sensory garden equipment or sensory room Specialist trike/bicycle
- Leisure activities
- Specialist bed/cot (postural care)
- Repairs to the home and decoration (carpeting) Rain cover/sun shade
- Table and chair/highchair (support equipment)
- Bathing equipment
- Cooker/washing machine/tumble dryer
- Utility bills (in arrears/trust fund i.e. EDF energy and British Gas)

The majority of the charities/organisations are unable to assist with building works, within the home or garden. Support for Aids and Adaptations to the home may be available through Social Services Occupational Therapy Department - Contact: 020 8464 3333.

What you might need to apply to a charitable organisation (not all items are essential):

- A contact telephone or mobile number
- List of needs (wish list) Access to a copier/scanner
- Internet access (optional, but is very useful)
- Potential referees (sometimes needs to be a relevant individual depending on the item or activity specifically applied for, i.e. specialist trike, a reference would preferably need to be obtained from the physiotherapist to support the application)
- Diary
- Household expenditure (incoming/outgoing) and if applicable, last 3 months payslips
- General report and overview of the child's disability, i.e. a consulting doctor or psychologist report
- Covering letter (where necessary can use standard letter and adapt for item, activity or service required)
- Benefit award letters and notices
- Utility bills and current bank statements

Process of application

1. You will need to draft out a standard letter (or use the example provided) regarding information about the child/person you require assistance for. Two pages are sufficient. This can later be adapted in places, depending on who you are applying to and for what you are applying for.
2. Make a wish list of things that could benefit your child/family. If possible, ask for ideas from the child, family members, friends, etc. The list can comprise of items or an activity that you would otherwise not be able to afford or fulfil without the additional funding and it is over and above what you would reasonably expect to pay for a typically developing child.
3. Decide which organisation can assist you with the relevant item/s or activity. Some organisations state what they can assist you with and what they are not able to. If they do not state, then either contact the organisation for further information, or presume that your wishes may be considered.
4. Once you have decided what you wish to apply for, check to see the process for applying. Some organisations take direct applications from the parent or carer, whilst others only process applications through professionals, i.e. health visitor, consultant, social worker, physiotherapist, occupational therapist or teacher. Sometimes you can phone for an application; alternatively you may be able to download the forms if you have access to a computer. The initial application stage may sometimes take longer to process, as the organisation may need to determine your eligibility for their criteria, or it may need to be discussed during specifically timed panel dates.
5. Potential referees need to be asked if they are willing to assist you with your application, only then may they be used. Where possible, attempts should be made to use alternate referees if there are pressures on a selected few. This is also dependent on what is being applied for, e.g. horse riding lessons, which can be through the physiotherapist and maybe one other, if it is required.
6. Once you start applying to charitable organisations, it is important to keep a record of activities regarding your application. Make a note of letters sent, referrals to be organised, further information required and to be sent, etc. If possible use a day-to-view diary, with enough space to record your tasks, then you can see the progress of each application. Always keep all paperwork relevant to your applications, in one specific file, where possible.
7. Some of the charity organisations may reject your application. It may be demoralising and they really can only say 'yes or no', but where one charity rejects, the other could accept, so persevere.
8. You can apply for the 'same items or activities' to a few of the charity organisations simultaneously, to increase your chances of receiving your request, but you must ensure that you do not accept 'two of the same request or wish', e.g. two holidays or two sensory rooms, etc. If you are accepted from both organisations, then you will need to accept one or the other offer.
9. Part funding may also be applied for, e.g. garden makeover, or an expensive item of equipment that one charity organisation would be unable to fund alone. You can make each charity aware of your aims and outcomes and tell them exactly how your child will benefit from this item or activity ongoing, etc.
10. Some charities offer one-off assistance for items and activities. Others may offer assistance annually, or wherever there is a need (due to hardship or crisis situations). It is imperative that the equipment or service is not already being fully provided or fulfilled through existing statutory services.
11. Re-apply following the criteria given, for annual funding applications (normally from the final award date of your last application).
12. There are children and families in different circumstances to our own. We may think that our situation does not warrant an application for additional funding, but most that are in need, do usually get the help.

The charity can decide whether you meet their **Eligibility criteria**.

List of Charitable Organisations

The Family Fund

Type of grant: Help given must be related to the child's care needs. May include some funding towards a holiday, leisure activities, laundry equipment, bedding and clothing, transport, computers, play equipment and other items.

If eligible, can also choose a direct family holiday as part of your funding, through Haven or Thomas Cook. Cannot provide items which are the responsibility of the statutory agencies such as medical or educational equipment or small items for daily living such as bath aids, which are the responsibility of care services.

Additionally, separate from the grant making fund is 'Family Fund Extra', offering a variety of discounted goods and services such as electrical products, gift cards and holidays:

www.familyfund.org.uk/

Eligibility criteria: Families with children and young people aged 17 and under who have a severe disability or serious illness.

Eligible families must be in receipt of Child Tax Credit.

How to apply: Applications can be made by parents, carers or a professional worker (with parental consent).

An application form is available from the Fund or applications can be made online. Applications for funding can be made annually.

Family Fund, Unit 4, Alpha Court, Monks Cross Drive, York, YO32 9WN
Tel: 08449 744099
Textphone: 01904 658085
Fax: 01904 652625
Email: info@familyfund.org.uk
www.familyfund.org.uk

Variety Club

Type of grant: There are different guidelines depending on the type of equipment being requested: Mobility aids, such as wheelchairs, computer grants, general grants can be applied for. Cannot fund for trips abroad, medical treatment or research, administrative/salary costs, maintenance or on-going costs, repayment of loans, basic cost of a family vehicle, non-specific appeals.

Eligibility criteria: Helps sick, disabled and disadvantaged children and young people, up to the age of 19 years, who reside in the UK.

How to apply: Dependent on type of grant applied for - contact for details.

- Variety Club House, 93 Bayham Street, London, NW1 0AG
Tel: 0207 428 8100
Fax: 0207 428 8123
Email: info@varietyclub.org.uk
www.varietyclub.org.uk

Whizz Kidz

Type of grant: Mobility equipment for children including trikes, powered wheelchairs, etc.

Eligibility criteria: Individuals under 18 years of age with disabilities.

How to apply: For further details.

- 1 Warwick Row, London SW1E 5ER
Tel: 0207 233 6600 or 0800 151 3350
www.whizz-kidz.org.uk
Email: info@whizz-kidz.org.uk

Kidz Unlimited

Whizz Kidz Ambassadors Clubs are just like youth groups for young disabled people. Meetings normally take place every 6-8 weeks at schools and other venues. Activities include, playing games, Wheelchair Skills Training, watching DVD's, trips out, etc.

Email: ambassadors@whizz-kidz.org.uk

Cerebra

Type of grant: can apply for computers, holidays in the UK (up to £500), specialist equipment, i.e. car seats, buggies, tricycles, sensory toys and certain therapies within the mainland UK (contact for a list of therapies that can be considered for funding).

Unable to fund for home improvements and structural changes, vehicles and repairs, general household items or items that should be provided by other statutory organisations.

You can apply for one grant in a calendar year.

Eligibility criteria: Cerebra Grant Scheme is aimed at helping children who have disabilities due to a brain related condition, injury or neurological disorder.

The condition may be of a physical nature, a learning difficulty, or both.

For children 16 and under.

How to apply: you can telephone, or write to Cerebra for an application form, or download a copy from the website. Also has an extensive book lending service (via post) to members (please note membership is free).

Cerebra also offer the use of a holiday home in Pembrokeshire to children with additional needs and/ or disabilities, including their families.

Vallecchia is a large four bedroom dormer bungalow situated in Hook, Pembrokeshire, South West Wales. For further details and to apply, you must complete a booking form, references will be required. Accommodation is free to members of Cerebra.

Cerebra,
FREEPOST SWC3360, Carmarthen SA31 1ZY

Contact details:

2nd Floor, The Lyric Building, King Street,
Carmarthen, SA31 1BD

Tel: 01267 244 200

Freephone: 0800 328 1159

Email: grants@cerebra.org.uk

www.cerebra.org.uk

The Elifar Foundation

Type of grant: Provides grants for a wide range of equipment, therapies and home adaptations.

Eligibility criteria: Children and young adults.

Contact for further details.

How to apply: On a form available from the foundation.

22 Florentine Way, Waterlooville, Hants, P07 8JU

Tel: 0239 226 7996

Email: info@elifarfoundation.org.uk

www.elifarfoundation.org.uk

Newlife

Type of grant: Can help buy specialist equipment, educational aids, replacement clothing or bedding, if the damage or excessive wear and tear is due to the child's condition.

Eligibility criteria: For families with a child/ children who have some form of inborn condition. The service exists for those who need help, but who would otherwise face a lengthy wait. Funding can sometimes be given on an annual basis.

How to apply: Can download an application form from their website or telephone for an application form and further details.

- Newlife Foundation for Disabled Children (previously known as BDF)

Newlife, Child and Family Grants Service,

BDF Centre, Hemlock Way, Cannock,

Staffordshire, WS11 7GF

Tel: 01543 462 777

Fax: 01543 468 999

- Nurse Services: 0800 902 0095
Email: info@newlifecharity.co.uk
www.newlifecharity.co.uk

Family Action

Type of grant: A wide variety of trust funds are administered by the F.A. charity. Fuel bills, clothing, particularly children's clothing and household needs are most commonly requested, but can also help with more unusual needs such as electronic aids. Most grants range between 100 and 200.

Eligibility criteria: People in need.

How to apply: Contact should be made first by a professional worker (Social Worker, Health Visitor or Voluntary Agency like a Citizens Advice Bureau (C.A.B) using the association's application form. This form can be obtained by sending a SAE marked 'GRANTS' and can also be downloaded from their website.

If funds are available and an application can be accepted, further information will be requested from the professional.

- Grants Manager, 501-505 Kingsland Road, Dalston,
London, E8 4AU
Tel: 020 7254 6251
Fax: 020 7241 7459
www.family-action.org.uk

Act Foundation

Type of grant: equipment – provision of specialised wheelchairs, other mobility aids and equipment, including medical equipment to assist independent living.

Financial assistance for recreational and respite breaks.

Grants are not given for items already bought, or that are provided through statutory services.

Eligibility criteria: they will only accept applications from the UK – based individuals and registered charities.

How to apply: application forms downloadable from their website and can either be printed or completed online and emailed to the Trust.

The Grants Manager, The Act Foundation,
61 Thames Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1QW
Tel: 01753 753900
Fax: 01753 753901
Email:info@theactfoundation.co.uk
www.theactfoundation.co.uk

Association of Charity Officers (ACO)

Type of grant: ACO has a membership of over 200 charities providing financial and other assistance.

Eligibility criteria: for children and young people, one-parent families, people with physical or learning difficulties or mental health problems.

How to apply: provides a helpline to signpost enquirers to the charities most likely to be able to offer them help.

The Association of Charity Officers, Five Ways, 57-59, Hatfield Road, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 1HS
Helpline (managed by Turn 2 us): 0808 802 2000
www.turn2us.org.uk/

The Attlee Foundation

Type of grant: one-off grants up to £100 towards travelling costs for therapeutic journeys, e.g. to maintain contact with family members in hospital, prison or rehabilitation a long way from home in the UK. No grants for funerals, holidays, wheelchairs or mobility adaptations.

Eligibility criteria: people who have disabilities or are disadvantaged, within the UK.

How to apply: apply on a form from the Foundation. Applications must be made through a social worker, Citizens Advice or other welfare agency, to which the cheque will be payable on behalf of the individual. A SAE must be enclosed.

- The Attlee Foundation, 5 Thrawl Street, London E1 6RT
Tel: 020 7183 0093
Email: info@attlee.org.uk
www.attlee.org.uk

Hospital Saturday Fund

Type of grant: One-off grants are made, ranging from £25 to £250 towards medical care, medical equipment and appliances, dietary needs, disability aids and help in the home. Grants are not made to anyone without a medical connection.

Eligibility criteria: Individuals who live in the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and the Republic of Ireland, who are ill, have a disability or receiving medical care.

How to apply: Applications on a form from the correspondent. If the application is made directly from the individual, a supporting letter from a welfare agency, social worker or other third party is appreciated. A third party can also apply on behalf of the individual. Applications are considered every two months.

- K. R. Bradley, Administrator, 24 Upper Ground,
London, SE1 9PD.
Tel: 0207 928 6662
Fax: 0207 928 0446
Email: trust@hsf.eu.com
www.hsf.eu.com

The Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund

Type of grant: one-off grants of £200 towards part- payment of convalescent holidays for children.

Eligibility criteria: children under the age of 18 who are chronically ill or recovering from surgery or long term illness.

How to apply: applications in writing to the correspondent at any time. Applications should be made through a third party, e.g. a doctor, social worker or hospital staff.

- Rev David Philips, Church Society, Dean Wace
House, 16 Rosslyn Road, Watford, WD18 0NY
Tel: 01923 235111
Fax: 01923 800362
Email: admin@churchsociety.org
www.churchsociety.org

Aldridge Charitable Trust

Type of grant: One-off grants in the range of £100 to £2000 for specific pieces of specialist equipment, such as wheelchairs or special baths (no electrical equipment, household goods or building work).

Eligibility criteria: Young people under 18 who have a physical or learning disability and in need.

How to apply: On a form available from the correspondent. Applications can be submitted either directly by the individual or through a third party, such as, a social worker.

Silca House, 3234 Eagle Wharf Road, London, N1 7EB
Tel: 08444 125 101

Charis Grants

Type of grant: grants to cover arrears of domestic gas/ electricity charges and other essential domestic bills and costs. No grants for bills already paid, overpayments of benefits, fines for criminal offences, education or training needs, business debts, debts to central government departments, catalogues, credit cards, loans, medical equipment, aids and adaptations or holidays.

Eligibility criteria: domestic customers of British Gas or Scottish Gas.

How to apply: application forms are available by writing to the Trust or downloadable from the website.

PO Box 42, Peterborough, PE3 8X

Tel: 01733 421 021

Fax: 01733 421 020

Email: bget@charisgrants.com

www.charisgrants.com

Caudwell Charitable Trust

Type of grant: The Trust deals directly with suppliers and service providers to supply equipment and for life-changing treatments. Provides training courses for parents of autistic children through the 'Caudwell Sunrise Programme', which is inspired by new research.

Eligibility criteria: Pledges to make donations to children under 19, in cases of illness, specialised medical requirements, traumatic needs and dying wishes.

How to apply: Application to be made to the Trust by completing an application form. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Trust initially for advice about suitability of application.

- Minton Hollins, Shelton Old Road,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 7RY
Tel: 0845 300 1348
Email: info@childrentoday.org.uk
www.childrentoday.org.uk

Buttle UK

Type of grant: one-off grants towards clothes, bedding, essential furniture and household equipment. No grants towards payment of debts, holiday and childcare costs, vehicle purchase, computers or adaptations to the house.

Eligibility criteria: children/young people under 21 who are either looked after by adoptive parents, cared for by family members or friends, living with single parents, estranged or orphaned and living independently. The Trust cannot support children who are supported by two caring parents or being looked after by a local authority, or who have been in the UK for less than two years and have either full refugee status or exceptional leave to remain. Not available for those living outside the UK.

How to apply: in writing through a statutory agency or voluntary organisation that is capable of assessing the needs of the child and can also administer a grant on behalf of the Trust.

- Buttle UK, Audley House, 13 Palace Street,
London, SW1E 5HX
Tel: 020 7828 7311
www.buttleuk.org

Children Today Charitable Trust

Type of grant: grants of up to 1,000 to provide vital, life changing specialist equipment. Can apply for specialist trikes/bicycles, sensory and educational aids.

Eligibility criteria: children and young people, who have a disability and/or illness, up to the age of 25.

How to apply: application forms are available from the correspondent.

- A Dodd, The Moorings, Rowton Bridge,
Chester, CH3 7AE
Tel: 01244 335 622
Fax: 01244 335 473
Email: info@childrentoday.org.uk
www.childrentoday.org.uk

The League of the Helping Hand

Type of grants: One-off grants to purchase essential items such as cookers, washing machines, specialist furniture, shoes and clothing, bedding, cots, etc.

Eligibility criteria: People who have a learning or a physical disability, or both and are in financial need.

How to apply: On a form available from the correspondent, to be submitted through a social worker, or other health care professionals. A SAE must be included. Trustees meet every three weeks to consider applications, although emergency needs can be met more quickly.

The Secretary, LHH, P.O. Box 342, Burgess Hill, RH15 5AQ
Tel and Fax: 01444 236 099 Email: secretary@lhh.org.uk
www.lhh.org.uk

React (Rapid Effective Assistance for Children with a potentially terminal illness)

Type of grant: One-off (occasionally recurrent) grants for a variety of needs, e.g. washing machines, funeral expenses, telephone bills, specialist toys, carpets, wheelchairs and sensory equipment. React claims to offer grants for a very broad and imaginative range of needs. No grants for holidays abroad or alterations to houses.

Eligibility criteria: Children up to 18 years old with a potentially terminal illness and financially disadvantaged.

How to apply: An application form should be completed by the individual or through a third party, such as GP, hospital, social/health worker or hospice. They are dealt with as soon as possible and they must be validated by a medical professional and declare the applicants financial status. Applicants are asked to phone if there is any doubt about eligibility.

Ms Vicky Andreas, React,
St Luke's House, 270 Sandycombe Road,
Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3NP
Tel: 0208 940 2575
Fax: 0208 940 2050
Email: react@reactcharity.org
www.reactcharity.org

The Heinz, Anna and Carol Kroch Foundation

Type of grant: no grants for education purposes or holidays. Applications are generally processed each month.

Eligibility criteria: provides grants to individuals for all age ranges who are suffering severe poverty and financial hardship and who also have ongoing medical problems, chronic illness and/or disabilities. Also willing to consider recent cases of domestic violence.

How to apply: applications must be submitted by a social worker, welfare rights officer, Citizens Advice Bureau, GP/Consultant, or someone working with the client.

- Mrs Beena Astle, Administrator, PO Box 462,
Teddington, TW11 1BS
Tel: 020 8977 5534
Fax: 020 8977 5547
Email: hakf50@hotmail.com

Fashion and Textile Childrens Trust

A grant may be provided to support children to reach their full potential with additional needs and disabilities. Applications can be made from individuals who work or have previously worked in fashion retail or in the textiles industry.

- Winchester House, 259-269, Old Marylebone Road,
London, NW1 5RA
Tel: 020 7170 4117
Email: anna@ftct.org.uk
www.ftct.org.uk

Rainbow Trust Children's Charity

The Charity provides emotional and practical support to families who have a child with a life threatening or terminal illness.

- 6 Cleeve Court, Cleeve Road, Leatherhead
Surrey, KT22 7UD
Tel: 01372 363438
Email: info@rainbowtrust.org.uk
www.rainbowtrust.org.uk

Sebastian's Action Trust

Can provide practical support in many different forms to children with life-limiting illnesses at critical times to families exhausted by the stresses of hospital life and their child's treatment.

Tel: 01344 622500
Email: info@sebastiansactiontrust.org
www.sebastiansactiontrust.org

Go Kids Go (previously known as The Association of Wheelchair Children)

Eligibility criteria: Not a grant funding organisation as such, but provides a service for children who are wheelchair users and may need to be shown how to use a wheelchair effectively, therefore needing guidance and training. Independence through mobility. Children in receipt of DLA would be eligible, contact organization for further details.

206 Norwood, Beverley, East Yorkshire, HU17 9JA Tel: 01482 887163
Email: roy@go-kids-go.org.uk
www.go-kids-go.org.uk

The Roald Dahl Foundation

Type of grant: One-off grants of 20- 500 each towards household appliances, utility bills, clothing, beds and bedding, medical alert jewellery, travel and subsistence payments while children are in hospital. Specialised equipment, e.g. sensory toys, car seats, wheelchairs, motability vehicles, vehicle tax and insurance and short break care.

No grants are given towards debt (except utility bills) or items that should be provided by statutory sources. Grants are only given towards holidays (within the UK) in exceptional circumstances.

Eligibility criteria: Helps children and young people aged 25 and under who have a neurological or haematological condition and are from a low income family (in receipt of income support, working families' tax credit or housing benefit). Families not on benefits, but on a low income or whose income has been interrupted by the child's illness may also be considered.

How to apply: Applications on a form from the Foundation. They must be submitted by a health care professional or a social worker who is willing to see the application through to completion, supplying and confirming the information contained. Applicants need to provide details of income and expenditure, if no state benefits are being claimed.

- Mrs J. Smith, Small Grants Manager, The Roald Dahl Foundation, 81a High Street, Gt. Missenden, Buckinghamshire, HP16 0AL
Tel: 01494 890465
Email: enquiries@roalddahlcharity.org

The Margaret Champney Rest & Holiday Fund

Type of grant: Generally one-off grants of between 75 and 250. Grants are not available towards 'standard' family holidays.

Eligibility criteria: Carers, particularly those caring for a severely disabled child/relative, who needs a break away from the person they are caring for.

How to apply: In writing to the correspondent, through a health visitor, social worker, or other care worker. Applications are considered at any time and should include full details of weekly income and expenditure.

- Mrs G. Galvan, General Manager, The Gate House, 9 Burkitt Road, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 4JJ
Tel & Fax: 01394 388746
Email: ogilviecharities@btconnect.com

Lifeline 4 Kids

Type of grant: Cash grants are not given, however specific items are purchased on behalf of the individuals.

Eligibility criteria: People under the age of 19 who have disabilities.

How to apply: On a form available from the correspondent. Applications can be made directly by individuals or via a social worker or other health care professionals. Applications are considered monthly, although urgent cases can be dealt with more quickly.

- The Trustees, 215, West End Lane, London, NW6 1XJ
www.lifeline4kids.org
Contact via website preferred

The Salvation Army

Type of grant: All grants are one-off, in the form of specific practical assistance, such as for needs in the home. Subject to availability the Salvation Army also provides grants for holidays at a local caravan or at their centre in Westgate, Kent. No grants for educational purposes.

Eligibility criteria: People in need.

How to apply: Apply in writing to the Divisional Director for Business Administration at the nearest regional office (Bromley). Applications must be supported by a caseworkers report from a social agency (e.g. psychologist report), welfare organisation, hospital or medical practice. Information about the applicant's social and financial background must be included.

London South East Division, 1 East Court, Enterprise Road, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JF

Tel: 01622 775000

Fax: 01622 7750111

www.salvationarmy.org.uk

The R L Glasspool Charity Trust

Type of grant: one-off grants, including those for white goods, clothing, holidays, furniture and disability equipment. Some of the items will be supplied directly to the applicant. No grants for loans, debts, bursaries, educational grants, rents/deposits, funeral costs, children's toys, computers for general use, building works, driving lessons/tests.

Eligibility criteria: people who are in need, who are on a low income.

How to apply: on a form available from the trust made through social care services, citizens advice or through other relevant welfare agencies. Payment is made to the referring agency.

Second Floor, Saxon House, 182 Hope Street, Walthamstow, EH17 4QH

Tel: 020 8520 4354

Fax: 020 8520 9040

www.glasspool.org.uk

Breathe on UK

Breathe on UK supports the families of children on long term ventilation and aims to give them a better quality of life. Breathe on UK is urgently looking for families of long term ventilated children and also oxygen-dependent children from the ages of 0-21 years in order to fulfil the funding criteria. They can fund urgent respite breaks and family holidays. Can register online. Currently seeking regional ambassadors for raising awareness groups and fundraising.

- Tel: 01258 820274
Email: victoria@breatheon.org.uk
www.ftct.org.uk

3H Fund

Type of grant: to assist disabled individuals with a physical or learning disability, their families and carers on a low income, to organise a modest holiday for themselves. Grants are given for the accommodation part of a holiday and the holiday must be taken in the UK.

Eligibility criteria: people with disabilities, their families and carers, on a low income.

How to apply: you will need to complete an application form, which is available by contacting the Trust, with evidence of disability and low income.

- 3H Fund, 147a Camden Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2RA
Office Tel: 01892 860207
Grant Programme: 01892 524703
Email: info@3hfund.org.uk
www.3hfund.org.uk

The Farrell Charitable Trust (Liveability)

Type of grant: grants are given for the provision of holidays. **Eligibility criteria:** people who have physical or mental health issues and those on low incomes.

How to apply: in writing to the Trust.

Tel: 01492 8768333

Wish Granting Organisations

Sometimes the terms 'life threatening and/or life limiting' are used within the disability spectrum. Life limiting can mean that potentially the quality of an individual's life 'can' and 'could' be compromised, sometimes causing ongoing difficulties and requiring additional assistance and support. Life threatening means that there is a possibility of a shortened life compared to a typically developing individual due to ongoing health difficulties.

Check with the relevant charity for further details, where necessary.

Make a Wish Foundation UK

Eligibility criteria: Grants the wishes of children aged 3-18 years living with life-threatening/limiting illnesses.

How to apply: Anyone who knows a child can apply by writing to Head Office or visiting the website.

329-331, London Road, Camberley, GU15 3HQ Tel: 01276 405060 Fax: 01276 405061

Email: info@make-a-wish.org.uk

www.make-a-wish.org.uk

Rays of Sunshine Children's Charity

Eligibility criteria: Aims to make the wishes come true of terminally and seriously ill children (between the ages of 3 and 18). Also buys vitally needed equipment for those children and supporting hospitals, hospices and specialist schools that care for those children.

How to apply: Contact the organisation for more information.

Stuart Rogers, CEO. No 1. Olympic Way, Wembley, Middlesex, HA9 0NP

Tel: 0208 782 1171 Fax: 0208 782 1173

Email: office@raysofsunshine.org.uk

www.raysofsunshine.org.uk

Starlight Children's Foundation

Eligibility criteria: Grants wishes to serious or terminally ill children (e.g. leukaemia, HIV/Aids, brain tumours, cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy, severe asthma or epilepsy, sickle cell anaemia, most forms of cerebral palsy) aged between 4-18 years.

How to apply: Anyone can refer a child to Starlight by printing off an application form, from the website, or contact organisation for further details.

- Children's Services Department, Macmillan House,
Paddington Station, London, W2 1HG
Tel: 0207 262 2881
Fax: 0207 402 7403
Email: info@starlight.org.uk
www.starlight.org.uk

Dreams Come True Charity

Eligibility criteria: Fulfills wishes for children who are seriously and terminally ill, aged between 2-21 years.

How to apply: Apply by calling freephone 0800 0186013, writing or sending your details via email form on the website.

- Tel: 01428 726330
Email: info@dreamscometrue.uk.com
www.dreamscometrue.uk.com

You Wish Upon A Star

Eligibility criteria: Fulfils the wishes of children with life threatening and terminal illnesses aged between 2-16 years.

How to apply: contact the charity for further details.

- Futurist House, Valley Road, Basford,
Nottingham, NG5 1JE
Tel: 0115 979 1720
Fax: 0115 979 1363
Email: nottingham@whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk
www.whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk

Dial-a-Dream

- 7 Addison Road, Wanstead , London E11 2RG
Tel: 020 8530 5589
Email: bob@dial-a-dream.co.uk
www.dial-a-dream.co.uk

Follow Your Dreams

Raises awareness and sponsors children and young people with learning disabilities to recognise their potential, be ambitious and be provided with the opportunities to follow their dreams into sports, music, drama or the arts.

Contact details:

Gwynfa House, Main Road, Church Village, CF38 1RN

Tel: 01443 218 443

Email: admin@followyourdreams.org.uk

www.followyourdreams.org.uk

There are many more charitable organisations operating within the U.K. These are just a few that are listed. Build on your resources and research other organisations you can potentially use to assist you in the future.

