



How to Apply for Grants and Other Funds

Karla Fitch, MTSC – Connecting for Kids



Before We Begin

- Asking for/looking for money is an emotional process.
- It can feel frustrating when you are denied for funding
- We can feel afraid if we think our children aren't getting the services they need.

Breathe in. Breathe out.



Eight Places to Look

- Private Health Insurance
- Public Insurance Programs (CMH/Medicaid)
- School District
- County Resources
- Scholarships
- Nonprofits & Charitable Foundations
- Lending Libraries
- Fundraising

Private Health Insurance

Private health insurances may cover interventions for medically-necessary therapies, devices and procedures.

How do I know if it's covered?



Call the “member services” or “customer hotline” numbers on the back of your insurance identification card.

- Therapies
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Physical Therapy
 - Speech Therapy
 - Mental Health Therapies (Cognitive Behavioral Therapy [CBT], etc.)
 - Behavioral Therapy (Applied Behavior Analysis [ABA])
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
 - Braces and Guards (including ankle-foot orthotics [AFOs], protective helmets, etc.)
 - Mobility Aids (wheelchairs, walkers, gait trainers, etc.)
 - Speech Devices (Note: this is usually a dedicated speech device – not an iPad)
- Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM)
 - Some Chiropractors, Aquatics, Holistic Therapies

My health insurance doesn't cover it!

But I really think they should!

- Affordable Care Act Marketplace Insurance Plans
 - Available to anyone during the open enrollment period.
 - Individuals who meet certain qualifications can apply during the rest of the year.

Visit: [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov)

The screenshot shows the HealthCare.gov website. At the top, there's a header with the logo, a language selector for 'Español', and a 'Log in' link. Below this is a navigation bar with links: 'Get Coverage', 'Keep or Update Your Plan', 'See Topics', and 'Get Answers', along with a search bar. The main content area features a large banner with the text 'Still need health insurance?' and a subtext 'You can enroll in or change plans if you have certain life changes, or qualify for Medicaid or CHIP.' Below the banner are two green buttons: 'SEE IF I CAN ENROLL' and 'SEE IF I CAN CHANGE'. A link 'Looking for coverage for a small business? Learn more' is also present. Below the banner is a section titled 'MARKETPLACE COVERAGE AND CORONAVIRUS' with a 'LEARN MORE' button. At the bottom, there are four columns of links: 'QUICK START GUIDE' (with a checkmark icon and a 'GET TIPS' button), 'INCOME/LIFE CHANGE?' (with a clipboard icon and a 'SEE HOW TO REPORT' button), 'PAY YOUR PREMIUM' (with a calendar icon and a 'SEE HOW' button), and 'FIND LOCAL HELP' (with a house icon and a 'SEE OPTIONS' button).

Public Insurance Programs

- Children with Medical Handicaps (CMH)
 - Supplemental program that helps families with children who have a **qualifying** medical handicap.
 - Depending on income, this may pay for diagnosis only or diagnosis and treatment.
 - Apply through a CMH certified provider.
- CHIP
 - Insurance coverage for families who make too much money to qualify for Medicaid, but not enough to buy private insurance.
 - Available through [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov)
- Medicaid
 - Insurance coverage for families living at or below poverty level.

School District

- Schools may provide therapies to eligible students when your child:
 - Is school aged (between 3-22 years)
 - Has a disability that impacts ability to learn

How do I find out if my child qualifies?



Contact your child's teacher or special education department and request an evaluation for special education services.



Baby or Toddler?

Children under the age of three years may qualify for therapy services through Ohio's Early Intervention Program.

You or your pediatrician can complete a referral online (link at end of presentation).

County Resources

- County Boards of Developmental Disabilities
 - Children over the age of 3 with eligible diagnoses may qualify for financial support through Family Resource Programs/NEON

How do I find out if my child qualifies?



Contact your county board of developmental disabilities to request an intake. If you have already completed an intake, contact your service and support administrator (SSA).

- Types of Support Provided:
 - Respite Care
 - Special Equipment
 - Home Modifications
 - Special Diets
 - Counseling, Training and Education
 - Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapy
 - Diapers/wipes and/or underpads (individuals five years of age or older).

County Resources (continued)

- Waivers
 - Funding stream that families can access to help with care costs.
 - Usually offered to older children and adults with developmental disabilities.
 - Significant waiting list to receive a waiver.
 - Podcast available on the website

CHANGES TO OHIO WAIVERS

With Gary Tonks, CEO, [The Arc of Ohio](#)

Podcasts supported
by Ernst and Young
Presented: 2019



CHANGES TO OHIO WAIVERS

Free podcast and resources



Department of
Developmental Disabilities



University of Cincinnati
UC UCEDD Ohio Family 2 Family



and Lorain County Family Forum

Changes to Ohio Waivers

by Connecting for Kids

Description of Presentation

Gary Tonks, CEO, of The Arc of Ohio, discusses changes at the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, including:



Scholarships

Ohio Autism Scholarship

- Available to students with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) diagnosis
- Must have an IEP
- Available to ages 3-22
- Each child gets the same amount of scholarship money

Jon Peterson Scholarship

- Available to students with any diagnosis
- Must have an IEP
- Available to ages 5-22
- Amount of scholarship money varies depending on your child's category

IMPORTANT: If you accept one of these scholarships, your child must withdraw from public school. Scholarship funds are used to meet academic needs in a different setting.

Nonprofits & Charitable Foundations

A number of nonprofits and charitable organizations offer funding in the form of grants and scholarships. Application periods vary as do application criteria. For more information, please contact the nonprofit or foundation directly.

General	Accessibility	Autism	Orthopedic Impairment	Speech & Language
The following grants can be used for more general concerns, such as education, therapies, respite services, camps or recreation:				
Chive Charities Offers grants for individuals with rare diagnosis to assist with costs of therapy equipment & sessions not covered by insurance, handicap accessible home & car modifications, purchasing of developmental & learning devices and other medical needs as recommended by a medical professional.				

chivecharities.org

Community Foundation (CFMF)
Offers grants to OH residents with disabilities for disability related items and services.

1-216-724-1510
SO MANY OUT THERE!!!!

info@cfmf.org

cfmf.org

Doc's Deepwood Run Foundation

Doc's Deepwood Run Foundation (DFR) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides financial assistance to children with disabilities.

Local Grants (based in Ohio)

- Community Fund Management Foundation(Middleburg Heights)
- Doc's Deepwood Run Foundation(Mentor)
- Easter Seals: Elyria Rotary Children with Special Needs Fund (Lorain)
- Easter Seals Campership Program (Northern OH)
- Lil MAC Kids (Lewis Center)
- iTaalk (Toledo)
- James R. Nicholl Memorial Foundation (Lorain)
- Kya's Crusade (Gahanna)
- Mike's Kids (Elyria)
- The Orange Effect Foundation(Cleveland)
- Parker's Purpose (Fremont)
- Special Kids Therapy (Findlay)
- Zane's Foundation, Inc. (Stow)

Tips for Applying

- Get Organized! Create a Medical Summary and Vision Statement
 - Can help you paint a clear picture of your child's strengths and needs.
 - Medical summary form available through Ohio GPS (link at end)
 - Charting the LifeCourse forms (link at end)
 - CFK Podcast with more on the tools (link at end)
- “Boiler plate” is your friend
 - Save larger blocks of text that you use to describe your child's needs so you can copy, paste, and modify as needed for different grant applications



Use our Family Resource Specialists!

- Can help navigate the list
- Know which grants other families have used successfully

Lending Libraries

- Assistive Technology (e.g., switches, keyboards, tablet devices)
- Equipment (e.g., standers, walkers, wheelchairs)
- Adapted Toys

NOTE: Some lending libraries have suspended operations due to COVID. The OCALI lending library list (link at end) includes addresses and phone numbers you can call to check inventory.



Music Kit #1
Music Kit #1 is designed to teach kids rhythm, music and movement.
This kit contains:

- Book - *The Nuts and Bolts of Music and Dance In Your Polka-Dot Pants* by Eric Litwin.
- Stretchy band - A stretchy band is for music and movement. It is made of latex-free tubing covered with fabric, this creative movement prop is for music and building, practicing goal areas, making shapes, working on boundary issues, body and rhythm, and music. Washable in cold water. This stretchy band is a personal size.
- Maracas - A maraca is a traditional Latin American instrument. The maraca can be played by holding the instrument with two hands, or by the graphic facing up, gently and slowly rock it back and forth. Watch the beads rattle, making a "whoosh" sound.
- Beads - A string of beads is a traditional Latin American instrument. The beads can be played by holding the instrument with two hands, or by the graphic facing up, gently and slowly rock it back and forth. Watch the beads rattle, making a "whoosh" sound.
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TOYS & BOOKABLE KITS

TOY COLLECTION
Cuyahoga County Public Library is committed to providing toys to engage, entertain and educate all ages and all abilities. Our collection includes more than 1,300 different toy titles, appropriate for developmental ages of 0-8 years.

Every toy in our Toy Collection is carefully examined, cleaned and disinfected after every loan to assure that each is safe, clean and ready to use. For information about our Toy Collection, please contact your local CCPL branch or call our Youth Literacy and Outreach Department at 216.749.9525.

BORROW TOYS

WE Play TOY LIBRARY

The WE Play Toy Library Collection is designed to serve all families. The collection is comprised of many award winning toys for all ages. From LEGO Duplo and Magformers to puzzles and plush toys, there is something for everyone. Some of our toys are adapted and can be operated with buttons. Buttons are available for check out. These toys also operate normally.

[View the Collection \(All Toys A-Z\)](#)

Did you know? Several of our library partners offer adapted toys and music therapy items!

Fundraising

- Fundraising Websites (e.g., GoFundMe)
 - Can be a good option for purchasing large/expensive items – especially if you have a lot of friends on social media
 - Usually take a portion of the funds to offset credit card and processing fees.

Service Fees

Typically range from 5-8% of total dollars raised.

Credit Card Fees

Typically 3% plus 30¢ per transaction.

Example

You raise \$1,000 with 10 transactions. At 5%, you would pay \$50 in service fees and \$33 in credit card fees.

CFK Resources

- **How-to Guide**

- **How to Find Funds for Therapy** (https://connectingforkids.org/funding_therapy)

- **Podcasts**

- **Changes to Ohio Waivers** (<https://connectingforkids.org/waivers19>)
 - **How to Apply for Grants** (fast forward to 36 minutes for information on medical summary and Charting the Lifecourse) (<https://connectingforkids.org/grants20>)

Websites

- Charting the Lifecourse (<https://www.lifecoursetools.com/lifecourse-library/foundational-tools/>)
- Federal Healthcare Marketplace (<https://www.healthcare.gov/>)
- OCALI Lending Libraries List (<https://ddc.ohio.gov/at-resources-links>)
- Ohio Children with Medical Handicaps Website (<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/children-with-medical-handicaps/welcome-to>)
- Ohio Guiding People through Systems (GPS) Health Summary forms (visit <https://ohiogps.org/Views/Shared/AvailableForms.aspx> and click **View** next to “Health Summary”)
- Ohio Early Intervention Referral Form (<https://odhgateway.odh.ohio.gov/ochids/public/refer>)
- Ohio Scholarship Programs (<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships>)

County Boards of Developmental Disabilities

- Family Support Programs by County
 - Cuyahoga County (<https://cuyahogabdd.org/eligibility-services/family-supports-program/>)
 - Geauga County (<https://geaugadd.org/services/>)
 - Lake County (<https://lakebdd.org/family-support-services/>)
 - Lorain County (<http://www.murrayridgecenter.org/services-for-children/family-support-services-2/>)
 - Medina County (<https://www.mcbdd.org/service-funding/>)

Let's Get Interactive

○Your FRS Team:

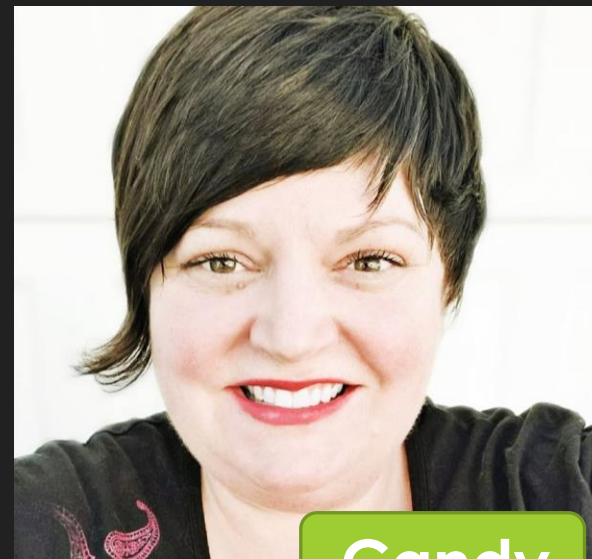
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