

Quick Assistance Addressing Temporary Hardships

The Learning Communities Foundation's Family Support Fund exists to support families engaged in PSESD programs when temporary hardship impacts their child's ability to attend school or childcare. Quickly and simply, the Family Support Fund provides housing, essential items or transportation support, to parents of youth engaged in PSESD programs. We understand that learning and thriving happens only after the basic needs of shelter, safety, and health are met.

Despite dispersing \$40,000 in family support throughout 2023, we did not meet all the need. With your support, we hope to raise \$50,000 for this fund in 2024.

The Family Support Fund provides common necessities that make a world of difference relative to safety and health—such as car seats and diapers. Most often, the fund expends \$500—\$1,500 per family, for rent or deposits when emergencies arise, or car repairs so families can drive children to school or get themselves to work.

Stories of Impact

Parents and children receiving early learning through PSESD's programs (e.g., Headstart), qualify because they are financially stretched. Often living paycheck to paycheck, one medical issue, a car repair or apartment disruption can result in many missed school or work days, or it can lead to life upheaval and homelessness.

The Family Support Fund provides vital assistance in circumstances like these:

Housing

- When unemployment checks don't come fast enough, the FSF covers rent.
- When a credit score requires high rent deposits, even in subsidized housing, the FSF covers the deposit.
- When home dynamics are unsafe, the FSF covers a hotel stay for temporary refuge for guardian and children.
- When a week-long illness or injured causes a rent shortfall, the FSF is there to help.



Daily Life Essentials

- When disability income prohibits working extra hours to afford the next size carseat for a growing child, the FSF provides a means to a safe car ride.
- When a home burns down, the FSF covers hygiene items, groceries, clothes, and diapers to get families through the first weeks of turmoil.
- When prohibitive gas pricing requires a choice between driving to preschool or commuting to work, the FSF provides gas cards.

Transportation

- When driving lessons are needed, the FSF covers driver training to enable income earning and safe family transportation.
- When a family car needs repairs, the FSF covers essentials like new brakes.
- When a car is stolen or impounded and insurance is slow to respond, the FSF covers rental and impound fees.
- When a ferry ticket is the barrier to clean clothes, the FSF provides support to enable an off-island trip to the laundromat.

Contact

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