Children In Crisis Fund

The Children In Crisis Fund, which was established in 2009 as a result of the generosity of groups of community members, provides varied crisis and emergency assistance for CCSD students and their families. The CIC Fund has very limited funds, and thus financial gifts usually range from \$250.00 - \$500.00 per family.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How are funds accessed for a student/family?

A: School staff person– preferably an Administrator – which includes Guidance Counselors, School Nurse, Parent Advocate/Educator, or Social Worker (where applicable) is responsible for accurately completing the Children-In-Crisis Form, attaching the required documentation, and submitting it to the CCSD contact person. The form is available from the Children in Crisis link on the CCSD Intranet.

Q: What can funds be requested or used for?

A: CIC Funds can be used for the following: Emergency housing for homeless families, i.e. hotel/motel stay, etc.

- Rent assistance to prevent eviction or homelessness.
- Aid to students/families following fire or other disaster.
- · School uniforms.
- Student health emergencies, i.e. medication, etc.
- Assistance to schools for establishing a students' clothes closet, food pantry, or a "Back Pack" Buddies Program.
- Assist families in the event of a student's death.
- · Note: Other crises situations are reviewed on a case by case basis.

Q: How many times during the year is a family able to receive funds?

A: As a result of the limited funds and the many needs across the district, a family is only eligible to receive the funds once during a calendar year.

Q: How do the funds get to the parent/family?

A: Checks must be picked up by a CCSD staff member. Checks are never made payable to a parent, but are made payable to the vendor or provider. Staff persons are responsible for providing the check to the vendor.

Q: Are requests ever denied?

A: Requests may be denied if there has been the identification of a community-based organization or other resource that is able to assist the family with the need. Communication regarding this finding will be shared with the staff person requesting the funds on behalf of the family. Requests are also denied if they are outside the scope of the purpose of the CIC Funds, i.e. gas for parent's car, parent's cell phone bill, supporting a student's travel for extra-curricular activity, family's insurance premiums, etc.

For more information regarding the Children in Crisis Fund, please contact strategy@charleston.k12.sc.us

