

Oregon children now eligible for medical assistance grants

by Bend Weekly News Sources

Oregon parents with children in need of medical services or equipment not fully covered by health insurance can apply for a grant up to \$5,000 from UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation.

The UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation (UHCCF) is now offering support to meet the needs of children nationwide with assistance grants for medical services not fully covered by health insurance.

Parents and caretakers across the country will be eligible to apply for grants of up to \$5,000 for health care services that will help improve their children's health and quality of life. Examples of the types of medical services covered by UHCCF grants include: speech therapy; physical therapy and psychotherapy sessions; medical equipment such as wheelchairs, braces, hearing aids and eyeglasses; and orthodontia and dental treatments. "The UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation has already helped more than 375 families and provided nearly \$1 million in financial assistance," said UHCCF president Matt Peterson. "We are excited about the expansion of the program, and look forward to the opportunity to help many more children have access to health care services that will enhance their health and quality of life." To be eligible for UHCCF grants, children must be 16 years of age or younger. Families must meet economic guidelines, reside in the United States and be covered by a commercial health insurance plan.

"Receiving a grant from the UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation changed our lives," said Karen Lucas, whose son Quinn required extensive therapy as a result of spina bifida, a congenital condition. "With the grant, we were able to take advantage of a special program that provides the right therapies and support needed for Quinn's specific medical needs. That program has opened up a whole new world for him, and the grant from the UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation has eased the financial burden on our family."

The UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation is a public charity that operates independently from UnitedHealthcare with its own board of directors. While UHCCF continues to be supported principally by UnitedHealth Group and its employees, it also looks for individual and corporate donations to help provide assistance. Donors can designate funds to be used in the region where they reside; otherwise unspecified donations are divided equally among the regions.

About UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation

The UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that strives to enhance clinical conditions along with the quality of life of children who have health care needs not covered by commercial insurance. The Foundation provides grants of up to \$5,000 for costs associated with medical services and equipment. Foundation funding is provided by contributions from employees of UnitedHealth Group as well as individuals and corporations. To donate or learn more, please visit www.uhccf.org.

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