**THE KIDS MATTERS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LTD**

The Kids Matters Community Foundation believes every child deserves the chance to thrive. We're on a mission to bridge the financial gap for families who can't afford vital interventions for their kids, ensuring equal opportunities for all children to participate fully in daily life together with their peers. We’re making a start on this journey by helping families begin their assessment process through allied health professionals or other medical specialists.

**Who can we help?**

* Low-income families or financially disadvantaged parents or carers
* Families with complex therapy needs related to disabilities in one or more children
* Families in rural and remote areas with limited access to funding and services

**How can we help?**

We can provide funding to access services with qualified allied health professionals or specialist medical providers of the parent’s choice. These services may include:

* Occupational Therapy services to eligible families including parent coaching, child/ adolescent/ support groups, Circles of Security parent training and Occupational Therapy assessments.
* Paediatrician, psychology, physiotherapy, speech pathology, podiatry or other Allied Health services for assessment or specific time-limited services (not ongoing therapy).
* Supporting eligible people to apply for other funding such as the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) by providing functional capacity assessments and reports.

**HOW THE KIDS MATTERS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CHOOSES THE PEOPLE WHO RECEIVE BENEVOLENT RELIEF.**

To be eligible for benefit, the Governing Body has determined that the recipient of the benefit must be:

1. A child or adolescent in need of relevant specialist assessments to enable them to access essential paediatric therapy due to a disability and/or a diagnosed chronic medical condition.
2. The parent, guardian or primary caregiver/s of the person described in (1) who is financially disadvantaged / in the low-income category and does not have access to government funding to meet the needs of their child/children.

**EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL HARDSHIP**

We require all applicants to provide documentary evidence to support their application. Such evidence could be a copy of a recent Centrelink Income and Asset Statement or Health Care Card.

**REFERENCES TO SUPPORT APPLICATION**

 Each application requires two (2) independent **written** references to confirm their current circumstances and highlights the benefits the proposed financial assistance would provide. Eligible referees can include: GP or other health professional, teachers or early childhood educators or other community support services, Indigenous organisation, public or community housing organisation or similar.

**APPLICATION FORM**

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| NAME OF APPLICANT:Click or tap here to enter text. |
| DATE OF BIRTH:Click or tap to enter a date. |
| PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME:Click or tap here to enter text. |
| ADDRESS:Click or tap here to enter text.PHONE: Click or tap here to enter text.EMAIL: Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Do you currently have access to any funding? **YES** [ ]  **NO** [ ]  If yes, pls describe: Click or tap here to enter text. Does your child have any diagnoses? Please list:Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Are you or your child currently receiving any therapy or associated services? Please describe:Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Please tell us about yourself and your reason for applying for funding from the Kids Matters Community Foundation (eg. financial hardship, family circumstances etc.). How will this funding help your child or family member? Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Which of the following services are you seeking?[ ]  Circle of Security parent training[ ]  Assessment and reporting to support funding application[ ]  Other Allied Health Assessment – Discipline Click or tap here to enter text.[ ]  Access to a Medical Specialist eg. Paediatrician |
| Which service provider would you like to see? Click or tap here to enter text.Name: Click or tap here to enter text.Phone: Click or tap here to enter text. Location: Click or tap here to enter text.Website: Click or tap here to enter text. \*Note, this funding can be used with any allied health provider or paediatrician.  You may choose to seek services with Kids Matters OT or any other reputable provider.**Please attach 2 x written referrals from medical or allied health practitioners, teachers, guidance officers or other referrers which support your application for funding from the Kids Matters Community Foundation.** **Referee 1 Name**: Click or tap here to enter text. **PLEASE ATTACH WRITTEN REFERRAL****Referee 2 Name**: Click or tap here to enter text.**PLEASE ATTACH WRITTEN REFERRAL** |
| **Eligibility criteria:**Proof of low income or financial hardship & written recommendations (both required for application to be considered).  [ ]  Health Care card / Centrelink Statement[ ]  2 x **written** recommendations from medical / allied health practitioner or other referrerPlease attach any previously completed assessments or recommendations.**Signature**: **Date**: Click or tap to enter a date.Thank you for taking the time to complete this application. A member of the Kids Matters Community Foundation will be in contact with you shortly. **Please note:** As a charity, and due to the current economic climate, funds are limited and not all applicants will be successful. |

Please email this application form to: foundation@kidsmatters.com.au. All applications will be considered by the Foundation board on a monthly basis, and applicants will be notified of the outcome as soon as possible.