ALL SAINTS CHURCH FOSTER CARE PROJECT **SPORTS FUNDING GUIDELINES** (2024)

All Saints Church Foster Care Project offers sports funding for current, former, and transition aged foster youth. These funds are available to youth who need funding to participate in a sports program for items that cannot be obtained from traditional DCFS resources in a timely manner. If there is time to obtain funding from DCFS that should be done rather than seeking FCP Sports funding. Funding may cover sports equipment, clothing including uniforms, team memberships, membership at a gym or similar facility, travel expenses, and similar items. Eligible "sports" include cheer and dance, but not video game competitions.

Eligible nominees for the Sports Funding Program are determined by the DCFS Pasadena (Glendale) social workers, e.g., Children Services Workers (CSW or MSW) or administrative staff. Youth on family maintenance agreements are eligible if a Pasadena/Glendale social worker is assigned to the youth. All applications should be completed by a social worker or administrative staff with input from the youth.

Applications are available for download from the FCP website <u>fostercareproject.org</u>. They should be completed and returned to <u>fcp.sportsfunding@gmail.com</u>. If payment for a membership on a team or at a facility is requested the youth's first and last name and middle initial must be provided. It is necessary so that the fees are credited to the correct youth by the team or facility. If the request is only for clothes or equipment the first name and last initial may be used on the application.

Sports Funding Program funds are limited. The maximum award from the Foster Care Project, Sports Funding Program, per child is \$1,000. Exceptions may be made for deserving circumstances if an individual donor is willing to cover the extra amount. For ongoing expenses that are eligible to be paid by DCFS, CSWs should apply to DCFS so those funds

will be available in the future. Funding will be approved by the chair or chairs of the FCP Sports Funding Programs in their sole discretion in consultation with the FCP Steering Committee.

Social workers must identify with specificity the sport and related expenses needed, and where and with whom (what team, facility and/or coach) youth will be participating in the sport. It is strongly recommended that specific sports equipment be chosen with the youth online and that a link to the item in the correct size and color be provided with the application. A picture of the item with its description online is also acceptable. If not possible to identify an online site for the item, please identify the make, model, color, size, and stores where available. Leaving it to the FCP volunteers to decide, for example, the appropriate soccer shoe, will delay the process.

If the item requested is a membership to a team or club, or something similar, please provide a website where the payment can be made or an exact address to mail a check. Include this in the section that asks for a team address.

Once an item has been purchased and delivered to the volunteer, the social worker and the volunteer who purchased the item should communicate to arrange transfer to the social worker. The FCP is working to establish a location for drop off and pickup of donated items. If it is a membership being paid the FCP volunteer will confirm by email to the social worker that a check has been mailed or a payment made online.

It will be appreciated if the social worker can arrange for youth receiving sports funding to write a thank you note to the Foster Care Project. Please email to fcp.sportsfunding@gmail.com.