MEMORANDUM

TO: UnitedHealthcare Children’s Foundation (UHCCF) East

Board Members FROM: UnitedHealthcare Children’s Foundation

Operations Team

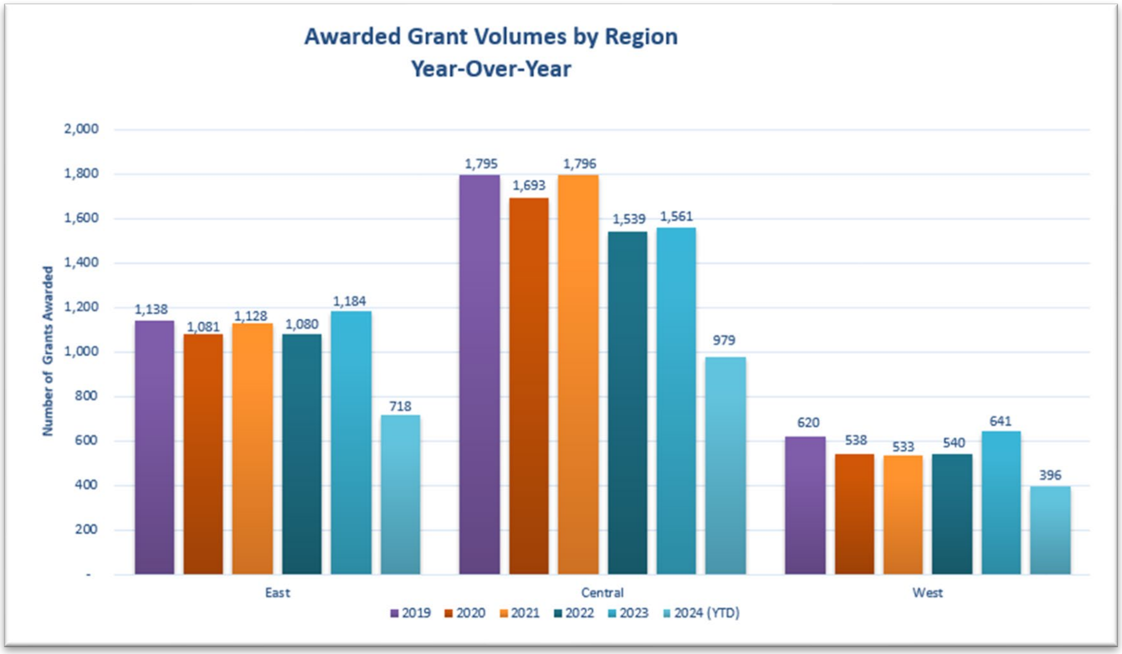
RE: September 26, 2024 Conference Call

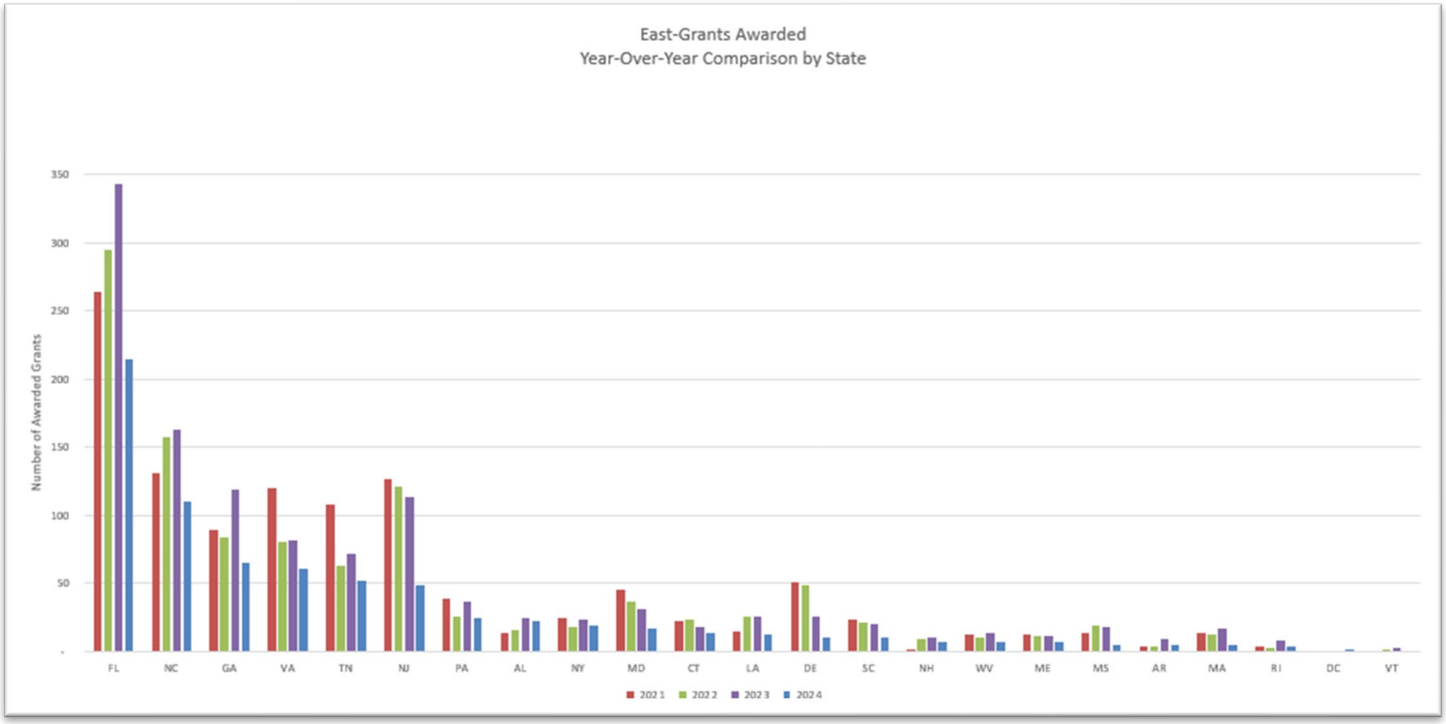
DATE: September 24, 2024

Enclosed are the materials for our conference call on Thursday, September 26, 2024, 8:00 A.M. EST/ 7:00 A.M. CST

MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome & Agenda
2. Approval of August 2024 Minutes – Separate Attachment
3. Operations Update Page 2
4. Program Updates- Page 3
5. Financials – Page 9
6. Action on grant applications – Page 10 – 131 **New Applications**
7. Special Requests - Page 152
8. Grant Story – Page 154


Awarded Grant Volumes by Region
Year-Over-Year
Number of Grants Awarded
2,000
1,800
1,600
1,400
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
-
1,138
1,081
1,128
1,080
1,184
718
1,795
1,693
1,796
1,539
1,561
979
620
538
533
540
641
396
East
Central
West
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024 (YTD)


East-Grants Awarded
Year-Over-Year Comparison by State
Number of Awarded Grants
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
-
FL
NC
GA
VA
TN
NJ
PA
AL
NY
MD
CT
LA
DE
SC
NH
WV
ME
MS
AR
MA
RI
DC
VT
2021
2022
2023
2024

8th Annual Florida Fishing Classic
September 11-12, 2024

- Goal: $400k
- $530k+ raised
- Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa – Fort Meyers, FL
- 37 boats on the water
- Concentrix took first place

Virtual Teddy Bear Run
October 1-31, 2024

- Goal: $140,000
- $140k+ raised
- $25.00 registration fee
- All participants receive a t-shirt
- Great opportunity for teams to come together virtually or in-person
- Registration is now open - [UHCCF Virtual Teddy Bear Run 2024 (eventlify.com)]

UHCcf
teddy bear run
PRESENTED BY
Optum Rx® Staples

UHCcf

Gathering on the Green
October 9, 2024

UHCCF
gathering on the green
PRESENTED BY
modivcare

- Goal: $100,000
- $127k+ raised
- SAS Championship - Prestonwood Country Club - Cary, NC
- Participants enjoy watching the SAS Pro-am, the UHCCF Wine Tasting and the SAS Health & Life Science networking dinner
- Sponsorships and Tickets available - [2024 UHCCF Gathering on the Green (eventlify.com)]

UHCCF

Holiday Grins2
November 11 – December 6, 2024

- Donate items to children in the hospital for the holidays.
- UHCCF Grins2 – UHCCF Grins2 Store

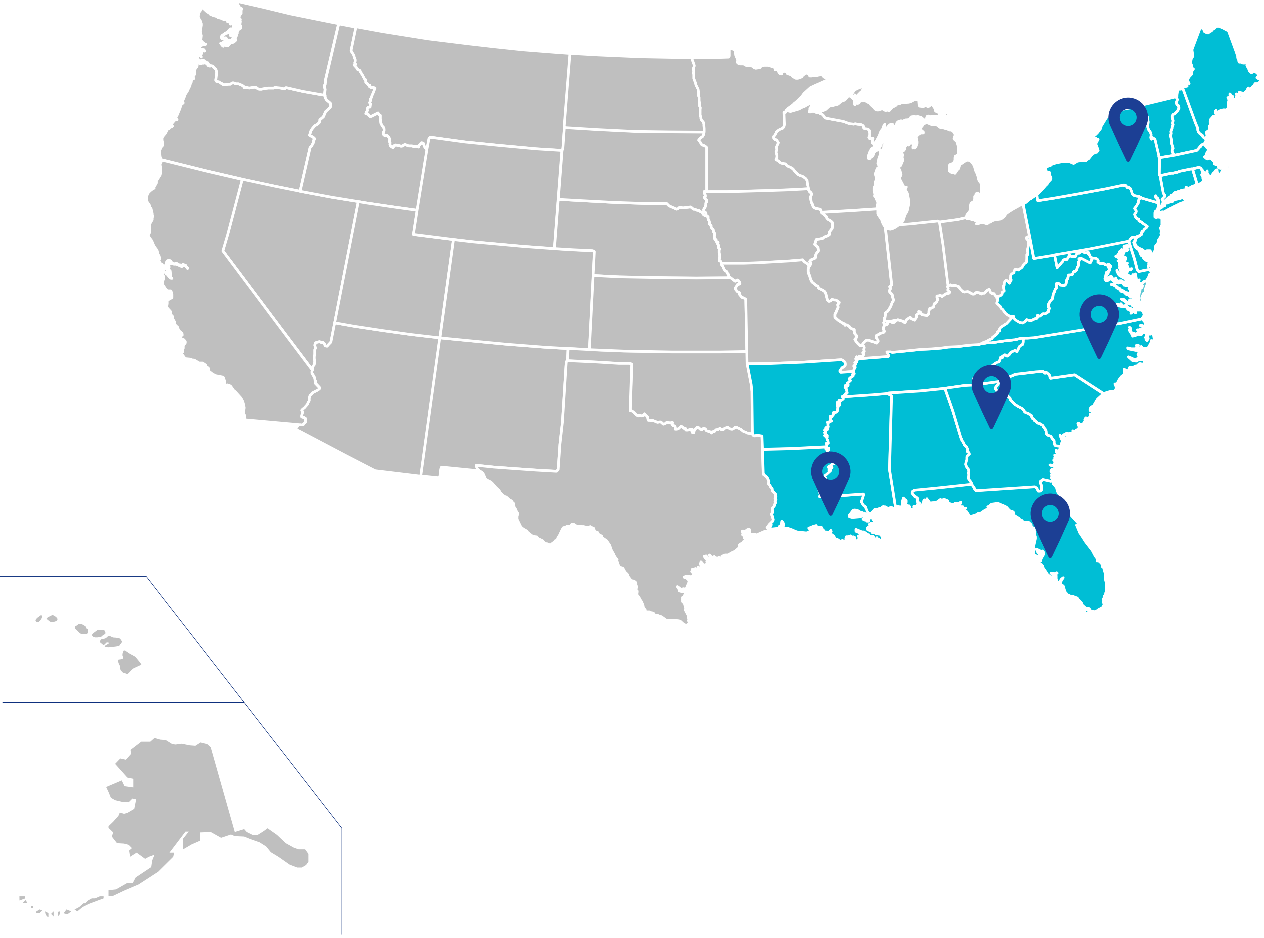
GRINS2™

Give one smile. Get two in return.

UHCcf

Development

2024 East Confirmed Events



Event	Location	Date
Louisiana Topgolf	New Orleans, LA	April 17
Georgia Rooftop	Atlanta, GA	May 15
New York Rooftop	New York, NY	May 9
Florida Fishing	Fort Myers, FL	September 11 - 12
Gathering on the Green	Cary, NC	October 9
Mid-Atlantic Virtual Golf	Virtual	November

2024 Events & Programs

Event	Location	Date
Frosty Fat	Excelsior, MN	January 27
Houston Topgolf	Houston, TX	April 9
Hero Days	Virtual	April 1 - 30
Louisianna Topgolf	New Orleans, LA	April 17
New York Rooftop	New York, NY	May 9
Georgia Rooftop	Atlanta, GA	May 15
Pic My Pet	Virtual	May 20 – June 28
Uncorked Sonoma County	Healdsburg, CA	June 7
Century Ride	Eden Prairie, MN	July 20
MN Golf Classic	Twin Cities, MN	July 22

Event	Location	Date
A Night at The Star	Frisco, TX	August 5
Florida Fishing	Fort Myers, FL	September 11 - 12
California Golf & Wine	Napa Valley, CA	September 30
Teddy Bear Run	Virtual	October 1-31
Gathering on the Green	Cary, NC	October 9
Las Vegas Teddy Bear Run	Las Vegas, NV	October 19
Arizona Putt for Hope	Scottsdale, AZ	October 24
Mid-Atlantic Virtual Golf	Virtual	November
Holidays Grins2	Online	November 11-December 6

UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation

Cash Available By Region - East Region

As Of August 2024

Cash	2,081,476
Contributions Receivable	-
Accounts Payable	-
Grants Payable And Encumbered	1,010,539
Funds Available for Operations	-
Grant Fund Balance	1,070,936
Grant Funds Available (85% max. is applied)	910,296
Funding Months at Current Grant Rate	6.3

	2024					2023					2022				
Grant Month	Count of Grants Awarded	Dollar Amount of Grants Awarded	Total Dollar Amount of Funds Available	Average	Funding Months at Current Rate	Count of Grants Awarded	Dollar Amount of Grants Awarded	Total Dollar Amount of Funds Available	Average	Funding Months at Current Rate	Count of Grants Awarded	Dollar Amount of Grants Awarded	Total Dollar Amount of Funds Available	Average	Funding Months at Current Rate
Jan-24	115	222,242	656,655	1,933	3.0	102	194,978	810,530	1,912	4.2	78	157,771	649,334	2,023	4.1
Feb-24	124	227,053	556,348	1,831	2.5	115	211,050	769,120	1,835	3.8	94	199,449	589,145	2,122	3.3
Mar-24	154	215,357	549,977	1,398	2.5	101	189,363	704,244	1,875	3.5	109	184,005	574,780	1,688	3.2
Apr-24	113	162,810	563,158	1,441	2.7	98	174,940	669,359	1,785	3.5	128	245,915	446,075	1,921	2.3
May-24	122	168,028	604,721	1,377	3.0	115	209,248	622,218	1,820	3.2	70	131,700	673,889	1,881	3.7
Jun-24	58	102,222	652,001	1,762	3.6	85	152,882	613,349	1,799	3.2	93	187,557	625,448	2,017	3.4
Jul-24	3	5,000	813,991	1,667	5.2	101	177,554	548,651	1,758	2.9	113	186,229	604,047	1,648	3.3
Aug-24	29	54,395	910,296	1,876	6.3	105	195,299	548,715	1,860	2.9	79	149,146	689,365	1,888	3.8
Sep-24						111	196,435	605,773	1,770	3.2	80	146,033	849,580	1,825	4.8
Oct-24						88	167,862	648,654	1,908	3.5	76	149,048	914,316	1,961	5.3
Nov-24						107	198,063	641,648	1,851	3.4	80	149,863	868,676	1,873	5.1
Dec-24						56	99,679	700,558	1,780	3.9	80	149,954	907,639	1,874	5.3
Average	90	144,638	663,394	1,661	3.6	99	180,613	656,902	1,829	3.4	90	169,723	699,358	1,894	4.0
	-	-													

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Thomas
Age:	0
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$101,547
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$3,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Brachycephaly, Plagiocephaly
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical
	Recommendations: Cranial Helmet
	Goals: Improve head shape
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $750 Individual Deductible $2,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $3,000
Family Story:	After being told for over 15 years of my life that I was not able to have children, I was blessed with a beautiful healthy baby girl at the age of 38. Twenty one months later I was blessed again with a healthy but very large baby boy! Born at 9lbs 10oz and eating 60ml every two hours the moment he came out! Thomas Cillian has continued to grow at an extremely fast rate! at just 5 months old he was already in a size 5 diaper and 2T clothing just like his big sister. His size has definitely caused a few issues in his ability to move around as a young infant without the strength of milestones. Thomas was born via cesarean with a perfectly round head but his soon to extremely fast growing made it pretty difficult for him to keep up with supporting himself and keeping upright. Slowly we started to notice that his head was getting flatter and flatter in the back due to sleeping on his back which has to happen. No amount of tummy time, highchair & walker to keep him up were working against the weight and pressure he had while on his back during naps and sleeping through the night. We spoke to the pediatrician about out concerns and they confirmed our concerns and suggested we speak to a specialist. That is when we were paired up with Dr. Sun Hsieh & Dr. Grace Yoon. Sadly our insurance denied us the coverage for the medically necessary helmet he needed for his Brachycephaly. We were told that we really should not skip or pass on this medical device and that we would need to pay the $3000 out of pocket to insure our sons brain health. Once we explained that we simply would have to try to get funds together the office said they completely understood and knew this was not easy on all families but they had worked with several and had seen this grant through UHC to help assist. Unfortunately the medical world and our insurance has failed us a lot since our son has been born and we have been buried in medical debt. Between hemorrhaging for a month after my sons birth landing me in the hospital several times to receive blood and medications to stop it, then other complications from the birth and pregnancy. We are trying our absolute best to do everything right for our children and would greatly appreciate being considered for assistance with his helmet. Thank you so much for your time, Shannon Doughney Allen

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/17/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,800
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Luke
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Mississippi
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$86,610
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$10,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism Spectrum Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior and speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $1,500 Individual Deductible $3,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $10,000
Family Story:	Our family is a close-knit group of four, living in a cozy home filled with love and laughter. We have been married for over four years and are proud parents to two wonderful children: 9-year-old Samantha, a bright and imaginative girl who loves reading, gymnastics, and playing volleyball, and her younger brother, Luke, a special 3-year-old boy with autism who brings unique joy to our lives. Samantha is fiercely protective of Luke and delights in teaching him new words or playing games that make him smile. She understands his need for routine and is always patient, helping him navigate the world with gentle encouragement. Luke, in turn, adores his big sister. His bright eyes light up whenever she's around, and he loves the soothing sound of her voice as she reads and plays with him. We have made it their mission to create a supportive environment for both of our children. We celebrate every small step Luke takes, cherishing his progress and learning to see the world through his eyes. Together, we work as a team, balancing therapies, sports, playtime, and family adventures. Every Saturday, we have a family tradition: a picnic in our favorite park. It's a time for Sam to share stories about her week, Luke to run around and explore at his own pace, and us as parents to take a moment to breathe, feeling grateful for the unique bond we share. Our life may be filled with challenges, but it is also overflowing with love, understanding, and the strength that comes from embracing each other's differences.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Alessia
Age:	3
Gender:	Female
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$62,461
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$10,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Apraxia of Speech
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $600 Individual Deductible $3,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $10,000
Family Story:	Alessia was born very early at 26 weeks. She weighed 1lbs 5.9 ounces. She spent a total of just about 7 months in the NICU, split between Manchester, NH and Boston, MA. The first 2-3 months of her life were intubated and on a ventilator fighting for her life. When she was finally able to be discharged from the hospital to come home, she came home with a G-tube and on oxygen support. Once home, she spent another 7-8 months on home oxygen support but was able to come off oxygen support around July 2022, however, she still has the G-Tube for feeding. Alessia has BPD, Chronic Lung Disease, Asthma, and was diagnosed with Childhood Apraxia of Speech.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/17/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Daniel
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Delaware
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$94,032
Lifetime Award	$1,291
Grant Amt Req:	$3,034
Medical Diagnosis:	Pelviectasis/Meatel Stenosis
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical
	Previous Grant- $591 in 2/22 and $700 in 7/23
	Recommendations: Surgery/Procedures/Treatments, Medical Drug
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $4,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $3,034
Family Story:	During our 3 year olds doctor visit we had the doctor check Daniel's penis since he was having issues using the bathroom. He would have to go a lot and it was a long thin stream that at times made him feel uncomfortable. After inspection of Daniel's penis by the doctor, Daniel needed to have a Meatoplasty done. We learned that the hole coming out of his penis was too small. We were told that if Daniel waited to he was older, he would be in pain and were advised for him to have the procedure done now while he is young. Since then Daniel had the Meatoplasty done, where they increased the size of the penis hole. Now Daniel goes to the bathroom normally and is happy as could be. We just didn't expect the bill for the procedure to be so high. Furthermore, our family have had a tough year. Myself (Daniel's father) just lost my father recently. During this tough time, I had to get sinus surgery to help fix my sinus issues. My wife (Daniel's mom) will be getting a hysterectomy in October. We expect more than 15K in out of pocket medical expenses in addition to Daniel's procedure. Having assistance will Daniel's procedure will help take some of the financial burden off of us.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$3,034
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	David
Age:	2
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$65,553
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech and motor skills.
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS - Ind Ded $3,200; Ind OOP $3,500
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	David started showing signs of autism by the time he was 18 months. As his parents, we felt we needed to do everything possible to find him the support he needed so that he'd have the best possible foundation for his future. Our goal is to help him to learn to function in this world successfully, with little to no support needed when he is an adult. As such, we have pushed to get him seen by a behavioral pediatrician in record time, started him on OT and ST therapies by the time he was 21 months old, and we are pushing now to get him ABA therapy at 30 months, if possible. I work as a legal secretary and have insurance coverage for my family under a high deductible plan. My husband is a self employed wedding photographer, which affords him the flexibility to be our son's caretaker during the tropical 9-5 work week, but at a hit to our household income. The OT/ST service we've been using is out of network and regardless of their network status, our son has had to attend the minimum number of recommended therapy sessions because it is all we can afford with a high deductible and self pay rates. The commitment of our time and financial resources has been significant, but worthwhile. My husband and I have educated ourselves so we can support and contribute to his leaning at home and out son has improved tremendously already. We know he is in the right path. Any financial assistance to help us cover the out of pocket expenses would be a huge blessing! Thank you for your consideration.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Nicolas
Age:	15
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$56,558
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$2,500
Medical Diagnosis:	adhd, add, pica, sensory processing disorder, speech delay
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: developmental delay
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech and motor skills
	Insurance Coverage: AVMED $2,500 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $2,500
Family Story:	I am Diana Arguello, a 39-year-old single mother raising two teenagers. My son, Nicolas, is 15 years old and has level 3 autism, which was diagnosed when he was just 18 months old. Nicolas faces many challenges, including aggressive behaviors like biting and hair-pulling, as well as self-injury behaviors such as hitting his head against the wall. He has a limited vocabulary and frequently engages in vocal stimming to self-soothe. Nicolas receives 30 hours of ABA therapy per week and attends a special needs school with the support of an RBT. Despite my health insurance covering most of the costs, I still have to pay significant co-pays ranging from $15 to $30 per day to $75 to $115 per week. This financial burden is not just substantial; it's overwhelming. Nicolas requires constant supervision due to his behavioral issues and Pica, a condition causing him to eat non-food items, which can be incredibly dangerous. I wish Nicolas could also have speech and occupational therapy, but financially, I can't afford that since I have to pay so much already for ABA therapy. He requires speech therapy 3 times a week and occupational therapy. The copay is $15 a day for speech and $15 a day for OT, which comes out to $90 dollars a week that I can't pay. In addition to caring for Nicolas, I have a 16-year-old daughter named Isabel who has had to navigate her teenage years without the presence of her father and while being a sibling to a special needs brother. It's been challenging for her to see her friends and cousins enjoying typical sibling activities while she has had to cope with unique family dynamics. Receiving this grant would significantly alleviate the financial strain of Nicolas' co-pay expenses, allowing me to provide him with the care and support he needs. Thank you.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Solomon
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$112,949
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Delayed Speech
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Sensory Seeking, ADHD
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech and fine motor skills
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna $4,700 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	My name is Mindy and I am the mother of Solomon (Sully). I want to share a glimpse insight of our family, my prize possession. My husband's name is Alex, and we have an 18 month old daughter, Riley. I was born and raised in northwest Ohio. Growing up, I had the opportunity to travel on several medical mission trips where I really felt my calling into nursing. I attended Indiana Wesleyan University and obtained my Bachelors of Science in Nursing. I started with University of Toledo Medical Center in their ICU Float pool, falling in love with the emergency department, joining their trauma team. I had found myself in a bad relationship and needed a new start more than ever. My parents retired early and moved to Michigan volunteering for a church retreat center. Finding myself alone in Ohio, I took a leap of faith and moved to Georgia to be near my brother. I started working at a Level II trauma center in Gwinnett County, it felt like home immediately. Alex is a Georgia native, growing up in Gwinnett County. He played baseball on the high school team, enjoying and learning the benefits of "brotherhood", teamwork, and dedication. Unsure what he wanted to do after high school, he attended Georgia Southern with an undecided major. He dropped out of college and signed on as a recruit with Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services. He quickly became the senior medic at his station and was very well respected for his work ethic and devotion. Quickly, he was on the path of promotions, becoming Driver Engineer, and very shortly after, a Lieutenant. He really thrives in his position at work, building a bond with his crew like family. He has enjoyed being able to pour into others and make a difference in the community. He takes pride in encouraging his crew to be strong leaders at work, and in their homes. Onto how our worlds collided. Not even one month at my new job, I was brought a critical patient in cardiac arrest. Alex was the lead medic on the call. We saw how professional the other was, the passion we had, and quality of care provided. We found ourselves on a date, and together almost every day that followed. We got married in 2019, right before the covid pandemic. As newlyweds, we had dreams to travel but then the world shut down. We found ourselves working directly on the frontlines during a scary time of “unknowns”. Seeing death after death, being worried to bring it home to our families, it took a toll on us. We were devastated to give up on our bucket list, but we decided to move along with our next dream of having a family. If only we knew then, what we know now. We found out the week before Christmas that we were expecting our first child, announcing to our families on Christmas eve the exciting news. I cannot imagine what our life would be like without Solomon. Solomon is the sweetest, most genuine little boy I have ever met. He was so easy going as a baby and made adapting to parents a breeze for Alex and I. Our relationship became stronger, and it was amazing to see how we could love someone so much. He has taught us patience, perseverance, and to be happy in the little moments. He always finds joy in the small things and loves us unconditionally. In a few short months, Solomon was promoted to older brother and has been thriving in that role since. Always giving her a turn before taking one for himself. They will sit together playing and giggling with one another.

	The bond they have built is unmatched. It gives me hope and great joy knowing they will always have one another. Watching the two of them, Alex and I started to notice some signs of autism and delayed advancement, especially in his speech. One day, I finally hit my breaking point. We were at a gathering when one of the other children asked me "why won't he play with me" referring to my son. I broke down into tears, realizing other people were noticing too. I was so fearful he would not be able to live a "normal" life. I thought of him in school and being made fun of, bullied by other kids for being different. My heart broke, why did this happen to my family? Turns out, he isn't different, he is perfect. Solomon is exactly who God intended for him to be, and the best thing that ever happened in our life. I promised myself I was going to do everything in my power to set him up for success. I talked to his doctor, made appointments for screenings and evaluations, finding ourselves at speech therapy. They said Solomon would also benefit from occupational therapy. Our first bill came, $200 for one appointment. Solomon was supposed to have 2 visits, twice a week. How were we going to afford this? I am going to have to go back working full-time and have to pay for daycare. I was flooded with more worries. We are currently having to pay out of pocket "towards our deductible" which is extremely high. Right now, these are the most crucial years in building a foundation for Sully nearing towards attending school. We have faith that God will provide.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Maverick
Age:	0
Gender:	Male
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$81,987
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$0,720
Medical Diagnosis:	Plagiocephaly
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical
	Recommendations: Cranial Helmet
	Goals: Improve head shape
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $1,000 Individual Deductible $5,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $0,720
Family Story:	Maverick is in need of a cranial helmet, he has severe flat spots on his head and a helmet is needed to correct that. At this time we are struggling financially to provide that helmet for him.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$0,720
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Zoe
Age:	5
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$91,095
Lifetime Award	$1,500
Grant Amt Req:	$4,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Severe Mixed Receptive Expressive Language Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Phonological disorder
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1500.00- 9/24
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $900 Individual Deductible $4,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $4,000
Family Story:	Hi, my name is Krystel and we are a family of 5. My children are 5, 3 and 1 year old. My daughter Zoe was my firstborn. As a first time mom, I did all my best in helping her complete all her milestones on time. At her age 2-3 I noticed a delay on her speech, she started to point things a lot but not talking at all and this was an ongoing issue. I was worried she was not able to communicate. I took her to the pediatrician and explained the situation. The doctor suggested to have her evaluated by a specialist. After she was evaluated she was diagnosed with a language disorder and phonological disorder. She started ST and OT afterwards. I have UHC insurance and i have a $50 copay for each therapy. So its difficult to me to afford 2 days a week of ST/OT with the copay. I was grateful to have received this grant last year as I was able to pay most of the therapy needed for my daughter. She has improved a lot but she still needs help. She was retained in pre school and denied to start kinder garden at previous school because of her language disorder. I was disappointed of the school decision. I switched schools because I know Zoe will progress on the way. I am stay at home mom so i don't work fulltime and its really difficult to us to pay our bills. I rent baby gear to pay some bills when is possible but as you know there are some tough times when I don't have business as this is not regular pay job. My husband pay most of the bills but he doesn't do much to pay extra things because we run out of money. I have to pause some therapies part of this summer as we are having hard time with bills. But i will start again in fall if things are going better. I really want to help my daughter to succeed in life, have her normal life and improve her speech delays so she wont have problems in the future academically. I will really appreciate if i have this opportunity again and have this grant! Thank you for reading.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/20/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Finnley
Age:	1
Gender:	Female
State:	Pennsylvania
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$99,730
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$4,393
Medical Diagnosis:	Recurrent acute otitis media RAOM
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Dr/Specialist Visits, Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing), Surgery/Procedures/Treatments
	Goals: Reduce ear infections
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $3,000 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $4,393
Family Story:	My husband and I have been working very hard to get ahead, but times have been rough. A little over a year ago my husband's daughter (my step-daughter) moved in with us in a sudden way. Which is amazing, and perfect but with that came the extra financial burden at a time when we were already adjusting to becoming a family of 3. Suddenly we were 4. Not only were we adjusting to life with a newborn but also to a 10 year old as well. We have been struggling but making it work financially. Finnley was getting terrible ear infections causing her a lot of pain and us to miss out on work. Eventually tubes were the only option to relieve her of the pain. But the bills came in and it's just more than we can handle. The bills came in at the same time our rent went up, the dentist bill for both girls came in, therapy bills for Finnleys sister, and our grocery bill is always a shock. We would greatly appreciate the assistance, and it would be a huge stress relief. Our whole family would be grateful!

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Ti'mel
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	New Jersey
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$42,556
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	As a single mother raising three children, I am reaching out for support. My second child has recently been diagnosed with autism, and I have been advised to enroll him in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy to support his development. Unfortunately, the copayment required for the therapy is beyond my current means, and I am seeking assistance to cover this cost. Any help provided would be immensely appreciated, as it would enable my child to receive the necessary care and support, and I am eager to witness his significant progress. Thank you so much! Best, Tilesha

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Chase
Age:	4
Gender:	Male
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$117,115
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$6,900
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy, DR/Specialist Visits
	Goals: Behavior modification.
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna - Ind Ded $6,000; Ind OOP $6,000
	Total Expected Cost: $6,900
Family Story:	Our journey to become a family started long before an autism diagnosis. After I met my husband, we knew immediately that we wanted children. After a year of trying, we decided to have testing done. Turns out, my husband is infertile. After a very invasive surgery, it was confirmed that he would not be able to father children. On the way home from the surgery, my husband turns to me and said, "we will have children one day. You were meant to be a mother." Fast forward a few years, and we finally conceived using donor sperm. We were so excited and God blessed us with a perfectly healthy baby boy. We named him Chase. Those first few years were my happiest and I felt like my heart had been healed from our infertility journey. Around the time Chase was 2 years old, I noticed things were a little different with him. He was very attached to me, but had so much anxiety about trying new things. He liked to count and sing, but did not talk much. He tip-toed walk. We decided to have him enrolled in a pre-school to see if he needed a new environment. The teacher had concerns. This continued and we finally had him tested before his 4th birthday. Autism. Even though I knew it was coming, the word hit me hard. What did our life look like moving forward? Turns out, having him diagnosed was the best thing I could have done for him. He's starting ABA and is enrolled in special education. The cloud has been lifted and I accept him for who he IS and pray for who he will BECOME. He now has a little brother, and I believe that relationship will only benefit him long term. Turns out, Chase has known all along who he is, he was just waiting for all of us to catch up. This grant will allow us to start ABA and help with the assessment and diagnostic costs of his testing back in May 2024. Please consider our request. My husband works full time and I am a part time nurse, but it doesn't seem to be enough. Nobody anticipated having to spend thousands on therapy every year for a special needs kid, but we are thankful for any help we receive.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/17/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Lincoln
Age:	11
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$140,047
Lifetime Award	$1,500
Grant Amt Req:	$5,527
Medical Diagnosis:	Anxiety, ADHD, OCD
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: PANS
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,500-2024
	Recommendations: Chiropractic, Mental Health Therapy, Medical Drug
	Goals: Improve mental health
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna $2,000 Individual Deductible $8,700 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,527
Family Story:	Lincoln is the oldest of three children. Between the ages of 5 and 6, he developed explosive tantrums that would result in him hitting his body/head against the wall and floor. We attempted therapy several times, but he just didn't want to cooperate, understandably. We worked through this for the next several years, until he was diagnosed with ADHD and anxiety at age 9. A psychologist chalked his tantrums up to the anxiety, but that diagnosis didn't seem to fit right. Tantrums got worse as he got older. We tried a number of SSRIs to find something that helped make him feel more in control. Just before he turned 10, Lincoln spent 6 days at a mental health facility under the recommendation of the psychiatrist we were seeing, which was a traumatic event we have spent a year healing from. We tried after two days to get him out, but they held him longer due to his stay occurring over a weekend. One day, Lincoln was adamant that he was going to harm himself, but we now know it was an intrusive thought that got out of hand in his head. He was diagnosed with OCD following his stay in the facility. We have spent the last year in intensive outpatient therapy addressing his emotional responses as well as what happened when he was separated from us. We did leave that psychiatrist. We had a slew of bloodwork done in December 2023 desperate for answers, which revealed that Lincoln had a high level of Strep B antibodies in his system. Our pediatrician wouldn't treat him because he saw the strep as a chronic disease. We tried 3 different antibiotics under the care of a Functional Health practitioner, but his levels remained high. That is when he was formally diagnosed with PANS/PANDAS, which is what we suspected for a while. We set an appointment with an Infectious Disease specialist, which is later this month. We are now being treated under a Holistic Medicine practitioner. So far, Lincoln's strep levels are improving using supplements. We do wish supplements were covered under this grant! However, we are seeking assistance in covering Chiropractic care to help with Lincoln's nervous system, which has taken a beating over the years due to a chronic infection. We found a Chiropractor that is very familiar with PANS children and is confident she can help Lincoln's body as it heals from the strep and as a child with ADHD/Anxiety. It is a 6-month commitment, which is why we are asking for so much. I've attached the recommendation from his Chiropractor with the cost. We have poured everything we have into Lincoln's treatments, especially over the last year. Nothing we've done has been covered under insurance. Our other two children have watched him suffer for years. We have watched him suffer. We finally feel like we're on the right path, but it isn't cheap. I hope you find our story worthy of assistance. We could use all the help we can get. Help us reach that light we're starting to see at the end of a very long tunnel.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	King
Age:	7
Gender:	Male
State:	New Jersey
Family Size:	2
AGI:	$28,343
Lifetime Award	$2,500
Grant Amt Req:	$5,040
Medical Diagnosis:	Global development delay
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Excessive language delay Nonverbal communication
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,500-2021 (did not use); $1,000-5/2025
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $700 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $5,040
Family Story:	King is a 7-year-old diagnosed with Autism and is non-verbal. He is in 2 therapy's Speech and OT and is currently searching for a third therapist for ABA. His therapies are not covered 100% and it's becoming a financial burden to maintain the co-pays or coinsurance for his much-needed therapies. I greatly appreciate any help at this current time.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Ilan
Age:	8
Gender:	Female
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	2
AGI:	$23,037
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$3,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Cerebral Palsy
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Congenital Heart Disease
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve physical ability
	Insurance Coverage: Anthem $2,000 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $3,000
Family Story:	Ilan G. Camphor was born severely premature at 24 weeks due to pre-eclampsia and the HELLP syndrome. She was born 1 pound and 1 ounce. She spent 293 days in the NICU. She was born with grade 3 & 4 Intraventricular hemorrhage in brain (IVH), pulmonary stenosis, pulmonary hypertension, chronic lung disease and atrial septal defect (hole between two chambers of the heart). She has had nasal gastric, percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy tube (PEG) tube for feedings. She had 3 surgeries, peg placement 2/2017, eye surgery for strabismus 12/2020, and last cardiac Cath done in February 2024. Ilan started walking at 4 years old. She still requires Physical Therapy (PT), Occupational Therapy (OT), and Speech Therapy (ST). Her activity daily living requires ongoing support.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Lia
Age:	5
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	2
AGI:	$55,926
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Expressive language disorder
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $1,250 Individual Deductible $5,500 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,500
Family Story:	My daughter was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum when she was 2 years old. When she turned 5 the insurance decided not to cover her Behavior therapies because of her age a since then I still fighting to try to get her therapies back. Nowadays her school is asking for her therapist because she is always distracted and pay no attention to instructions from her teacher. If the does not start she will be removed from the classroom because she needs constant redirection. Lia without the RBT distracts the classroom and does not follow commands. She has tantrums when she does something wrong or gets reprimanded. For this reason I'm applying and beg you for you help with this matter to see if with your help I'm able to get my daughter her therapist so she can continue with her education.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/17/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Timothy
Age:	2
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$111,799
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Speech delay
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), AAC Device
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $1,500 Individual Deductible $8,550 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	I was first concerned with my son's speech when he was 18 months old. I didn't feel that he was meeting milestones like my older daughter did at that age. I expressed my concerns to his pediatrician, who recommended we wait and re-evaluate at his two-year appointment. By the time he turned two, he was only saying about 10 words, and none of them were spoken fully. His pediatrician diagnosed him with a speech delay and referred us to speech therapy. Nearly every speech clinic in our area was a 9+ month wait to be seen. I called about 15 different clinics and discovered that most had similar waiting periods, and none of them accepted my insurance (UHC). I finally found a private practice 20 minutes from our home and in another state that would see him immediately. They do not accept my insurance, so I paid $250 for an evaluation on the first visit and pay $110 for every therapy appointment. Currently, he is 27 months old and continues to have a very limited vocabulary. He has been in speech for about 8 weeks and has made minimal progress. He is unable to say any full words and has not added to his existing vocabulary. My son cannot communicate his needs verbally and often gets very frustrated because of it. During his last few speech therapy visits, he has shown the most engagement and improvement using the speech therapist's iPad and an AAC app that allows him to press tiles that indicate what he wants or needs, and the app will say the word or phrase for him. While using this app, my son attempted to vocalize a new word for the first time in more than 8 months. Because of the limited improvements despite working with the speech therapist, I anticipate him to require speech therapy for quite some time. In addition to paying for the therapy visits, we were told by the therapist that the plan of care at this point is to purchase my son an AAC device for him to use for communication. I understand that this grant would not cover the device, but it would help tremendously with the costs of the speech therapy visits so that I can budget for the costs of a device for him. Additionally, if I can use any grant funding that is graciously provided for the AAC app, that would be a huge help for our family. The app that the SLP recommends using will cost $250. Thank you for taking the time to read our story.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,800
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Emerson
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Tennessee
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$78,844
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$10,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Speech delayed autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $1,250 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $10,000
Family Story:	Family of 6, with 3 boys and baby girl. My Youngest has Down syndrome and appts that are extremely hard to keep up with and now after being covered on tenncare since birth, now they are denying her tenncare and not sure how we will afford all of her appts and therapies/special equipment. My 3 year old Emerson, he has autism (along with his 5 year old brother) and he is needing ABA therapy and we cannot afford $2000 a week. I want him to get what he needs but I'm just not sure how to afford all these things. Times have been so tough for us and so draining. We try so hard to do whatever we can to get their needs met, as in testing, therapy, any extra help. I've exhausted all of my sources I feel like. And being their mom, I can only give and do so much. I have rheumatoid arthritis and other health issues that wear me out day in and day out and I'm still trying to work full time along with taking the kids to all their appts and still function for homework, house cleaning, keeping up with daily things period. My husband and I are just in survival mode at this point. We don't have help at all and keep getting into more debt esp while we were in the process of their diagnosis, testing, appts. I'm reaching out for help. Something that can help our kids get their therapies and however many hours that is recommended.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Emmalyn
Age:	12
Gender:	Female
State:	Tennessee
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$155,727
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Bilateral Sensorineural Hearing Loss
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Cochlear Implants/Hearing Aids, Dr/Specialist Visits
	Goals: Improve hearing
	Insurance Coverage: UHC- Ind Ded-1500, Ind OOP-4000
	Total Expected Cost: $5,500
Family Story:	Emmalyn was born deaf. After several failed hearing tests as a newborn, the audiologist recommended we trial hearing aids. After 6 months of no positive impact to her hearing, they recommended that we have bilateral cochlear implants surgically placed. Emmalyn had her first surgery at 8 months old and her second surgery at 9 months old. Over the next 10 years she completed many hours of speech and language therapy and is now listening and speaking similar to her typically developing peers while also benefitting from the use of American Sign Language. She also has a brother who is deaf and wears bilateral cochlear implants and uses sign language.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$3,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Nathanael
Age:	12
Gender:	Male
State:	Tennessee
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$155,727
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,989
Medical Diagnosis:	Bilateral Sensorineural Hearing Loss
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Cochlear Implants/Hearing Aids, Dr/Specialist Visits
	Goals: Improve hearing
	Insurance Coverage: UHC- Ind Ded-1500, Ind OOP-4000
	Total Expected Cost: $5,989
Family Story:	Nathanael was adopted from China at the age of 3.5. He was born deaf and with a congenital heart condition. He underwent a heart surgery and a cochlear implant surgery while in China but he did not receive any rehabilitation or language training, nor was he provided with access to any signed language. When we adopted him he could not communicate in any form outside of crying and pointing. When we adopted him we immediately worked at giving him access to sign language and to speech therapy to teach him to use his cochlear implant. About a year later he received a second cochlear implant. He is now 12 years old and while he makes great progress on his own, he does show continued delays that require support due to an almost 4 year language delay. Over the last years we have participated in private speech and occupational therapy and used speech, occupational, and language services provided by the school system. We visit the audiologist at least once a year, sometimes more often. Cochlear implants are a wonderful technology, but much like phones, they receive frequent updates and must be upgraded every 5-7 years to continue to be supported by the cochlear implant companies. We also have a biological daughter who is deaf who uses cochlear implants and sign language.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$3,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Ezra
Age:	0
Gender:	Male
State:	South Carolina
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$86,425
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$2,219
Medical Diagnosis:	Brachycephaly, Plagiocephaly
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical
	Recommendations: Cranial Helmet
	Goals: Improve head shape
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $4,000 Individual Deductible $8,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $2,219
Family Story:	After 10 years of infertility treatments and six early pregnancy losses, we were finally blessed with two beautiful children! At my tender age of 46, our baby boy Ezra was born via C-section on February 6, 2024 to complete our perfect little family. While we are very thankful and blessed to finally have a family, two children under 2 is no simple feat, especially financially. Ezra was diagnosed with moderate plagiocephaly and brachycephaly at his 4 month Dr. visit, we agreed to do more tummy time with him and pay more attention to switching sides during feedings and changing diapers because the plagiocephaly was more on his left side. After our most recent 6 month Dr. visit, it seems our strategies did not work for Ezra's condition and it had worsened. Our doctor categorized his brachycephaly as 'severe' and highly recommended corrective headband therapy. We do have insurance through my husband's employer, but we have a very high $4000 deductible on our policy for the family with a remaining $2000. We are both full time working parents and with the costs of childcare and medical insurance and in the midst of transitioning jobs and having to purchase a second car, the costs just seems to keep weighing us down. We do not want Ezra to have cranial deformities for the rest of his life, or for this condition to effect his sinuses or hearing in the future, so treatment on this is truly the only option. As parents we want what is best for our children at any cost, so although this might set us back financially, we will do it regardless, but the idea of applying for a grant to help us financially is truly a kind act and would be such a blessing for our family at this difficult time.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,800
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Robert
Age:	14
Gender:	Male
State:	New Jersey
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$94,605
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$9,101
Medical Diagnosis:	Cerebral Palsy due to Periventricular Leukomalacia
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: MCAS
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Medical Equipmentnt, Ceiling Lift
	Goals: Improve mobility
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $8,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $9,101
Family Story:	Robbie is a 14 year old teen diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy due to Periventricular Leukomalacia. His physical disabilities limit his motor skills however he is very much a normal teen otherwise. He has an attitude, he's funny and always sees the best in people. At home he lives with his mom, dad, two sisters (12 and 7) as well as various pets (4 cats, a bearded dragon and 2 fish). At the start of COVID, Robbie began suffering what we now know is Mast Cell Activation Syndrome (MCAS) that presented as intermittent gastroparesis and dumping syndrome. Medications caused severe weight gain and we regressed in therapies however he began treatment in Dec 2023 with mostly success to alleviate symptoms of dysautonomic failure and has been getting very slowly back into the groove of normalcy. He's had many bumps and hurdles to get to where he's at, multiple muscle lengthening's, Botox and alcohol injections, and more AFO casts than his father has owned shoes in his lifetime. He has overcome infantile spasms, bilateral de-rotational osteotomies and a single DEGA insert in his left hip as well as complete blindness at birth to being 20/40 vision now thanks to therapies, so many speech therapies, occupational and physical therapies and on and on. Last week he began the 8th grade and aside from fighting this MCAS issue going on, looks forward to coming home from school to relax and play games, play baseball, go bowling, or his favorite golf. At present, Robbie's sister Amber (12) has entered the 7th grade and enjoys spending time with friends, playing video games with and without her brother as well as positively influencing Robbie in more ways than Mom and Dad could do at any time. His favorite sister to play with however is his sister Skyler (7) who will play games until Robbie physically runs out of breath. She too will talk and talk and talk until she runs out of breath. We presently live in NJ and own our home and are scheduled for a ceiling lift to be setup the week of 9/19 - 9/23. Due to Robbie's weight, it is no longer safe for Dad and Mom to lift Robbie to transfer from Bed to Wheelchair, to bathing / toileting chair to wheelchair etc and we are beginning to have issues with our back(s), arms and legs from repeated lifting.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$3,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Luke
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$96,954
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$2,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Phonological Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $6,850 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $2,000
Family Story:	We are a family of five living in North Carolina. Our 3-year-old son, Luke, is the middle child, growing up with his two brothers—one older and one younger. Since June, Luke has been attending weekly speech therapy to address developmental delays in his communication. While these sessions have been incredibly helpful, they have become financially difficult to maintain. Luke's speech delay affects his ability to express his needs and interact with others. He often struggles to communicate, leading to frustration not only for him but also for our family. His older brother is eager to engage with him, but Luke has difficulty connecting. His therapy has already shown promising results, but he needs continued services to further strengthen his communication skills and develop meaningful relationships. As his parents, we are fully dedicated to supporting his progress. My husband, a Marine Corps veteran, and I have been working closely with his therapists and practicing communication exercises at home. However, without any local family support and with the financial burden of weekly sessions, we are finding it increasingly difficult to afford the cost of his care. Although the provider has kindly reduced the fee for each session, the ongoing expenses, combined with other family costs, make it challenging to continue his therapy. Luke's speech therapy is essential for his development, and receiving this grant would allow us to keep providing him with the services he needs to thrive. Thank you for considering our story and for any assistance you can offer to help Luke on his journey toward stronger communication and connection.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Aadvik
Age:	8
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$103,131
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$6,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Developmental Delay
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech and fine motor skills
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $5,000 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $6,000
Family Story:	Family with autistic kid

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/20/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Delia
Age:	12
Gender:	Female
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$36,853
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$25,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia (PCD)
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Dr/SP Visits, Inpatient/Outpatient Hospital Stays, Surgery/Procedures/Treatments, Medical Drug, Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing)
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: Sentara $5,000 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $25,000
Family Story:	Hello, our daughter Delia has a rare lung disease called Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia (PCD). This diagnosis includes frequent specialist visits, labs, surgeries, specialized medications, and hospitalizations. Her cilia do not work and she needs daily treatments to fight her progressive lung disease and decrease lung infections. Some of her specialized medications cost over $1000 due to her rare disease and this is even with insurance. Our family struggles to pay for her extensive medical expenses and we owe a debt to the nearby hospital but we have a payment plan. We spend about 10,000-15,000 annually for her health costs, and this can make it hard to pay for the other necessary expenses such as groceries and rent. But she comes first always to us. We don't qualify for any medical assistance such as Medicaid due to not being under the poverty level. We live in a cramped cabin and have stayed here for 12 years due to the affordable rent and have not been able to move to keep our expenses as low as possible. My husband works for the Thomas Jefferson Foundation. He works really hard but his entry-level job has entry-level pay and our budget stays tight. I am an MSW student and can't make much income yet. I am hoping to use my degree to help advocate for others to ensure all children have access to needed health care including mental health care. What you're organization does is really incredible. Our daughter is a very hardworking student who always looks on the bright side! We would be really thankful for any assistance that could be provided to make sure she gets the medical care she needs. Thank you for your consideration, Heather, Adam, and Delia Disbrow

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/20/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$3,000
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Landon
Age:	5
Gender:	Male
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$106,991
Lifetime Award	$3,000
Grant Amt Req:	$5,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Childhood Apraxia of Speech
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: 1q42.2q43 deletion on chromosome 1
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: 2023-$1,500; $1,500-3/2024
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna $4,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,500
Family Story:	We are a close-knit family of five: my husband and I have been together for 19 years, and we are blessed with two beautiful identical twin girls, now 10 years old, and our youngest, Landon, who is 5. Landon has always been on his own timeline, as we like to say, and if he had a spirit animal, it would definitely be a sloth. Early on, we noticed Landon was delayed in developing most of his gross motor skills. He began early intervention at just 9 months old, as he was late to sit, roll, crawl, and walk—really all of it. Around 15 months old, we started noticing delays in his babbling and speech development. By 21 months, he began speech therapy, even though it was via telemedicine during COVID. By the time he turned three, Landon was evaluated by our local school district and granted an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) for developmental delays. At 2.5 years old, Landon was diagnosed with apraxia of speech—a neurological speech disorder where his brain knows what he wants to say, but his mouth struggles to form the words. As time went on, we were given another piece of Landon's puzzle: he was diagnosed with a chromosome 1 deletion. This diagnosis helped make sense of many of his delays and challenges, including his vision difficulties, eczema, overall developmental delays, and his speech disorder. The chromosome 1 deletion encompasses a wide range of disorders and characteristics, providing us with a more comprehensive understanding of why Landon experiences these specific issues. In addition to speech therapy, Landon also received physical therapy to strengthen various muscle groups and has been in occupational therapy for almost two years now to work on his fine motor skills. At present, he attends speech therapy twice a week and occupational therapy once a week. Since starting kindergarten, Landon continues to work hard, but still faces difficulties with tasks like writing and cutting, making OT crucial for him. His speech has improved drastically, especially after undergoing surgery to lengthen his soft palate due to velopharyngeal insufficiency, but he still sometimes needs to repeat himself, particularly with people who aren't familiar with him. We chose Landon's speech therapist because of her 20+ years of experience with apraxia, and she has worked wonders for him over the past three years. However, neither his speech therapist nor occupational therapist accepts insurance, so we cover these costs out of pocket. While I have managed to get partial reimbursement from our insurance company for speech therapy, we are still in negotiations, and it remains a financial challenge. Despite this, we are fully committed to providing Landon with all the tools he needs to succeed. Our entire family has always been deeply involved in supporting Landon, practicing therapy techniques at home, and helping him overcome his delays. His journey has had its challenges, but with his bright spirit and the unwavering love and support from us all, we know that Landon will continue to thrive.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath

Action:	
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Keira
Age:	9
Gender:	Female
State:	Massachusetts
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$55,733
Lifetime Award	$2,500
Grant Amt Req:	$5,410
Medical Diagnosis:	anaphylactic food allergies to multiple foods
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, social, psychological
	**Previous Grant: $2,500-2024
	Recommendations: Tolerance Induction Program
	Goals: Improve food tolerance
	Insurance Coverage: Tricare
	Total Expected Cost: $5,410
Family Story:	Our family is a military family of 4. Our daughter Keira is in a food allergy treatment program to treat her life threatening food allergies to Peanut, Tree Nut, Dairy and Eggs. We travel from Massachusetts to California every 8-10 weeks to see her allergist, Dr. Inderpal Randhawa. She is seen at the Food Allergy Insitute, which is the only program in the world to treat and successfully help patients put their food allergies in remission. Keira is a couple visits away from graduation and will be in full remission from her food allergies. She has had great success with the program. Unfortunately, this has also become a financial burden on our family. The allergy program charges a non-billable fee of $4500 per year, as well as having to pay for an out-of-network provider. We are responsible for the cost of treatment (billed as point-of-service, out of network), the cost of the program fee, as well as the heafty cost of travel from the east coast to the west coast every couple of months. We are very excited to see our daugther reach remission

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Christian
Age:	4
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$132,171
Lifetime Award	$1,500
Grant Amt Req:	$1,600
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Speech Disorders
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1500 in 6/2025
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Help improve life.
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS-Ind Ded 800, Ind OOP-3,000
	Total Expected Cost: $1,600
Family Story:	Our Son was diagnosed with Level 2 ASD earlier this year along with a mixed expressive receptive language disorder. between ABA and speech therapies the out of pock cost are tremendous.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Oen
Age:	11
Gender:	Male
State:	Alabama
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$169,958
Lifetime Award	$1,800
Grant Amt Req:	$1,100
Medical Diagnosis:	Sensorineural hearing loss
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1800 in 5/18
	Recommendations: Hearing Aids/FM System
	Goals: Improve access to sound, improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: Tricare
	Total Expected Cost: $1,100
Family Story:	Oen was diagnosed at age 3 with sensorineural hearing loss in both ears with an unspecified cause. He has worn hearing aids since shortly after his diagnoses and they have contributed in a very positive way to his development and quality of life. Oen is in need of new hearing aids with better technology. He's the third of four children in our family, and is a very active, energetic, intelligent, hilarious guy. With new hearing aids, he'll be able to have more autonomy and the ability to control the settings himself. Rob, Oen's dad, is a veteran of the Army who was medically retired in 2007 while in flight school. Our family has excellent health coverage through Tricare because of Rob's military retirement, however, Tricare does not cover hearing aids for dependents of retirees. Oen has had his current set of hearing aids since 2006 and we desperately want to help him get new ones!

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,100
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Vallie
Age:	8
Gender:	Female
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$114,926
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Generalized Anxiety, ADHD
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: IBS, Sever's Disease, Sensory Processing Disorder, Articulation, Dysphagia, Ankyloglossia
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Mental Health Therapy, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve mental health
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $2,500 Individual Deductible $5,500 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	Hello! We are so grateful to have a grant with you for our son Reed (with dysphagia, expressive speech delays, and delayed childhood milestones). I am now applying for my daughter Vallie. Both of our children have many therapy needs; the past 2.5 years of getting both children the interventions they need have left us with a drained savings account. I would be so grateful if you would consider granting us money for Vallie's needs as well. My husband works full time, but I had to cut back to part-time work (on the weekends) so that I can be available to take them to appointments during the week. Vallie has been in OT on and off for 5.5 years for sensory processing disorder. After she had her tonsils and adenoids out and ear tubes placed almost a year ago (after repeated ear, sinus, and strep infections), her sensory sensitivities became much larger. She has generalized anxiety disorder and ADHD; she saw a child psychotherapist for 2 years and is restarting psychotherapy this week with a therapist who specializes in both issues. She sees a child psychiatrist and started on a SSRI in May; this has started to help with repetitive worries. She had a parent work up with a child psychologist to rule out OCD. Child therapy, psychiatry, and psychology are specialities that rarely take insurance in our rural area, so most of these are out-of-pocket charges (vs driving 2 plus hours in traffic to go to Atlanta for providers in network, time off school and work, etc). Vallie sprained her ankle several times over a period of a year and has injured her growth plate in her right ankle (Sever's disease) and has been working hard to rehab with the help of a PT. She receives school ST for articulation but also sees a private ST as well for myofunctional therapy. She underwent palate expansion in order to make room for teeth to come in with an airway pediatric dentist. She needs more expansion but the act of expanding was so hard for her with sensory challenges that we are trying to make progress in her mouth with myofunctional therapy for now. She also has dysphagia and ankyloglossia which the private ST addresses in treatment. Vallie has IBS and sees a pediatric GI doctor. She had the IBS well under control but had a flare this year in February and we are still working with a functional medicine doctor to find solutions that allow her spend less time in the bathroom (this interferes with being in the classroom to learn at school). She became behind in school last year because she had such frequent bathroom trips that we now pay for a math tutor to catch her up from second grade (she's now in third grade). Vallie is in the gifted program at school and is smart, empathetic, and the life of the party. Her spirit has been dampened down with all of the challenges she is experiencing, which is so hard as a parent to watch. She has been through so very much, and I want to be able to continue to provide her the support she needs to have the best quality of life possible. I am asking for money to spend towards PT, OT, ST, psychiatry, and psychotherapy.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Neil
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$104,809
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,029
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Develpmental Delay
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve communication and reduce outbursts.
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna $9,450 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,029
Family Story:	I am Neil's mom. I had gestational diabetes when I was pregnant with him. Right after he was born, Neil was admitted to the NICU for about a week for several issues including severe blood infections. He was diagnosed with autism when he was two. He was also diagnosed with lack of expected physiologic development in childhood, loss of developmental milestones, macrocephaly, expressive/receptive language impairment, borderline delay of cognitive development, echolalia and pica. His developmental pediatrician recommended ABA along with speech and occupational therapy. We are a household of 4 people and my husband has been unable to find a job since we moved back to the US from Turkey for 20 months now. My job does not pay for medical insurance so I had to purchase a private plan with Cigna which only covers mental health outpatient services at 50%. Neil's out of pocket annually is $9450 which we have been paying fully for 2 years now along with his diagnosis that was not covered by our insurance policy ($5000). We have exhausted all of our savings, are now struggling financially and unable to cover the same plan for him in 2025 although he has been making remarkable progress as a result of ongoing mental health therapy. We appreciate any kind of help that you could extend to our family at this difficult time.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Elais
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$95,486
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$12,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve overall functioning.
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS-Ind Ded-3,000
	Total Expected Cost: $12,000
Family Story:	We have two autistic children 6 and 3. We do our best to cover the cost of various therapies however it becomes very expensive as insurance will only cover so much so we are here asking for any help we can get.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Declan
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	New York
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$91,544
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$3,781
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Impact: Social, Psychological Recommendations: AAC Device Goals: Improve speech Insurance Coverage: Aetna $2,800 Family Deductible Total Expected Cost: $3,781
Family Story:	Declan is non verbal, level Three autistic. Declan also has NF, 1 with a tumor On his optic nerve that can affect his vision in the possible future. We have been through numerous MRIs; and since Declan is non verbal, he can't tell us if his vision is changing. Our family would benefit from your grant in so many ways . With this grant to help purchase Declan's AAC device through Tobii Dynavox , it can help Declan communicate if something is changing/hurting him as well as increase his vocabulary. Declan gets very upset when we don't understand his needs/wants, which is quite often. He can never communicate his thirst or hunger to us. He can't tell us if he is sick or if something hurts. With the price of living increasing and the ongoing MRIs and medical bills piling up, this grant can benefit not only Declan, but our families financial needs as well. We are hoping with an approval of the communication device, declan will be able the thrive in so many ways. We are hoping with the success of his table; Declan can increase his independence, have fewer communication breakdowns and connect better to his family. By simply using an AAC device, we are hopeful that Declan can improve his language skills. By approving his device, Declan can work on more complex messages, to people who are less familiar with Declan.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Abdelrahman
Age:	6
Gender:	Male
State:	Massachusetts
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$115,713
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: Wellpoint-Ind Ded-500, Fam Ded-1000
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	We have two kids diagnosed with Autism spectrum. Abdelrahman Garelnabi (6Years) and Haleema Garelnabi (3 years). We also have another child 4 years old. This made it very difficult for my wife to work. My wife (Badia) time is needed to prepare kids for their ABA services and the school. My wife doesn't drive and that made the transportation to and from the ABA center very challenging. Since I (father) work, transportation many times need to be done by taxi or UBER. Also, the kids have great needs for learning tools. In addition, our daughter Haleema who just started the ABA service incur a co-pay for the service since her secondary insurance doesn't have behavioral coverage.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath

Action:	
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Brecken
Age:	11
Gender:	Male
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	2
AGI:	$55,382
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$4,400
Medical Diagnosis:	Mental Health
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Autism
	Impact: Psychological
	Recommendations: Mental Health Therapy, Surgery,Procedures/Treatments, DR/Specialist Visits, Medical Drugs
	Goals: Continue treatment and therapy to develop coping skills.
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS - Ind Ded $400; Ind OOP $2,400
	Total Expected Cost: $4,400
Family Story:	My now 11 year old came to live with me when he was 10 months old. His biological parents signed custody of him over to me. He is actually my great nephew from my ex husband's family. I adopted him as a single parent when he was 4. He was exposed to some neglect and very chaotic living conditions before he came to live with me. His current counselor believes that a lot of the things he now struggles with are the product of things that he experienced during the first 9 months of his life. Both of his biological parents struggle with their mental health. Two years ago, Brecken was diagnosed with Autism, ADHD, generalized anxiety disorder and major depressive disorder. He is currently taking two medications to manage his depression. We have ongoing appointments with a counselor, psychiatrist, pediatrician, along with some physical things we are dealing with also. He has recently been diagnosed with a posterior tongue tie, which he goes to therapy for to hopefully be able to release the tongue tie without surgery. He also has very bad allergies, which he will now have to get allergy shots for. We have been trying to manage with allergy medicine, however that has not worked. Copays and deductibles for all his current therapies take any additional money I may have. Brecken is an amazingly bright, loving person. He is extremely smart and has so many interests. He is the best thing to ever happen to our family and I just want to make sure I am able to give him everything he needs to be happy, healthy and succeed in life.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,000
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Bella
Age:	9
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$128,966
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Developmental Delay
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve skills.
	Insurance Coverage: Ambetter-Ind OOP-1800
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	Bella is the oldest to a family of 4 siblings. She is a bright and adorable girl. Bella is diagnosed with adhd and struggles with focusing and concentration in class. An OT would work with her in school to help her master concentration skills. She needs to work with a therapist who comes to school. Unfortunately our insurance doesnt cover any therapist who work in school campus. Bella can benefit so much from this grant! Thank you

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Claudia Naomi
Age:	7
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$128,966
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Speech delay
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Low muscle tone
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: AmBetter $1,800 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	Claudia Naomi is a bright and friendly girl. She is now starting second grade. Unfortunately Claudia was diagnosed with speech delay and low muscle tone when she was 3 years old. This now affects her school work and is now diagnosed with ADHD. Claudia can benefit so much from speech and occupational therapy in order to help her thrive and have a succesful school year. These therapies are not offered by our insurance and is very difficult for us to afford it. Her teachers and pediatrican strongly recommend these therapies to help her outgrow these difficulties. Thank you very much

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Maroun
Age:	4
Gender:	Male
State:	New Jersey
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$69,404
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism Spectrum Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve behavior and speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	My husband and me are hard working first generation immigrants. I work at Rutgers University in NJ and my husband is a truck driver. Having a parent as truck driver is very tough because it limits only one parent that is able to do the drop offs and pick ups for Maroun. Maroun goes to full time ABA Therapy daycare 5X a week. He also have Speech Therapy 3X a week and Occupational Therapy 2X a week. The stress has taken such a toll on me to the point that I have developed Congestive Heart Failure. Trying to juggle our financial obligation and Maroun's needs for services.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Samuel
Age:	10
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$82,203
Lifetime Award	$5,500
Grant Amt Req:	$6,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Anxiety Disorder Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological **Previous Grant: 2022-$1,000; $1,500-2023; $1,500-2023; $1,500-2024 Recommendations: Mental Health Therapy Goals: Improve mental health Insurance Coverage: Aetna $5,000 Individual Deductible Total Expected Cost: $6,000
Family Story:	Our son was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder when he was almost 3. He started attending early intervention services around that time. He has been in speech, occupational, and physical therapy on and off since then. At age 6, he started experiencing extreme anxiety and expressed that it was so bad that he no longer wanted to exist. We started searching for a mental health therapist but could not find one that accepted our insurance and was within driving distance from our home. We began paying out of pocket for him to see a psychologist once a week, which was a financial hardship being that we only have one income since I had to quit my job to take my son to his various appointments. Also, my husband pays $1100 a month for the three of us to be on his insurance which has a $5000 deductible and an $8000 out of pocket max per year. My elderly mother lives with us and currently my adult daughter and two grandsons are also living with us I take care of my two grandchildren along with my son. The financial toll on a family that has a child with special needs is great but programs like yours are a true blessing to us. My son has received this grant for mental health therapy from your organization several times and it has allowed us to get him the help that he needs. I finally feel hopeful for his future and for the future of our family as well. Thank you for considering him for this grant.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Christobal
Age:	11
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$50,337
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$8,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Mental Health
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Medical Drug
	Goals: Improve symptoms.
	Insurance Coverage: UHC - Ind Ded $3,400; Ind OOP $6,800
	Total Expected Cost: $8,000
Family Story:	My son was diagnosed with ASD when he was 18 months and ADHD since he was 8 years old, since then he has been receiving Speach, OT, and ABA therapy. Until now he qualified for Medicaid in my state, 'but he lost coverage on 07/31/24 now I need to pay out of my pocket, because the insurance that I can afford have a very high deductible, every ABA therapy can be 2-3 hours per day for a cost of $256 per hours, for him to continue with them. He is going to middle school this fall, and he is very anxious abou-t it, in his case, is going to be a new school, new friends, and teachers. I want to continue to provide my son with the therapy that he needs, all his progress is because he always being constant with his therapies. Thank you for tacking the time to read this and help us

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/20/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Kayla
Age:	9
Gender:	Female
State:	Maryland
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$99,380
Lifetime Award	$1,500
Grant Amt Req:	$6,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Anxiety
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,500-1/2025
	Recommendations: Mental Health Therapy
	Goals: Improve mental health
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna $6,750 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $6,000
Family Story:	I was diagnosed with Metastatic Breast Cancer in June, 2022. The day I was instructed to head to the emergency room, I had no inclination that I wouldn't be coming home from the hospital for the next few days. My husband and neighbors cared for Kayla and her two younger siblings while I was in the hospital, but their worlds turned upside down very abruptly. Since then, Kayla has been struggling with attachment. She doesn't want to go to school, and is very anxious at home. The cancer treatments were brutal, and Kayla watched me go through it all. We had neighbors in-and-out of our home bringing meals and helping with childcare and cleanup. Thankfully, we are in a better place now. I have to continue with my treatments, but the cancer is more stable and we have been able to established somewhat of a routine at home. I have a lot of medical bills, but I believe that Kayla's behavioral health is of equal importance. She did see a social worker who specialized in play therapy for children, but unfortunately, this was not a good fit and we discontinued those services after approximately 3 months. We got a recommendation from a friend last year who had first-hand experience working with a specific provider servicing her child. Instilled with renewed hope, I called the provider and scheduled an appointment. Kayla connected very well with this psychologist, and I really want her to continue working with him because her sessions have been so successful. Kayla has worked with him over the past year, and it was partially funded by United Healthcare Children's Foundation. We are so so grateful. It would mean a tremendous amount to my family if United Healthcare Children's Foundation could continue to help with funding this year.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Amiyah
Age:	3
Gender:	Female
State:	Alabama
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$81,324
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Sensory Processing Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Communication Disorder
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech communication
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $1,000 Individual Deductible $5,500 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	Amiyah is a loving, sweet, and active three-year-old. She loves to sing, dance, and play outside. She has been receiving Speech Therapy since January 2024. I started to have concerns with Amiyah’s speech at 18 months. Amiyah was not requesting or pointing to things of interest. She can sing songs and speak words; however, she is working towards using her words functionally and following directions. Her speech sessions address specific areas of difficulty in expressive language, and receptive language skills. Initial assessments indicated delayed speech milestones and challenges in forming age-appropriate sentences; and expressing her wants and needs. Amiyah has been participating in individual weekly therapy sessions. Amiyah will start attending LEAPS academy to become more social and interact with her peers her age. Amiyah’s comprehensive speech therapy is vital for her overall development and well-being. The benefits of speech therapy can improve daily interactions, provide a promising long-term outlook, and provide a positive impact for Amiyah. We understand the importance of continued and consistent treatment. Investing in Amiyah's communication skills not only enhances their current quality of life but also sets the stage for a successful and fulfilling future. Speech therapy has enhanced Amiyah's communication ability, impacting daily interactions positively. Amiyah has made improvements in her language skills. This has allowed Amiyah to express her needs and desires more clearly, reducing frustration and improving overall behavior. Amiyah’s speech therapy will continue to enhance her communication skills and promote better interactions with peers and adults, leading to increased participation in social activities and academic settings. This has directly contributed to her quality of life and social skills. Early and consistent intervention is crucial for Amiyah and communication disorders. The prognosis for Amiyah is favorable, given the positive response to the initial treatment phases. Continued therapy for Amiyah will lead to significant improvements in speech and language abilities, laying a solid foundation for academic success and social integration. In the long term, effective communication skills are essential for Amiyah’s personal relationships, educational achievements, and career opportunities. Amiyah will reach age-appropriate communication levels with ongoing support and targeted interventions. Improved communication abilities in Amiyah can significantly enhance family dynamics. Clear communication reduces misunderstandings and frustrations within the household, fostering a more harmonious environment. We can engage more effectively with Amiyah, participating in meaningful conversations and activities. Additionally, the progress seen through therapy can alleviate stress and concern for us, knowing Amiyah is on a path toward effective communication and social integration. This positive shift can lead to a more supportive and nurturing family atmosphere, where all members can thrive. As her parents, we want Amiyah to reach her full potential and have an amazing life.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/20/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Vaniah
Age:	5
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$95,226
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$1,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism Spectrum Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna $1,000 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $1,000
Family Story:	Vaniah is the oldest child for my husband and I. Vaniah has always been special to us from birth. He was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and global developmental delay at age 3. We initially lived in Kentucky where ABA therapy was waitlisted for 2 year. We now live in Florida where we have faster access to therapy. If awarded the grant, it will be used to help with ABA and speech

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Jace
Age:	2
Gender:	Male
State:	Arkansas
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$53,514
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$6,850
Medical Diagnosis:	Speech Delay
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Socially, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $5,500 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $6,850
Family Story:	I have a 9 year old that had/has a speech delay. I didn't know it wasn't normal at the time, I thought he was just quite, in tell he went to preschool at 3. I was then told he was very behind and needed speech therapy so since he was 3 he has been in speech. Now I have Jace which is 2 and is not speaking just like his brother was. I want to be able to get him into speech as soon as possible so maybe it can help him more now than later. I brought him to get tested for speech therapy and he was recommended 60 minutes a week. However, shortly after, he lost his Medicaid. Because of that, he has to use our family BlueCross BlueShield for speech therapy and it's $75 for every appointment, making it $150 a week. We unfortunately are unable to fit that copay in our budget. For this reason, I am applying Jace for this grant to be able to get him the speech therapy he desperately needs.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Audrey
Age:	0
Gender:	Female
State:	Rhode Island
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$33,937
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$1,800
Medical Diagnosis:	Brachycephaly, Plagiocephaly
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical
	Recommendations: Cranial Helmet
	Goals: Reshape head.
	Insurance Coverage: Tricare-Ind OOP-300, Fam OOP-600
	Total Expected Cost: $1,800
Family Story:	Audrey is a happy 8-month-old girl who lives with her mother and father. Her mother stays home full-time to look after Audrey and her father is in the US Navy. We recently were stationed in Newport, Rhode Island – across the world and country from any family and friends. We had suspected since birth that Audrey would need some intervention with her head shape, however, despite our best efforts to reposition and plenty of tummy time, she was diagnosed with plagiocephaly at 7-months-old. We went ahead with treatment, assuming that Tricare (my husband's insurance) would cover the cost. Tricare denied the claim and we were to front the entire cost for treatment ourselves. The cost of the cranial helmet and associated treatment was $1800, which included the helmet, the fitting, and follow-up appointments. We tried reaching out to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society; however, they were not able to provide financial aid. We reached out to other non-profit organizations for other branches, such as the Army Emergency Relief and Airforce Aid Society, but they were unable to help either as my husband is in the Navy. Between the cost of living and bills, we did not have the funds available to cover the cost upfront. To treat plagiocephaly, it is crucial to begin treatment promptly. Therefore, my husband used one of his credit cards to cover the cost. This intervention will not only aid in Audrey's physical development, but also her psychological development, quality of life and future health. Financial aid would greatly relieve the burden of the debt and provide our family with peace of mind. Thank you for considering our request. We greatly appreciate your time and support.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,800
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Grey
Age:	10
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$39,086
Lifetime Award	$8,500
Grant Amt Req:	$2,100
Medical Diagnosis:	ADHD
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Autism
	Impact: Psychologically/Behaviorally
	Previous Grant: $1,500 in 2021, $1,000 in 2022, $3,000 in 2023, $1500 in 2024, $1945 in 2013
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improvement in system control
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS Indiv DED $1000 OOP $8150
	Total Expected Cost: $2,100
Family Story:	You have so generously provided Grey with grants to pay for his Occupational Therapy for a few years now. I know we've nearly reached the maximum you allow for a child, but if you would be willing to bestow him another grant for the remainder allowed, he would be able to continue his occupational Therapy for the rest of this year and then partially into 2025 as well. Our insurance doesn't cover his Therapy, so we have to pay the full price out of pocket until the deductible is reached, and then it is 20% after that. Right now, he is in the lower cost 20% phase, though the deductible will start over again in 3.5 months. Grey has ADHD and is autistic. He was first diagnosed at 4, and the doctors recommended Occupational Therapy to help him learn how to regulate his body in ways that would impact his behavior. Before he started the therapy, his school was threatening to kick him out because he was taking too much of the teachers' attention in class. The therapy has helped him tremendously, and he is only getting better and better over the years, but the finish line is still a long ways off, and we hope to be able to keep him in his therapy as long as we can. He just started 5th grade, which presents a whole host of new challenges that are extra difficult for him compared to other kids. The techniques he's taught in therapy help him with being able to focus in the classroom to get through his work without being disruptive to the rest of the class, as well as help him socially with the other kids. It is very hard for him to make friends because of his difference, and he often cries about how nobody likes him or wants to play with him. The therapy is helping him become more socially aware and better able to interact with his peers without his disabilities ruining it for him.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Jeremiah
Age:	9
Gender:	Male
State:	Maryland
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$90,231
Lifetime Award	$3,221
Grant Amt Req:	$4,081
Medical Diagnosis:	Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy (HIE)
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Autism Spectrum Disorder
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $3,221-6/2024
	Recommendations: Inpatient/Outpatient Hosp Stays, Dr/Specialist Visits, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech) Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing) Surgery/Procedures/Treatments
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $4,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $4,081
Family Story:	Jeremiah was born in 2015 while we were on the way to the hospital. He was not breathing at birth and was resuscitated. After he was stabilized, Jeremiah was transported to the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland. He spent 28 days in the NICU at UMMC, prior to being transferred to John's Hopkins Hospital for an additional 46 days, for a total of 74 days in the NICU. During Jeremiah's time in the NICU, he suffered from a Grade 4 IVH at 4 days old, perforated bowel at 10 days old, which required a temporary ostomy and fistula, Neurosurgery to reduce swelling from HIE , which developed after the IVH, placement a reservoir to allow for emergent spinal fluid removal, a Third Ventriculostomy procedure, and reanastomosis of the bowel. Jeremiah has 2 types of seizure disorders, one being ESES, ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and Intellectual Disability. Since then, Jeremiah has had cataracts surgery in both eyes and remove of the reservoir at 2 years old. Jeremiah has had several therapies for PT, OT, Speech, and behavior and is followed by several physicians at both John's Hopkins Hospital and Kennedy Krieger Institute for Neurology, Neuropsychology, Endocrine, Ophthalmology, Pulmonary, Sleep, ENT, Audiology, Behavioral Psychology, Neurogenetics, and Psychiatry. Over the last 5 years we have seen Jeremiah's specialists several times to help with behavioral problems that began in pre-k 4 and have prevented him from being in the classroom with his peers and learning how to make friends. He has also had a long journey over the last 2.5 years trying to help treat Jeremiah's ESES to allow him better sleep and help with the behavioral issues. During that time Jeremiah has had several weeklong stays in the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit, EEGs, MRIs, and several medication changes for Jeremiah to get where he is today. Due to Jeremiah's diagnoses, he has an IEP to allow Jeremiah the accommodations he needs to learn with his peers. Jeremiah is currently 9 years old and is in 4th grade. This year he transitioned to middle school and for the first time in 5 years, he is in the classroom with his peers all day, which is a huge win for Jeremiah, my wife, and myself.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath

Action:	
Amount:	$3,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Lukas
Age:	13
Gender:	Male
State:	Mississippi
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$99,246
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$3,310
Medical Diagnosis:	Mental Health
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Oppositional defiance disorder, ADHD
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: NA
	Recommendations: Dr/Specialist Visits (including services during that visit), Inpatient/Outpatient Hospital Stays (including services during that visit), Medical Drug
	Goals: Help combat defiance and aggression
	Insurance Coverage: UHC Individual $6500 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $3,310
Family Story:	Grant Application is for Lukas Hartnack. He has ODD and ADHD, he struggles significantly with academics, he has extreme academic delays currently testing at the 3rd and 4th grade level. He needs medical care to work through his behavioral issue with therapy and medication evaluation and treatment. With the right support Lukas can work through these deficits and behavioral issues and get back on track for high school.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Mary
Age:	2
Gender:	Female
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$149,000
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$6,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Neurological Disorders
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy
	Impact: Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Optimize developmental abilities
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS Individual $1000 Ded/$4000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $6,000
Family Story:	We are a family of 6. My husband has worked in nursing homes for his career, and I have stayed home to help with the kids. Mary Peyton was born in 2022 and all seemed normal with her birth and first few months. Around 6 months old we noticed her slumping in her highchair without much movement on her right side and her fist clinched most of the time. A few months later she was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy and we started therapy immediately. Mary has seen tremendous growth with Occupational and Physical therapy each week. She began to walk last November and has been making good strides with therapy. We have been stretching the budget to give her the most therapy we can afford each month, with insurance it can still be costly with high co-pays for three different therapies each week. Additionally, we would like to add more speech and OT for Peyton who is very behind in this. We have tried to apply for Medicaid in the state of North Carolina but been denied because we have assets that total more than $2,000. Our second child (Molly) had a lot of trouble as a baby and this past year we understood more with her being diagnosed with intellectual disabilities and also fine motor struggles. She is also in need of therapy. As a one income family, this grant would be a tremendous help as we raise 4 kids and attend many therapy sessions each week between the two girls and especially Mary who needs three different therapies. We would love to invest as much as we can into Mary's therapy the first five years as we know early intervention is best. Thank you for your time.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/20/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Elijah
Age:	4
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$82,376
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$8,063
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Anxiety, separation
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Mental Health Therapy
	Goals: Improve speech and mental health
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $1,500 Individual Deductible $3,500 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $8,063
Family Story:	Elijah is our oldest son, he's almost 5. He has one younger brother, age 9 months, and he adores him. Elijah is a kind, sweet, compassionate, and energized kiddo. He has always struggled with emotion regulation, but about a year and a half ago, it got significantly worse. For example, when I woke up in the morning and came in the room, he would scream a strong shrill scream, then run at me to push me away. Eventually we figured out it was because he was not ready for his environment to change, so we adapted by giving him a heads up that I was awake and would be there soon. There are many examples of this type of behavior in his every day life. We struggled with dropping him off at preschool, struggled with everyday tasks, struggled with potty training. Finally we decided to reach out to our PCP, and she recommended Occupational Therapy. They started off assisting with toilet training, introduced us to feelings charts, and helped us understand better how to facilitate good transitions. With his great struggles, we decided to pursue a formal evaluation, and in July of 2024 Elijah was diagnosed with ASD. In addition to those things, we also were growing frustrated it was hard to understand him, so we have started Speech Therapy as well. They have explained to us that he is a Gestalt Language Processor, and we are starting to understand how to help him better communicate. Another unfortunate struggle he has is frequent night wakings, including having nightmares regularly. We have not seen anyone for this issue, but it is next on our list. Unfortunately, we're starting to run out of funds to pay for all these interventions. We had to inform our OT provider that we cannot continue his therapy due to finances, and they gave us the information for this grant. We appreciate your consideration of us and our family. OT and ST have been so very helpful in understanding Elijah better and helping him grow and succeed, it would be a shame to let this resource go due to financial constraints. Thank you for your time and we look forward to hearing from you.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Connor
Age:	4
Gender:	Male
State:	Tennessee
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$80,336
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,400
Medical Diagnosis:	Anxiety Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Phonological Disorder/Sensory Hypersensitivity
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Doctor/Specialist Visits
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $750 Individual Deductible $2,500 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,400
Family Story:	We are a family of 4. Me and my wife met a little later in life and got married at the ages of 32 and 30. We then had our first, Connor, a couple of years later. He was then followed by his sister, Clara, 2 years afterwards. I work a Monday to Friday 9 to 5 type of job manufacturing stoves for GE Appliances. My wife, Connor's mom, is an oncology veterinary technician at the animal hospital in downtown Chattanooga. We learned earlier this year that Connor had some sensory and anxiety issues. He also has weak hand strength for his fine motor skills and potentially ADHD but it's not diagnosed yet. Being that he's 4 and less than a year away from public school we want to make sure he gets the best opportunity we can give him as he gets ready to begin his school journey. As you know it's pretty difficult out there these days with the cost of rising food and living expenses. Our mortgage just recently went up due to property tax. It went up $100 a month on top of increasing food cost, child care expenses and everything in between. The cost of his needed therapy is just adding to the financial stress of all of it. Luckily the doctor recommended we reach out to this grant. This grant will allow us to make sure Connor gets every opportunity to be a normal kid. He's a smart kid that loves to play outside and very much enjoys being with friends and has never met a stranger. We need this grant to ensure he's on par with his peers as he goes from Pre-K to Kindergarten and beyond. Thank you for taking the time to consider our application and everything you do for families everywhere out there.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,800
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Colton
Age:	9
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$104,956
Lifetime Award	$4,500
Grant Amt Req:	$3,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Speech Disorders
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $3000 in 2024, $1500 in 2023
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve skills.
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna-Ind Ded-4,000, Ind OOP-7,000
	Total Expected Cost: $3,500
Family Story:	With a diagnosis of Autism Level 1, with accompanying Language Disorder as well as Auditory Processing Disorder, and dyspraxia, Colton has struggled in school his entire life. He was retained in Kindergarten and currently reads on a 1st grade level in the 3rd grade. He requires speech and language services weekly to help close the gap.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Ember
Age:	6
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$146,070
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Duplication 15q,
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medically, Socially, Psychologically/Behaviorally
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS Ind DED $2500 OOP $3500
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	We are a family of 5, soon to be 6! We have 2 boys and one girl - and one mattress baby on the way! We've been married for 15 years and live in Miami. Our middle daughter Ember was diagnosed at 1 year with a genetic mutation of duplication 15q. She is also diagnosed with autism. We were told she would never walk and never talk and be severely delayed. She has crushed the walking and running game and now at 6 years old she has a small vocabulary of her own and she consistently defies expectations. We've had a long journey but it's been beautiful. Her needs are great with her medical leg braces and numerous therapies so we are applying for this grant to help with the financial strain. Thank you for reading our application!

Recommendation: Stacey Heath

Action:	
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Colton
Age:	11
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$103,976
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$8,810
Medical Diagnosis:	Neurological Disorders
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Orthotics
	Goals: Improve quality of life.
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS-Ind Ded-$500, Ind OOP-$3150
	Total Expected Cost: $8,810
Family Story:	In 2012, three months before my due date, I gave birth to twin boys at 24 weeks gestation. Now 11 years old, they are my biggest miracles. They beat all odds and were discharged from the NICU after 137 days. Colton and Grady faced many challenges in their first year of life. Although Grady was able to reach every milestone and is healthy, Colton however, struggled. He was diagnosed with a grade 3 and grade 4 intra-ventricular hemorrhage shortly after birth. Shortly after, a medical professional came to me and asked me to consider removing Colton from life support because of the high risk of him leading a very poor quality of life. I chose to advocate for every intervention for him that would give him the highest quality of life possible. His brain bleed miraculously resolved on its own. He overcame every life-threatening complication that typically arises from a baby born at 24 weeks. He was 1 pound and 7 ounces. As a toddler, he would reach milestones, but a bit later than his peers. I did my best to ensure he received occupational therapy, physical therapy, and the speech services he needed, though it wasn't until early this year that Colton was officially diagnosed with spastic diplegic cerebral palsy. He is one of the toughest, but sweetest, people I know. His perseverance to overcome his challenges makes me the proudest mom alive, and he reminds me to slow down and see the joy in the middle of our circumstances. Along with Colton and Grady, I have an 11 year old stepdaughter, and an 18 month old son with my husband of three years. Our family has had a tough year financially, with both my husband and I being let go from our jobs in May and August. We are both taking freelancing roles until we can find a suitable long term solution, but our budget is tighter than ever and unfortunately we are not able to afford the copays and out-of-pocket expenses after we exceed the maximum number of therapy services. With our current insurance, coverage for services are capped at 35 annually for all combined therapy services. Colton typically requires at least one session a week for OT, PT, and speech, that's 156 sessions per year. The most affordable therapy service we have found was $60 out-of-pocket after insurance has been exhausted. We are looking at an estimated out-of-pocket payment of $7,610 just for his therapy services alone. His copayments for specialists and orthotic devices send us well over $10,000 a year in out-of-pocket expenses on top of what we pay for insurance. Having access to these grant funds for Colton would be life-changing. He would be able to receive the therapy services that enable him to continue to thrive in spite of his cerebral palsy. Thank you for considering our family for this grant opportunity. Sincerely, Brandy Misiewicz, Colton's mom

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Rachel
Age:	3
Gender:	Female
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$120,490
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$3,135
Medical Diagnosis:	ADHD
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Autism
	Impact: Socially, Psychologically/Behaviorally
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve coordination, fine motor skills
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $1,400 Individual Deductible $8,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $3,135
Family Story:	As a mother, watching my daughter Rachel face challenges at such a young age has been incredibly tough. Rachel is a sweet, curious little girl who has been navigating the world with some significant hurdles. She struggles with delayed speech, which makes it hard for her to express herself, and she has also been dealing with toe walking, a condition that affects the way she walks and gets around. Her doctors have recommended orthotics to help correct her gait, but they aren't fully covered by our insurance, leaving us to figure out how to manage these costs on our own. It's not just the orthotics. Rachel also needs ongoing speech and occupational therapy to support her development. These therapies are essential for her growth, and we've seen firsthand how they've helped her make progress—however slow it might feel at times. But the truth is, we've had to pay out of pocket for these therapies, which has been a real strain on our family. My husband and I are doing everything we can, but with both Rachel and her brother needing specialized therapies, it feels like we're constantly trying to catch up, both financially and emotionally. Rachel is such a bright light in our lives. Despite everything she's up against, she's always smiling, always trying. She's determined, and we are determined to give her every opportunity to succeed. But the costs are adding up, and it's hard not to feel overwhelmed at times. All we want is for Rachel to have the best chance to thrive—so she can walk without pain, communicate her thoughts and feelings, and grow into the amazing person we know she is. With this grant, we could give her the care she needs without the constant financial worry, and that would mean the world to us as a family.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Adonis
Age:	2
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$111,601
Lifetime Award	$1,000
Grant Amt Req:	$0,735
Medical Diagnosis:	developmental disorder of speech and language
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,000-2025
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $6,500 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $0,735
Family Story:	We are a family of 4. Both of our children attending therapy, and both were lucky to previously receive grant from the United healthcare that we are extremely thankful for. Both of our children go to therapy twice a week, while both of us (parents) work on a government job as well as active within the union and have to give up hours to take them there twice a week. It is extremely heavy on our paychecks, and we are very thankful for the help we already gotten. Adonis has had 29 sessions reimbursed by the United Healthcare grant already. He has total of 50 sessions that he is attending this year along with his brother who also has 50 sessions. We will be thankful for absolutely anything

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$0,735
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Parker
Age:	2
Gender:	Female
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$95,059
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$4,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Speech Delay
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna $500 Individual Deductible $4,500 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $4,000
Family Story:	My husband and I have been married since 2020. In March 2022, we had our first child, Parker. The pregnancy itself did not have any complications, however, because I had fibroids, I had to routinely see a specialist to monitor her growth. Parker’s pediatrician recommended and provided referrals for hearing tests, speech therapy through Babies Can’t Wait, as well as testing for autism when at 18 months Parker was not meeting certain milestones such as speech and communication, as well as her picky eating. A hearing test was conducted in October 2023, which found her hearing to be normal. In this same time frame, we were able to connect with a coordinator with Babies Can’t Wait who scheduled an assessment for her in November 2023 which resulted in Parker being approved for services (speech therapy). Our coordinator was not able to find a speech therapist for us until February 2024, at which point a new assessment had to be conducted and her therapy began. She is currently being seen by her speech therapist twice a week for 30 minutes each. We were not able to get in to see a psychologist for her autism testing till January 2024. From this testing, we received the autism diagnosis (F84.0) in February 2024. We were provided resources for finding ABA therapy providers and were able to get her scheduled for an initial assessment in March 2024 with the Golden Steps ABA company. Her ABA therapy officially started in May 2024. Her sessions are 5 days a week for 4 hours each day. Unfortunately, even though our insurance covers 90% of her ABA therapy, the remaining 10% has been a struggle for us to afford with all our other bills (in addition, my husband's company is closing down at the end of the year and so we will be losing that additional livelihood). With the help of the grant, we will be able to continue her ABA therapy services. Parker has shown great progress so far and has responded well to both speech therapy and ABA therapy. We are hoping to secure this grant in order to allow us to continue with her therapy. Thank you.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Max
Age:	6
Gender:	Male
State:	New Jersey
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$103,602
Lifetime Award	$4,500
Grant Amt Req:	$8,500
Medical Diagnosis:	AUTISM
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: 2021-$1,500; 2023-$1,500; $1,500-8/2024
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech and fine motor skills
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $3,500 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $8,500
Family Story:	We are a family of 5 living on one income due to my inability to return to the workforce due to my children's needs. We have 3 kids with autism spectrum disorder and been having a difficult time providing all the therapies they need.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Balboa
Age:	1
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$93,752
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$3,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Feeding Difficulties
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: NA
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve mouth/tongue strength, eating and speech ability
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna-Individual $9450.00 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $3,000
Family Story:	Hello there! My name is Katie, and my son's name is Balboa. He is actually a twin! He was supposed to be born second, but he is mighty determined and pushed his way down a few weeks before I gave birth. From the get go, I had a gut feeling that Balboa wasn't latching strongly like his brother. He was drooling milk, gagging, taking at least an hour to eat and spitting up often. Every time I went to the pediatrician, they assured me that everything was "fine". He was gaining weight. Nothing to worry about. I sought the help of a lactation consultant. She was wonderful, and I learned a lot from her, but when I asked her about the possibility of a tongue or lip tie, she said that wasn't a concern for her. I put my trust into the professionals that was providing care for Balboa. Fast forward to Balboa eating solids, I noticed he would shove food all the way to the back of his throat and swallow. He wasn't chewing, he was choking on his food, and he gradually ate less and less variety of things. I became extremely concerned about his nutritional intake. The next routine doctor's visit, I brought up my feeding concerns again. He was now considered "slow to gain", and they told me he was probably fine, but if I really was concerned to take him to an oral motor specialist. We went for an evaluation, and bam, there was a tongue and lip tie. He now gets therapy once a week and cranial sacral therapy every other week or so. He had his revision yesterday. So slowly but surely, my hope is Balboa will learn how to chew and use his tongue to help the eating process. I'm seeing improvement, but we have a ways to go.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Lanah
Age:	8
Gender:	Female
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$61,974
Lifetime Award	$4,500
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Apraxia of Speech
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Expressive Language disorder
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,500-2023; $1,500-2024; $1,500-11/2024
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $5,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	We are a family of a total of 5 children, 3 of those are under the age of 18. Two of my children have a speech delay. Lanah being one of those 2 children she has been diagnosed with Apraxia of Speech. We are so grateful to the UHCCF foundation and the grants that have helped us support the speech therapy that Lanah need to successfully support her current speech goals.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United
Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Logan
Age:	7
Gender:	Male
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$61,974
Lifetime Award	$4,500
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Global Speech Delay
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,500-2023: $1,500-2024; $1,500-1/2025
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $5,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	Logan is the youngest of 5 siblings. He has had a global speech delay and has been in speech and food therapy since 3 yrs old. He currently receives services 2x a week and also school services. We are so very thankful for the grant as this helps us immensely to help support his therapy needs. His sister also has a speech condition and therapies for both children are very expensive.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath

Action:	
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Keller
Age:	5
Gender:	Male
State:	Tennessee
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$141,733
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$0,935
Medical Diagnosis:	Muscle, Skeletal (Bone)
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Fine motor weakness
	Impact: Medical
	**Previous Grant: NA
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve fine motor weakness
	Insurance Coverage: UHC Individual $4000 Ded/$6750 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $0,935
Family Story:	In 2023 the Lowder family suffered great financial loss. Jeffrey, the primary income for the family, lost his job in February. He remained unemployed while searching for employment until February 2024. Emily became pregnant with twins in February of 2023. Emily's pregnancy was high risk involving multiple hospital visits. Emily required specialist obstetric care from a MFM physician. Jude and Harrison were born at 34 weeks gestation after Emily was hospitalized for severe pre-eclampsia trending toward HELLP syndrome. Harrison remained in the NICU for 12 days. Jude was in the NICU for 17 days. After being discharged Jude returned and was admitted to the local children's hospital for respiratory distress on two separate occasions. Meanwhile, Keller was referred to occupational therapy by his preschool due to fine motor skill weakness. Keller received treatment once a week for the 2023-2024 school year requiring an out of pocket fee per session. The Lowder family reached the insurance out of pocket maximum for 2023 and yet the medical bills still seemed to be arriving. In early 2024 Jude and Harrison were evaluated by their pediatrician and referred to Hanger Clinic for torticollis. They were both ordered to wear cranial shaping helmets. These were a large out of pocket expense. Medical bills and receipts of payment can be provided to authenticate all expenses. The grant for financial assistance would make a huge difference in the financial burden placed on the family that continues to be a struggle.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$0,935
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Joudia
Age:	0
Gender:	Female
State:	West Virginia
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$57,889
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$0,900
Medical Diagnosis:	Positional plagiocephaly
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Congenital torticollis
	Impact: Medical
	Recommendations: Cranial Helmet
	Goals: Improve head shape
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $200 Individual Deductible $4,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $0,900
Family Story:	Hello team UHCCF. We hope this application finds you all well. My husband Mohamed and have been married for 3 years now but know each other for over 5 years. We were patiently waiting for Joudia to be born, we already had a name for her since our first year of knowing each other. We dreamed of her, of what it would be like to have a girl. Our little one has been unfortunately diagnosed with congenital torticollis since birth and had plagiocephaly in utero from being compressed against my pelvis. We've been doing physical therapy since she was 2 months old with repositioning but unfortunately her head is still misshapen, she is currently in the moderate to severe range. We have decided to helmet now that she's almost 6 months to catch some growth spurts and help her get a rounded head while also hopefully fixing her facial asymmetry. Joudia is a happy little girl, we would really want for her to have a bullying-free childhood and to look herself in the mirror and feel normal and pretty. But also to be able to wear sports helmets and glasses (both of us wear glasses) on aligned ears. We are grateful for UHCCF for allowing parents to get the treatment needed for their children without the financial burden. We are also grateful for all the amazing mamas on facebook that recommended UHCCF 💗

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$0,900
Comments:	

United
Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Natalya
Age:	10
Gender:	Female
State:	Delaware
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$106,378
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$3,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Eye, Ears, Nose, Throat
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Reoccurring strep throat
	Impact: Medical
	**Previous Grant: NA
	Recommendations: Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing)
	Goals: Decide on treatment
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS Individual $2000 ded/$5000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $3,000
Family Story:	Natalya has been getting recurring strept throat, we were referred to a pulmonologust in order for her to have a sleep study to see if she is a candidate for a tonsils operation.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Lila
Age:	4
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$131,642
Lifetime Award	$1,500
Grant Amt Req:	$2,400
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Global Development Delay
	Impact: Medically, Socially, Psychologically/Behaviorally
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Gain knowledge and independence
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $1,600 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $2,400
Family Story:	Our family consists of three amazing kids - Jax (14), Lucy (12), and Lila (4). Lila was the best surprise that could have happened to us. She's a sweet girl and her older siblings are such good playmates for her. They love her so much and it's so sweet to watch them play. Lila has been in speech therapy since she was two and ABA since she was 3. She's made amazing strides and her therapy is so incredibly important for her growth. Myself and Lila's father are not together, so she lives in two different households. My income has been reduced because of this, but we're determined to give her what she needs no matter what!

Recommendation: Stacey Heath

Action:	
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	John
Age:	14
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$36,530
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Organ Disease (Heart, Lung, Kidney, Liver, Brain, Intestinal)
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Spine Cord Tumor, Brain stem lesion
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: NA
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve mobility
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS- Ind Ded $500; Ind OOP $4,000
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	My family household includes myself Latoya Mason, Husband John Mason and 13 year old son John Mason III 13. This 2024 year started with our son doing what he loved the most , going to school and enjoying his friends and classmates while also playing on his school's basketball team. We noticed a change in John's physical ability to practice with his team mates due to chest and back pain. He was seen at his physicians office and diagnosed with muscle inflammation, 2 weeks later he was diagnosed with covid 19. Just a few days later John woke up to his legs being paralyzed. After Mri scans revealed a spine tumor and brain stem lesion. Surgery was the only option to remove his spine tumor which was a success but only 3 months later John had a recurring tumor resulting in him needing proton therapy 5 times a week for 6 weeks. We have been attending intense physical therapy since April but although John is still wheelchair bound we have remaining hopeful he will recover his ability to walk again and get back to doing all the things he once loved such as skating, basketball and dirt bike riding. Together as a family we remain strong and determined to overcome these trying times but no one is as strong as John. Even though he has been through so many life changes these last 9 months John has a very positive attitude and still remains happy, laughing and smiling. Sometimes he will have a moment of sadness and ask why him and even though I don't have the right words to explain any of what we are going through I just quickly remind John we still have so much to be grateful for and as long as we have each other we together will overcome come this Journey and be able to inspire the next family that may have a similar experience.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,000
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Hughston
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$94,584
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$9,600
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Developmental Delay
	Impact: Medical, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Mental Health Therapy, DR/Specialist Visits
	Goals: Build skills and limit agressive behavior.
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna - Ind Ded $3,200; Ind OOP $8,000
	Total Expected Cost: $9,600
Family Story:	My husband is an electrician and I work in healthcare. I had to go part-time in order to take my son to his appointments. My son was recent diagnosed with Autism and we have many appointments in the near future. With the appointments comes the bills that keep piling up, so the grant would help us tremendously

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Harper
Age:	9
Gender:	Female
State:	South Carolina
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$140,260
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Stage 3 Wilm's Tumor
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Inpatient/Outpatient Hosp Stay
	Goals: eradicate cancer cells
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $5,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	We are a family of 5- a 22 yr old college student, a 16 senior in HS, and 9yr cancer warrior. Harper (child with cancer) was initially diagnosed in June of 2023 with Stage 3 Wilm's Tumor. She had a complete left nephrectomy but the tumor on her kidney ruptured. She when through 6 months of chemo and radiation. Our insurance (United Health Care) stopped paying for her treatment in Jan of 2024, which delayed her scans until March. Once approval was given for her to be seen at another facility for scans, she completed the scan and it was discovered her tumor has metastasized to her lung. She subsequently had to have a part of her lung removed, a chest tube placed, 30 weeks of chemo and 8 days of radiation. Her father and I are both public servants- I am an investigations supervisor for Child Protective Services and was a paramedic for 18 years. Her father has been a paramedic for 20 years and is a critical paramedic.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$3,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Mackenzie
Age:	5
Gender:	Female
State:	New York
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$82,015
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$8,061
Medical Diagnosis:	Childhood Apraxia of Speech
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $4,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $8,061
Family Story:	Hi, we're the Meads! We have an amazing daughter, Mackenzie Wilde, who is the joy of our lives. She loves to read books, be outside, make art, and take care of her two cats at home. She is compassionate, creative, and very funny. We live in upstate New York and are a hard-working family who just want the best for our child. Mackenzie has been receiving speech therapy since she was about 2 and half years old, with suspected Childhood Apraxia of Speech. She did not produce words until she was approximately 3 years, 4 months old. She was officially diagnosed with CAS in June 2024. CAS is a motor speech disorder that makes it extremely hard to speak. It is a neurological disorder that affects the brain's ability to plan and sequence the movements needed to produce speech. There is no cure for CAS, so Mackenzie will potentially need speech therapy into adulthood. For someone with apraxia of speech the therapy they receive throughout childhood can have a direct effect on their future speech abilities. Even with intense speech therapy for the past 2.5 years, Mackenzie is rarely understood by people unfamiliar to her and about 50% of the time when speaking with family members. She is understood about 80% of the time when speaking to my husband and I. We have seen how speech therapy can be life-changing for Mackenzie in terms of producing speech and growing self-confidence. She attends a small, private Montessori preschool program that provides a wonderful environment for her. Small class size, increased 1-on-1 with teachers, and a follow-the-student learning approach have all been monumental factors in Mackenzie's growth. We received speech services through our state's funded programs but Mackenzie has since aged out of that program when turning 5 this past August. Being that she attends a private school, she is unable to receive speech therapy through our public school system. She is now receiving therapy at a private clinic, Goshen Speech & Hearing Center, who takes our insurance but my husband and I are responsible for the insurance premium and co-pays, which will total over $8000 from September - August. Mackenzie is a very smart little girl so she is fully aware of her speech deficits, especially around peers. We have seen how much speech therapy can help her grow, not only in terms of speech output but confidence in her ability to be a kid in the world. If you can imagine, having childhood apraxia of speech is a very difficult thing to have because she knows what she wants to say but her muscles in her mouth won't move the right way to produce the sounds. It can be very sad and frustrating for a 5-year-old who has a lot to say and share with her family and friends. The speech therapy Mackenzie requires is vigorous and specific. We have found a wonderful speech pathologist who specializes in treating children with apraxia of speech. We are applying for this grant because the speech services Mackenzie needs can be life-changing for her. My husband's employer offers free health insurance through MVP, but MVP does not cover Mackenzie's speech therapy so we switched to Empire/United Healthcare which we have to pay for through his employer. The premium amount we pay is $6,060.80 for the insurance then an additional $2,000+ in co-pays. This grant would help us guarantee that Mackenzie can receive her speech therapy throughout the year without the worry of not being able to

	afford it. Thank you so much for your time and consideration. Stephanie Mead

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Ashanti
Age:	2
Gender:	Female
State:	New York
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$31,236
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$7,950
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Developmental milestone delay
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Cubby Bed
	Goals: Improve child's sleep and safety.
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS
	Total Expected Cost: $7,950
Family Story:	We are a family of 3 with a child diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and we are looking to get her a cubby bed due to she eloping and have not sense of danger and she already fall a couple time from her crib because she try to climb out of it we need help with the cost of the bed due to insurance denied the bed for her

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Lily Grace Olivia
Age:	1
Gender:	Female
State:	Tennessee
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$117,018
Lifetime Award	$2,000
Grant Amt Req:	$40,750
Medical Diagnosis:	Trisomy 21
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Feeding Intolerance
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $2,000-2025
	Recommendations: Inpatient/Outpatient Hospital Stays, Surgery/Procedures/Treatments, Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing), Dr/Specialist Visits, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $500 Individual Deductible $8,150 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $40,750
Family Story:	My twins were born 8/23/2024 and I stopped working to care of my twins due to not having childcare. Lily is special needs and requires special medical care. We are making 20,000 less currently that what is reported on our tax return. We have tried to apply for state coverage but was denied still over income. My husband, Colin started a new position at CEI materials in March 2024. However, this job is significantly less than my previously position, but does allow me to work from home and travel to our daughters medical appointments. Due to change of jobs, we are subject to yet another deductible and coinsurance costs. These medical bills are very overwhelming to keep up with. Any assistance you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Damair
Age:	6
Gender:	Male
State:	New Jersey
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$156,349
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $4,000 Family Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	I am Essence Myrick, and alongside my husband, we are proud parents of two children, one of whom has special needs. Our youngest, Damair, is a sweet, loving, and energetic five-year-old boy who was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at the age of three. Over the past three years, we have enrolled him in various therapies and treatments, including speech therapy, occupational therapy, and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), to support his growth and development and to ensure he has the best quality of life and opportunities. Thanks to these interventions and summer programs, we have witnessed remarkable progress in his development. The therapists on his team have devoted an incredible amount of time and effort to his growth, and we are truly grateful to have such a dedicated group of professionals supporting him. However, these necessary interventions have led to additional medical expenses, which have become increasingly challenging to manage. As a single-income household, we find ourselves in need of financial assistance to cover these extra medical costs, and it deeply saddens us to think we might not be able to provide him with the essential services he requires due to financial constraints. Feeling unsure about where to seek help, I conducted extensive research and discovered the UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation grant. After learning about your mission, I realized this could be the opportunity we urgently need. Securing this grant would enable us to cover our son's ABA therapy expenses, ensuring he does not lose access to these essential services. Additionally, it would help us manage the monthly costs of his speech and occupational therapies. Receiving this grant would significantly enhance the level of support our son can receive, so we kindly ask for your consideration in assisting us to nurture and sustain his growth, as he is truly making remarkable progress with his current team and services.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Gavin
Age:	0
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$49,374
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$1,620
Medical Diagnosis:	Brachycephaly, Plagiocephaly
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical
	Recommendations: Cranial Helmet
	Goals: Reshape head.
	Insurance Coverage: Tricare-Ind Ded-300, Ind OOP-1,000
	Total Expected Cost: $1,620
Family Story:	Gavin lives at home with his mother, father and two sisters. He has one big sister, Emery (3) and a twin sister named Hazel (6 months). His mother works inside of the home, taking care of the children and home and his father is an active duty enlisted member of the United States Air Force. Gavin was born a few weeks early, at 37 weeks gestation and was failure to thrive at one week old, spending a few days in the hospital. After receiving a diagnosis of laryngomalacia and severe acid reflux, he began receiving weekly 30 minute sessions of feeding therapy. He has worked hard to overcome his feeding difficulties and recently graduated from feeding therapy. He is currently working on overcoming some physical developmental delays by attending weekly 60 minute physical therapy sessions. He is working hard to make progress on his developmentally appropriate milestones with the help of his parents, sisters and various healthcare providers. His parents are hopeful a grant for a helmet can help him to continue developing appropriately.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,620
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Josiah
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$87,898
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$0,286
Medical Diagnosis:	Receptive Expressive Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Autism
	Impact: Psychologically/Behaviorally
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve communication, social and developmental skills
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS
	Total Expected Cost: $0,286
Family Story:	Josiah is 3 year old he has been struggling with speech impediments for some reason its hard for him try to communicate with us, so he gets frustration easily and this leads to stress for him and us as parents; The Pediatrician had refereed him to speech Therapy twice a week, we have been trying to do everything in our hands to cover the bills cause our insurance is paying only 20% of the bill, But as you know now day life is been more and more expensive Mortgage, bills, food, gasoline and more; to go to this place Sunshine the driving is 40-45 minutes, Now Sunshine Therapy its offering me another Therapy call OT they say can help Josiah on his temper frustration daily, also to be more independent even go potty cause he still training but its been challenge help him on this too, But our budge is not allow us go on this even less. That is why I come here and asking for help I really appreciate all you can do I really would love my baby Josiah start talking and be communicate with us, this would be easier life for all of us. In advanced I'll be Grateful with, thanks very much for everything you could do to help us.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$0,286
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Arianna
Age:	5
Gender:	Female
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$105,351
Lifetime Award	$1,500
Grant Amt Req:	$3,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Anxiety/ Social Pragmatic Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Autism
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,500-2024
	Recommendations: Mental Health Therapy, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve mental health
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $2,000 Individual Deductible $4,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $3,000
Family Story:	Both Arianna, and her brother, have benefited from the UHCCF grant. We have been so blessed to be recipients of this grant as it once helped Arianna's brother receive therapy when we learned that he was autistic. We watched as Alex benefited greatly from being able to go to therapy sessions multiple times a month, and sometimes, multiple times a week because we were recipients of this grant. Then, last year, Arianna's doctors decided that Arianna really needed OT and ST to help her thrive. Over the last year, we have watched Arianna learn to eat additional foods that we never thought she would even try. She is most recently working on being able to identify her emotions and what makes her feel a certain way so that she can begin to learn to cope and regulate. Without the UHCCF grant, Arianna wouldn't have been able to go to therapy as often due to other medical cost for our family. Arianna's severe anxiety and her social pragmatic disorder continue to be difficult for Arianna. Last month, Arianna also received her diagnosis of autism (moderate). In the last month, Arianna has also started Kindergarten which has been difficult as she has regressed with eating- sometimes going all day without eating more than a few bites. She has also become very quiet not wanting to talk. As we navigate Kindergarten, Arianna, now more than ever, continues to therapy, and we hope to add counseling services soon. With the help of this grant, Arianna will be able to continue going to therapy which will help her learn to navigate her many challenges that she faces.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Elizabeth
Age:	7
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$89,850
Lifetime Award	$2,250
Grant Amt Req:	$1,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Phonological disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Other disorders of psychological developmentSpecific developmental disorder of motor function
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,000-2022; $1,250-2023
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna $1,500 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $1,500
Family Story:	Our family consists of five members, with three of our children currently in therapy. Elizabeth receives Speech Therapy. She has been in therapy since 2020, was discharged from Occupational therapy in 2023, and the out-of-pocket costs add up quickly. In addition to her therapies, Elizabeth participates in various extracurricular activities such as swimming, piano lessons, and taekwondo classes. These activities are essential for improving her balance, coordination, and overall wellness. However, these services are costly, especially since her siblings also require similar support. The UHCCF grants have been incredibly helpful in offsetting some of these expenses. We are thrilled with Elizabeth's progress and look forward to further improvements. Thank you, UHCCF, for your support.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Emmanuel
Age:	2
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$89,850
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$1,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Plagiocephaly with Torticollis, Delayed milestone in childhood, Mixed receptive-expressive language disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Mixed receptive-expressive language disorder
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna $1,500 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $1,500
Family Story:	Our family consists of five members, with three of our children currently in therapy. Emmanuel receives Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy. He has been in therapy since 2022, and the out-of-pocket costs add up quickly. The UHCCF grants have been incredibly helpful in offsetting some of these expenses. We are thrilled with Emmanuel's progress and look forward to further improvements. Thank you, UHCCF, for your support.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Esther
Age:	9
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$89,850
Lifetime Award	$3,250
Grant Amt Req:	$1,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Autistic disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Fine motor delay
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: 2021- $1,000, 2022-$1,000; $1,250-2023
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech and fine motor skills
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna $1,500 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $1,500
Family Story:	Our family consists of five members, with three of our children currently in therapy. Esther, who is on the autism spectrum, receives Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and ABA Therapy. She has been in therapy since 2017, and the out-of-pocket costs add up quickly. In addition to her therapies, Esther participates in various extracurricular activities such as swimming, piano lessons, and taekwondo classes. These activities are essential for improving her balance, coordination, stimming, and overall wellness. However, these services are costly, especially since her siblings also require similar support. The UHCCF grants have been incredibly helpful in offsetting some of these expenses. We are thrilled with Esther's progress and look forward to further improvements. Thank you, UHCCF, for your support.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Malachi
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	2
AGI:	$52,375
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$11,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Speech Disorders
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve communication and abilities.
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna- Ind Ded $750; Ind OOP $5,550
	Total Expected Cost: $11,000
Family Story:	I am a single mom to Malachi Osman who was born on March 11, 2021. Malachi's name in Hebrew is "My Messenger, My Angel" and that really does sum up my son. He is a blessing to me and truly is my little angel who has a message of love, hope, & joy. Malachi has been diagnosed with a significant speech delay and most recently was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. He is currently enrolled in a special needs pre-k that is provided through the state and he loves his teachers & friends at the school. He also loves watching cars, trucks, and first responder vehicles but most of all.. he LOVES garbage trucks!! He also enjoys playing with his tablet, toy cars, puzzles, shape sorters and building/stacking blocks. Malachi also loves going to the park and reading books. Two of his favorite books are "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?" & "Green Eggs & Ham."

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Paiden
Age:	10
Gender:	Male
State:	New Jersey
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$17,193
Lifetime Award	$4,500
Grant Amt Req:	$6,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Speech Disorders
	Impact: Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve communication and social skills.
	Insurance Coverage: UHC-Ind Ded-3000, Ind OOP-5500
	Total Expected Cost: $6,000
Family Story:	Paiden lives with his mother, and two brothers in South Orange New Jersey. Oldest brother is Prince Owusu who is 21 years old and attends Rowan University. Younger brother is Presley Owusu who is 6 years and suffers from Autistic Spectrum Disorder. Paiden was diagnosed with Autistic Spectrum Disorder in 2008.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Presley
Age:	6
Gender:	Male
State:	New Jersey
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$17,193
Lifetime Award	$4,500
Grant Amt Req:	$6,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Speech Disorders
	Impact: Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve communication and social behavior.
	Insurance Coverage: UHC-Ind Ded-3000, Ind OOP-5500
	Total Expected Cost: $6,000
Family Story:	Presley lives with his mother, and two older brothers in South Orange New Jersey. Oldest brother is Prince Owusu who is 21 years old and attends Rowan University. Second older brother is Paiden Owusu who is 10 years and suffers from Autistic Spectrum Disorder

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Ellie
Age:	5
Gender:	Female
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$68,781
Lifetime Award	$4,500
Grant Amt Req:	$2,400
Medical Diagnosis:	Developmental Delay
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: ADHD, Adjustment Disorder
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,500 - 2024; $1,500-2024: $1,500-1/2025
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $1,800 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $2,400
Family Story:	For over two years, we have made many concerning observations about our daughter, Ellie Patterson. It started out as concerns over sensory processing of loud sounds, textures, lights but we soon realized that Ellie's emotional regulation was making life very difficult and challenging for her as well. We did not notice these issues until after life started to return to "normal" after Covid, since for most of Ellie's life she was just kept in a quiet and calm home away from people, and her OT therapist feels that lack of exposure to normal sounds and things of everyday life could have contributed to her delays. Ellie started her course of OT in April 2023 on a biweekly basis. Seeing the extremity of Ellie's lack of emotional regulation caused her therapist to suggest we get a psychological evaluaton. She now has the following diagnosis: F90.2 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Combined Type F43.25 Adjustment Disorder with Mixed Disturbance of Emotions and Conduct She is now attending weekly therapy sessions to address these issues and getting OT now just one a week. Unfortunately, our insurance only covers 30 OT visits in a plan year, and Ellie has now exceeded her 30 visits and so insurance is not covering any of Ellie's OT. That means each session is costing us $120. We cannot afford this amount and so we either have to discontinue Ellie's OT, which would be detrimental to Ellie's developmental and emotional health, or go into debt to pay for her OT. In addition to this, Ellie's father had to quit his job in January because he is no longer able to sustain the back pain that results from the physical work he has been doing. He is now working again as of the past couple of month, but the income is less than before and we are still catching up from having no income from him earlier in the year. So this has resulted in much stress this year, and we hope the grants can help us to continue to provide care to Ellie despite our financial situation.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Micah
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$65,894
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$17,700
Medical Diagnosis:	Concussion/TBI, developmental delays
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Expressive Language disorder
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Dr/Specialist Visits, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech) Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing)
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna $2,950 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $17,700
Family Story:	Micah is the youngest of my 3 children. He is a happy, loving and funny kid who loves to make people laugh. Backstory on Micah-Micah was progressing through developmental milestones appropriately, some even ahead of schedule, no prior medical diagnosis and lived an otherwise "normal life" until the car accident November 11, 2022. Myself and 3 children were rear-ended while stopped on the highway; the driver totaled his car and ours. All 3 of my children were diagnosed with concussion/TBI and have all had therapies. All 3 of my children are still receiving treatment as a result. Micah was recently evaluated by a pediatric specialist and he has been referred back to SLP and OT for therapy services for continued difficulties post-MVA. Micah initially experienced a significant developmental regression at home in regards with gross motor, fine motor and speech. He also struggles with anxiety, mainly with separation, and sensory hypersensitivity affecting his diet and what he will/won't eat. He has made great progress and I am truly grateful for the therapies he has had so far; his treatment is ongoing. Huge moment today that moved me to tears, was Micah saying his first name in speech therapy today for the first time! I understand that his areas of concern will take time, not a "quick fix", many visits, multi-providers, over the span of multiple years, to best address. This was an unplanned traumatic event that has left me figuring out how to make things work financially. I am applying for financial assistance so I will be able to schedule out all the recommended visits he needs and give him the best chance of a "normal life" again. This would significantly help reduce the financial stress of 3 kids needing help. Thank you for your consideration.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath

Action:	
Amount:	$3,000
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Sofia
Age:	3
Gender:	Female
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$80,786
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	nonverbal, fine and gross motor skill delays
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Hypotonia
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing), Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $6,500 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	Our family consists of myself, my husband, and our two beautiful girls, Charlotte and Sofia. My pregnancy with Sofia was complicated. In an ultrasound we found that she had a duplicated kidney. I had pre eclampsia and she was born 3 weeks early and put on prophylaxis antibiotics to prevent bladder infections. At 3 months old she had surgery for her duplicated kidney and she gets an ultrasound and sees a urologist each year to make sure it's developing appropriately. Prior to her 18 month doctor's appointment, we were concerned that Sofia was not really making any sounds or words. Or she would say a word once or twice and couldn't repeat it. We started Early Intervention speech therapy. It was identified that she had hypotonia, low muscle tone. We noticed small changes with speech therapy, but there were still no words. We added physical therapy in the summer of 2023 for about 4 sessions because we noticed Sofia wasn't developing certain skills that were age appropriate and we wondered if that was preventing speech. In December of 2023, Sofia was hospitalized for 9 days due to RSV, pneumonia, and an aspiration. It was determined that her low muscle tone caused her to have difficulty with breathing during her illness. During her hospital stay she was on oxygen, spent 2 nights in the PICU, and had a feeding tube for a few days as well. It was such a scary experience, but she was so brave! Because she was bedridden for so long, we added back physical therapy because she struggled with walking and other movements. Her new physical therapist was wonderful. She noticed that both of Sofia's feet had pronation and recommended SMO's. She has had them since February 2024 and we have seen lots of improvements. She can now jump and go upstairs almost by herself. However, there are still skills she cannot do independently and she is working with a new physical therapist privately now that she aged out of Early Intervention when she turned 3 in June. Sofia is still non verbal, she has about 10 words she can say periodically. We use an AAC device that we are incorporating into her daily life. Her speech therapist suspects Apraxia of Speech and is treating her as such, however, she cannot fully evaluate her for it due to Sofia's verbal skills at this time. Her receptive skills are age appropriate, she is such a great listener, even better than her 7 year old sister sometimes. In May we started seeing a development pediatrician. Sofia's scores are low enough to suspect ASD, but she has been referred for a full evaluation because she can be social with others. We are on a long wait list for that evaluation. In the meantime, we have an upcoming appointment with genetics, a spine MRI (looking for a tethered cord) and a brain MRI (since she is already going under), per her urologist and developmental pediatrician. We want to understand if her hypotonia and her developmental delays are symptoms of something bigger. As of June 2023, Sofia goes weekly to physical therapy and occupational therapy and biweekly to speech therapy, all therapies recommended by her developmental pediatrician. Despite all the challenges she has faced in her little life, Sofia is the sweetest girl. Her smile brightens up any room. She loves watching her big sister, cuddling with mama, and snacking.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,000
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Diana
Age:	2
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$119,702
Lifetime Award	$2,000
Grant Amt Req:	$3,600
Medical Diagnosis:	Aphakia, right eye
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Deprivation Amblyophia of right eye, Exotropia, Hypertropia
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $2,000-2024
	Recommendations: Eye Glasses/Contacts, Medical Supplies
	Goals: Improve vision
	Insurance Coverage: UHC
	Total Expected Cost: $3,600
Family Story:	To Whom it may concern, We are a family of six, navigating the highs and lows of life in Fort Lauderdale—a place where palm trees sway, but the cost of living is anything but breezy. My husband and I are both teachers, committed to our students and passionate about education, but we live on a modest income that often feels stretched thin. We pour our hearts into our work, but our greatest joy and challenge is raising our four children: Tristan (14), Hal-Jordan (9), Graysen (4), and Diana (2). Tristan, our oldest, is focused and determined, pouring his energy into cross country and track. Hal-Jordan, our little slugger, lives for the thrill of baseball, his eyes lighting up with every hit. Graysen, our sweet and spirited four-year-old, finds his happy place in the water, splashing away at swim class. And then there's Diana—our bright, beautiful, and brave little girl. She's our only daughter, born with congenital cataracts, a diagnosis that has defined much of her young life and brought us to our knees more times than we can count. Diana's journey has been anything but easy. From the moment she opened her eyes, she's faced a world that's been hard to see and even harder to navigate. Despite her spirit and strength, the reality is that she needs constant care—care that comes with a price far beyond what we imagined. Her bifocal glasses are essential, yet even those have been a source of heartbreak; we recently replaced them after she accidentally threw them out of the car, and they were run over. It's just one of many expenses that insurance has refused to cover. Six months have passed since we submitted our claim for her glasses, and every call to the insurance company ends the same—with more delays, more excuses, and more out-of-pocket costs for us. We are no strangers to sacrifice, but the relentless need to fight for Diana's care—to juggle therapies, doctor visits, and insurance battles—has taken a toll. There are days when it feels impossible to meet Diana's needs while still giving Tristan, Hal, and Graysen the childhood they deserve. We find ourselves constantly balancing, trying to keep everything together, yet still falling short. Our visits to Bascom Palmer Eye Institute are frequent and necessary, but they come at the cost of missed work, rearranged schedules, and the never-ending anxiety of wondering how we'll cover the next bill. This scholarship isn't just financial help; it's a lifeline. It's the hope that Diana can have what she needs without taking away from her brothers' opportunities. It's the chance to breathe a little easier, to focus on our children's joys instead of the constant stress of making ends meet. Above all, it's the possibility of giving our kids a life where they don't feel the weight of our struggles—just the love we have for them, and the fierce determination to make things better. Thank you for this opportunity.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Asher
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$108,954
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$2,400
Medical Diagnosis:	Microtia/Atresia
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Craniofacial Microsomia, Microphthalmia, Facial Paralysis
	Impact: Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $2,500 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $2,400
Family Story:	We are applying for this grant on behalf of our son, Asher, to help cover his speech therapy sessions. Asher is an empathetic, feisty, deeply loving, daring, and discerning little kid. We knew before Asher was born that he may face challenges, as an ultrasound showed he had a heart defect often associated with other congenital anomalies. When we welcomed him into our arms almost three years ago, we embraced a healthy, beautiful baby with a rare condition. We promised him that day that we would do everything we could to ensure he lived his best and fullest life despite his differences. Asher was born with craniofacial microsomia, a rare congenital anomaly that affects the left side of his face, skull, and soft palate. He has grade four microtia and atresia (no left ear or ear canal), resulting in conductive hearing loss on his left side; microphthalmia of his left eye (tiny eye with no iris or lens), resulting in vision loss; and left-sided facial paralysis and incomplete mandible. Asher also has an underdeveloped soft palate, a high palate arch, and suspected velopharyngeal insufficiency (VPI). He wears a bone-anchored hearing aid that gives him bilateral hearing and a prosthetic scleral shell to help grow the bones and eyelid around his left eye. We have been so fortunate that none of his interventions have been surgical, though we know that might change as he gets older. Asher has been in speech therapy since he was 15 months old, working to overcome speech challenges associated with hearing loss, including volume, tone, clarity, mumbling, and hypernasality due to his underdeveloped soft palate. He has made tremendous progress; the therapy sessions have built his confidence and given him the tools to communicate better. He needs continued speech services to maintain this progress, especially when becoming more communicative with his family, friends, teachers, and peers.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Addison
Age:	13
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$116,143
Lifetime Award	$2,500
Grant Amt Req:	$2,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Diabetes
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Auto-Immune Impact: Medical, Social **Previous Grant: $2500 in 6/2024 Recommendations: Diabetic Needs (Supplies, Medical Drugs, Equipment) Goals: Manage diabetes. Insurance Coverage: BCBS- Ind Ded $3,200; Ind OOP $3,200 Total Expected Cost: $2,500
Family Story:	My daughter Addison goes by her middle name Pearl. Pearl was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes on Aug 20, 2020 after going into DKA. Pearl also has a twin sister named Ricki. Naturally, our lives were turned upside down after Pearl's diagnosis. Type 1 diabetes has to be monitored 24 hours a day 7 days a week, Pearl requires a continues stream of insulin 24 hours a day and additional insulin before every meal. She wears a continues glucose monitor all the time which shows her and I her blood sugar. Thankfully technology allows her to wear an insulin pump and not have to take multiple shots per day. She started wearing the Omnipod tubeless pump which she loves shortly after diagnosis, she loves to swim and does aerial silks and other cirque exercise/equipment three days a week and has been a Girls Scout for 7 years so a tubeless pump is ideal. When she was diagnosed the Omnipod was considered durable medical equipment and our insurance covered the pump. Unfortunately when they changed their technology to the Omnipod 5 which is a "smarter" pump that communicates directly with her CGM it became only eligible under pharmacy benefits. Unfortunately our insurance doesn't cover much of the expense of the pump anymore. That is how I found out about this grant, researching options to offset the pump and diabetes related expenses, which is alot!! The Omnipod 5 has been a game changer managing diabetes and puberty. Pearl is now a middle schooler attending an art magnet school called Bak Middle School of the Arts in West Palm Beach, FL, she was one of only 98 students to pass the audition and get placed in their visual arts program. She loves drawing, painting and sculpting. Thank you for considering her for your grant.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Lucas
Age:	10
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$109,088
Lifetime Award	$2,000
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: speech delay
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $2,000-6/2024
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech and fine motor skills
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $1,500 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	We are parents of autistic twin boys who turned 10yo this year. Their journey to this world was a painful experience for us with lots of struggles with infertility and endless treatments . Then we had brief period of joy that lasted about a year and lost them to autism that robbed us of all teh joys of parenting and them of joys of wonderful childhood we planned for them. Till this day they never attended anyone's birthday party (cause they were never invited to any) and beyond their first bday didnt have any parties with guests either and that is just one of many things they have missed out on. Christmas doesnt have any meaning to them nor any other special occasions. Because of all the challenges that raising them brings we have my mother living with us full time to help with day -to-day operations which makes life easier in some aspects but more stressful in others. By bringing her over we partially also ruined her life as she had to leave all friends and family that live overseas and move here in her old years when other grandma's get to retire and perhaps enjoy taking their grandkids for ice cream on Sunday. I wish in all that pain and stress we could at least feel that we are giving them everything they need to thrive but that isnt entirely true. They have multiple needs that are not being met neither in school nor outside of it as we struggle to pay for all their care. Despite having private insurance plan we cant afford the co-pays and co-insurance and never meet the deductible to get any relief with medical needs- their doctor visits with out of network specialists, special diets, supplements , medications ,alternative treatments and all therapies come straight out of our pockets . With such ideate coverage we cannot get them the help they need. Currently only one of them is getting only 1 of therapies and only once a week. They both need speech and occupational therapy but we cant pay for it and still pay the bills as well. Your grant last year relieved some of the stress and my son Philip received some OT sessions for the first time since he turned 3yo and early intervention services ran out. We are grateful for the help we received from you grant and hope to continue this year.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Ayden
Age:	0
Gender:	Male
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$45,430
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$3,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Cranial Remolding Orthosis
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical
	Recommendations: Cranial Helmet
	Goals: Improve head shape
	Insurance Coverage: Tricare
	Total Expected Cost: $3,000
Family Story:	My name is Jodi-Ann Pinnock, i am a member of the United States Navy and Ayden, and his sister (twins) are what we consider our rainbow babies. My wife and i have been trying to conceive for five years. within that time, we miscarried three times and after so many surgeries we are finally blessed with our angel babies. We are asking for help because this was a foresee situation and this grant will help us so much. My wife currently do not work and stays home with the kids.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,800
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Sarah
Age:	15
Gender:	Female
State:	New Jersey
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$138,726
Lifetime Award	$2,000
Grant Amt Req:	$10,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Anxiety
	Impact: Psychologically/Behaviorally
	Recommendations: Mental Health Therapy
	Goals: Continue care without disruptions
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna Ind DED $10,000 OOP $20,000
	Total Expected Cost: $10,000
Family Story:	Our daughter, Sarah Pinsky, has been in a long-term mental health facility located in Cedar City, Utah, since September 2023. Sarah suffers from multiple severe mental health disorders, which require constant monitoring and comprehensive care. Her conditions make it impossible for her to keep herself safe without the structured support provided by this facility. She requires therapy sessions multiple times a week and intensive medication management to stabilize her condition. Despite being in a specialized facility, Sarah recently engaged in significant self-harm while under the care of the facility, cutting herself very badly. As a result, she had to be hospitalized for 30 days for immediate medical care and psychiatric stabilization. This incident underscores the critical need for continuous and intensive care to prevent future harm. The financial burden of Sarah's ongoing care is overwhelming. Between her long-term residential treatment, therapy sessions, medication, and recent hospitalization, we are struggling to keep up with her medical bills. We are seeking as much assistance as possible to help cover the costs of her care and to ensure she continues to receive the essential treatment she needs for her safety and recovery. Any support from this grant would be used directly to fund her medical treatment, including therapy, medication, residential care, and any future medical needs that arise from her condition.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath

Action:	
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Charley
Age:	13
Gender:	Female
State:	New Jersey
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$79,618
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$4,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Ehlers Danlos Syndrome
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $3000 12/2020
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Dr/Specialist Visits (including services during that visit), Mental Health Therapy, Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing)
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS Individual $200 Ded/$5000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $4,500
Family Story:	Charley is 13 years old and has Ehlers Danlos Syndrome EDS, Amplified Musculoskeletal Pain Syndrome AMPS, Autism and ADHD. She has had significant pain throughout her life in her joints, especially hips, knees and ankles, which affect her ability to walk. She sees a team of specialists mostly at Nemours Childrens Hospital who help her to manage being a kid in chronic pain and help her with things like Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Psych. Last Spring she fell and injured several joints, but her ankle didnt heal and turned into an AMPS flare, leaving her unable to walk or leave the couch for several months without assistance. Her orthopedist sent her to the Pain Program at the hospital to help her work through the pain and be able to walk and function again. This meant she spent her entire summer either couch bound or driving to and from many hospital appointments and intensive physical therapy. She has had approximately 5 appts a week for several months now, with more coming up this fall, including some therapy appts and a genetic cardiology appt. we would be using the grant to help cover the costs of visits, tests, therapies, and treatments for her various diagnoses.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Oliver
Age:	4
Gender:	Male
State:	South Carolina
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$96,364
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,200
Medical Diagnosis:	Epidural Hemorrhage
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing), Surgery/Procedures/Treatments
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna $800 Individual Deductible $2,200 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,200
Family Story:	Hello, we are the Remmers family. We have 4 children who range from 6 years old to 9 months old. Our son Oliver is 4 and when he was 16 months old he suffered from a spinal hemorrhage which required emergency surgery to remove the blood clot and decompression of his spine. He then was in rehab for a month to recover and relearn how to sit up, crawl, walk and run. It has been 3 years since the first surgery and recently we have discovered that he has unexplained pain in his back along with tissue and fluid build up. The doctors are calling it a sheath nerve tumor, although we don't know for sure yet what exactly it is. We have a few tests lined up to hopefully get to the bottom of what exactly is going on with him. UPDATE as of 9/17/24, Oliver had an Angiogram which showed that he had a vein malformation that was feeding into the mass. That was closed up and now we are awaiting a surgery date to remove the remaining tissue. We do know that this will eventually require surgery to remove the spot on his back. He receives physical therapy and speech therapy which we have not been able to attend for over a month due to finances. We have an outstanding bill of $838 before we can restart his services. Then each week will still cost $40 for those services. Currently we are having trouble affording all of these medical expenses and we have also been trying to apply for Medicaid for him but unfortunately we don't qualify due to making $100 more a month than the limit. I am praying that your grant is able to help us so our son can get the help he truly deserves and needs to thrive.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Kaleb
Age:	10
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$59,131
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Muscle, Skeletal (Bone)
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social
	Recommendations: Inpatient/Outpatient Hospital Stays
	Goals: Correct leg discrepancy.
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS- Ind Ded $2,000; Ind OOP $6,600
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	I am Kaleb's birth mother Brittany, I had him at nineteen years old. Durning, deliver I started having seizures. Kaleb wasn't keeping his body temperature up like he should, he weighed 4 pounds 2 oz and had to be feed through a tube through his nose. Which lead Kaleb to OU Childrens hospital and that is where his orthopedic (PFFD) condition was discovered. Throughout Kaleb's life he has had two leg lengthening's, he just finished his seconded lengthening. We will be starting PT in the next week to straighten his leg out. Though this condition has not stopped Kaleb and his love for sport. He plays travel soccer, basketball, baseball, golf, wrestling and boxing. Kaleb cannot wait to get back on the court in the winter. Kaleb is in the fifth grade and is an outstanding student. Kaleb has a sister who is 18 months old who he adores more than his video games. My husband has started the process to adopt Kaleb before he goes to middle school.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Moshe
Age:	6
Gender:	Male
State:	New York
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$133,126
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$12,500
Medical Diagnosis:	ADD
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: ODD
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: Emblem Health-Ind Ded $15; Ind OOP $200
	Total Expected Cost: $12,500
Family Story:	Moshe Ezriel Ringel is the youngest of seven children. He seems to be a smart boy but is not performing well in school both academically and behaviorally. Moshe Ezriel can be very defiant at times and has no problem answering back and saying no to his parents and other adults. When given instructions many times he does not follow through. He often fights with his older siblings and doesn't listen easily. I feel getting him therapy with an A.B.A. specialist to guide him how to behave appropriately will help him thrive and grow and realize his full potential.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Bromley
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$98,637
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$4,680
Medical Diagnosis:	apraxia
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: expressive language disorder
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $2,000 Individual Deductible $5,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $4,680
Family Story:	Bromley is a sweet little 3 year old boy who is a miracle after being born emergency c section due to complete placental abruption. He was resuscitated and evaluated immediately. He was diagnosed with HIE (Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy) and was put on a cooling mat for 3 days in the NICU . He blew them away and was in NICU for only 9 days. They prepared us for many delays and conditions that can come from having HIE and oxygen loss and thankfully all we have so far only seen a speech delay. We knew his speech delay wasn't just a delay it was non existence speech and he had a very hard time producing any words. IN August of 2023 we found his current Speech therapist through the Apraxia kids website (my nephew has apraxia and I knew that bromley's speech wasn't just a normal delay and we needed someone who knew a brain disorder… so my sister recommended looking there) We were not sure if he had apraxia I just wanted someone that knew it was not a typical delay. When we met with Ms. Amy Elder in August of 2023 he could NOT even say 2 syllable words. She went through 3 days of evaluation and she did diagnose him with Apraxia. Apraxia isn't just a quick diagnosis, you need to meet many of that factors of it which he did. It is now September 2024 his language skills are skyrocketing. I know that even though I can work with him and I did even before speech therapy, he DOES NEED this service to better his life. Having him be able to verbally communicate has really helped in our family. He still struggles with a lot especially when he is upset but speech therapy is working wonders. We are a family of 10. Bromley is the 7th child, so having a bunch of older siblings who couldn't figure out what he wanted or understand him was getting rough for everyone especially Bromley. Now that he is working with Ms Amy and has learned ways to communicate (via speech and pointing to pictures) it has really changed the dynamic of the house. We have also took several of the kids to his therapy sessions so they can see how to help with him also . As mentioned we are a family of 10 on one income as I stay at home and care for the kids and homeschool. According to my husbands most recent w2 he makes 98,753 a year and that is honestly a struggle for a large family in this world. Extra expenses like speech therapy make that budget even tighter. Ms Amy would love to see him more often than once a week but currently we are struggling to afford that and unfortunately without assistance we may have to cut back how often he goes which could further more hinder his progression. LKN speech and language pathology is an out of network , self pay facility, we knew that going into it, but knew we had the option to submit to insurance and apply for grants. We have submitted several of his speech bills to our insurance and they have been denied for reimbursement sadly. So again a Grant of any nature would help continue his care. We know he has a long road ahead of him with Apraxia. He is such a hard worker and him and Ms Amy work really well together and with the blessing of a grant we would be able to continue that growth and bond between them and further his progression of speech which would help benefit him profusely Thank you for your consideration Madison Roberts

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Bailey
Age:	1
Gender:	Female
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$105,010
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$1,665
Medical Diagnosis:	Eye, Ears, Nose, Throat
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing), Procedures/Treatments/Surgery
	Goals: Improve heaing.
	Insurance Coverage: UHC - Ind OOP $6,600; Fam OOP $13,200
	Total Expected Cost: $1,665
Family Story:	Bailey was born at 31 weeks + 6 days and spent 8 weeks in the NICU. She was resuscitated, required oxygen and had jaundice her first weeks of life which correlates with hearing issues. She has a twin brother, Casey, who also has medical issues with his ears and required tubes in August. Bailey was released from the NICU without passing a hearing test. It has taken us many doctor visits and hearing tests and now surgery to attempt to help her hear better. Bailey has had 6 hearing tests to date including 3 in the NICU, 1 post NICU where she had wires attached to her head and 2 sound booth tests. This surgery was to place tubes in her ears to hopefully help her hear better as she continued to get ear infections and kept fluid in her ears. Unfortunately she had an extremely bad ear infection during the procedure and still failed a normal hearing test. She is scheduled to have a sedated hearing test which costs another $1,600 in September providing she is not sick. Bailey has been diagnosed with mixed hearing and the sedated testing will help shed some light on what she can truly hear and not hear and try to help her overcome the challenges.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,665
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Aaron
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Pennsylvania
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$173,043
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$2,626
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medically, Socially, Psychologically/Behaviorally
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior and social function
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna Ind DED $700 OOP $2650
	Total Expected Cost: $2,626
Family Story:	Aaron lives with mother, father, 3 brothers (age 7, 5, and 1), 2 dogs. He was jaundice at birth-needed light therapy. He has been diagnosed with psoriasis-topical ointment prescribed from dermatologist. He has a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder and is currently in ABA therapy more than 30 hours per week. He has speech delays, problems with social skills, difficulty following instructions, sensory/texture issues, and limited food choices. We are working on preschool readiness, reliable communication, improved food options and tolerance, improved social skills and interactions. Aaron is a good problem solver, good gross motor skills, affectionate, and likes to laugh. His typical daily routine is wake up 6:30, breakfast-dry cereal, rides to take brothers to school, comes home and plays/watches a movie or dance videos/snack, RBT/ABA therapy 8:45-1:15 and again 2:45-5, preschool on Tuesday and Thursday 8:45-11, lunch-cheese, puree fruit, veggie straws, dry cereal, rides to pick up brothers from school, snack, play with brothers, dinner 6-protein bar, cheese, puree meat, cookie, play with brothers, bath, bed ~8:00. Play includes putting on costumes, bubbles, playing with cars/trucks, jumping, building stuff then wrecking it. Current challenges include meal time, following instructions, unable to potty train at this time, and when Aaron wants to communicate something but is unable. Aaron likes to climb and run, a little elopement risk but normally stays with us. Limited awareness of danger or fear, will jump off things without much hesitation. He doesn't like textures that are sticky/gooey, putty, play dough, sand. He doesn't seem to like swinging. Oldest brother also has autism diagnosis. Aaron has some repetitive mannerisms-oral sounds, spit bubbles, tensing hand and face.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Everett
Age:	4
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$54,688
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	ADHD
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Mixed receptive expressive language disorder
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna $1,500 Individual Deductible $3,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	We are a family of 4. My son Everett is 4 years old and has a speech delay and was recently diagnosed with Autism and ADHD. I manage a veterinary hospital and my husband has a new lawn care business. Our youngest son is Lincoln and he is 18 months old. We enjoy going to parks and zoos and the science center. Everett is a very empathetic, sweet, and fun little boy. All his teachers love and enjoy him. Everett has a ABA therapist that goes to school with him and he does speech twice a week. He is also in private swim lessons to make sure he is safe since he really enjoys going up to water. We are currently being evaluated for another therapy place to help him with some sensory and food aversions. We are hoping they can help him eat more foods and overcome some of his sensory challenges. We are applying for this grant to help us with the costs of these therapies and swim. We are paying for most of it out of pocket. Our insurance only helps so much. Thank you for any consideration.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Emmeline
Age:	10
Gender:	Female
State:	Pennsylvania
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$124,043
Lifetime Award	$9,000
Grant Amt Req:	$14,580
Medical Diagnosis:	anaphylactic allergies
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: MAX $1,000, $2000-2024; $2000-5/2024; $2000-2024; $2,000-2025: $1,000-2025
	Recommendations: Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing), Dr/Specialist Visits, Tolerance Induction Program, SLIT Fee
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna $6,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $14,580
Family Story:	Our daughter Emmie is ten years old, and she is the oldest of our four children. Emmie has anaphylactic food allergies to peanuts, tree nuts and all milk/dairy. We first realized these allergies as she began reacting to these foods as a young infant through breast milk. Emmie lives with the constant risk of an anaphylactic reaction which is very serious and at times can be fatal. She can react from ingesting the allergen and also from her skin touching a surface with food residue. Our family has adapted our lifestyle to keep her safe as best as we can. However, as she grows and becomes more independent the challenges continue to grow. Her allergens are everywhere food is served such as school, church, a friend's house, holiday gatherings, sporting events, etc. She and our whole family must constantly be vigilant, always preparing and packing our own food, wiping and cleaning surfaces to prevent cross contamination, and often missing events that are too risky with food contact. In light of all this, there is an organization that treats severe food allergies like Emmie's called the Southern California Allergy Institute (SoCal Allergy). They run what's called the Tolerance Induction Program (TIP). They state, "TIP is entirely dependent on a patient's data and is uniquely tailored to their needs. Our goal is simple: for all children to safely eat whatever they want without the fear of a reaction." Using applied mathematics and data analysis they tailor a specific program for each child to slowly introduce foods that contain proteins that allow the child's immune system to slowly build tolerance against the desired food allergy. Children in, what they call 'remission', have achieved immunological dietary tolerance and are able to eat foods that contain the allergens in almost any amount without fear of reaction. For example, SoCal Allergy considers a child in remission from a peanut allergy when they are able to consume about 75 peanuts without a reaction. There are no other programs with such positive outcomes. After discussions with our Aetna insurance, they will partially cover some aspects of treatment. It will still leave a significant out of pocket medical expense for our family. SoCal Allergy estimates that Emmie would likely be in the program for 3-4 years which would require several trips per year from our home in PA to their clinic in CA. Thus, our application for a grant through your program. The TIP program is one of a kind and only offered at these CA locations (Long Beach and San Diego). We have done extensive research and have not found a comparable program closer to home, or anywhere else. Other food allergy treatment programs available, such as Oral Immunotherapy, come with greater risk and only hope for protection from cross contamination or "one bite" reactions. TIP's goal of food freedom sets them apart from all other treatment options. This ability to eat the allergen freely without fear of reaction would truly be life changing for Emmie and our entire family. Thank you for your consideration.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Brady
Age:	12
Gender:	Male
State:	Maryland
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$133,975
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$2,075
Medical Diagnosis:	ADHD
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Anxiety/OCD and Absence seizures
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Mental Health Therapy, Doctor/Specialist Visits, Medical Drug
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna $1,000 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $2,075
Family Story:	We have two boys that are a year a part that each require a significant amount of services. Brady, is our older son who has ADHD, Anxiety, OCD, Absence seizure, feeding difficulties, trichotillomania syndrome, and mostly recently was diagnosed with migraines. We love our boys with all of our hearts and will do anything for them. We see how Brady can struggle and needs the services and medication to help him stay regulated and focused during the day as well as being reinforced to help with his confidence and self-esteem. Brady is really a sweet boy. He needs the intensive therapies he receives along with the specialists who coordinate care together to make sure the treatment plan in place for him is working. They provide assignments for us to work on to help him at home as well. It is a slow process but we have been seeing progress with him. As a single income family, I make sure both boys needs are taken care of with their therapies and doctor appointments so they are getting all what they need. I manage all of their healthcare needs and schedules and make sure everything is in sync. It is very hard at times because of finances but we make the necessary sacrifices for our kids.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Eli
Age:	11
Gender:	Male
State:	Maryland
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$133,975
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$2,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Global development delay & Moderate Intellectual Disability
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Orthotics, Dr/Specialist Visits, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna $1,000 Individual Deductible $2,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $2,500
Family Story:	Eli was diagnosed with Autism at the age of 16 months. He required a lot of intensive therapy at that time because he was missing many milestones. By age two, he was still not making any sounds and not sleeping well, and it was determined he had severe sleep apnea. He had his tonsils and adenoids removed shortly after and that was when he finally slept through the night and began to babble and slowly start to say a few words, like 'go' with the help of ABA therapy and his speech therapy. Eli has made gains over time but he is still very much behind compared to other kids his age. He attends a nonpublic school because a public school is not able to meet his needs. Eli has many other diagnosis's in addition to his autism which include: mixed receptive-expressive language disorder, moderate intellectual disability, global development delay, advanced bone age, overgrowth/tall stature, strabismus, periodic limb movement disorder, mild sleep apnea, hypotonia, hyperflexible, feeding difficulties, premature adrenarche, idiopathic constipation/withholding, keratosis pilaris, and femoral retroversion. Eli sees multiple specialists that include: Genetics, Gastroenterology, Dermatology, Ophthalmology, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Endocrinology, Neuropsychology, Nutrition, Developmental Pediatrician, Orthopedic, ENT, Allergist His therapies include: speech therapy, aquatherapy, and physical therapy Eli is the second child of our family. His brother is a year older than him and has many needs as well. We are a single income family and taking the kids to and from appointments and therapies has become a full time job in addition to staying on top of all the medical history and what they need and require. It has become a financial strain and we are doing everything we can to make sure both of our kids get everything they need and require.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Jacob
Age:	11
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$89,379
Lifetime Award	$2,000
Grant Amt Req:	$4,400
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $2,000-2024
	Recommendations: Medical Drug, Mental Health Therapy, Dr/Specialist Visits, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: Consociate Health $3,200 Individual Deductible $6,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $4,400
Family Story:	Thank you so much for considering our application for a scholarship for both boys. Last year we benefited from the scholarship while we were awaiting a Katie Beckett decision. Although we were approved for Katie Beckett, there are many physicians, counselors, etc who not only don't take Katie Beckett, they also don't take our insurance. My husband works for a small company whose insurance is based out of Ohio and very difficult to work with. No one in Savannah has heard of them. Therefore we are applying for this scholarship for both of our boys again this year to help with prescription copays and the cost of seeing their Medication Manager who takes neither insurance, nor Medicaid. In addition, Jacob would benefit from Music Therapy if that is covered under the scholarship as it is not covered by our plan nor Medicaid. Both boys were late diagnosis for Autism spectrum disorder as it was missed by their initial pediatrician. Their diagnosis were made in January 2019 and Covid arrived in February. The shutdowns further delayed therapies. My oldest son, Lucas, has lower support needs than my son, Jacob. Both suffer from deficits in cognitive abilities and socialization. School has been unbelievably hard for them in every aspect. Jacob has adverse reactions to medications and while we work through these to help with behaviors and sleep issues, he could not function in a school setting. We had to pull him out last year to homeschool. The system was putting him through grade after grade when he was reading on a 2nd grade reading level. My oldest son was bullied relentlessly at school. He stares at people and has a vocal stem which is a big source of the bullying. We also pulled him out of school. The boys have been receiving ABA which has tremendously helped our family. Although they are out of the normative age to receive ABA, it has helped with routines, social skills training, outbursts and physical aggression. Thankfully, Katie Beckett now helps with these copays as of last December. My husband and I both work. He works rotating shifts and I work around his schedule, the boys therapies, and me teaching to my oldest child. We have yet to recover from the ABA copays last year which is why we are applying for a scholarship again. Last year, some of the monies granted to us were not used as we had trouble getting our insurance to issue timely EOBs for out of network claims where we had to file the paperwork ourselves and pay the bills up front. Thank you so much for reading!

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Levi
Age:	6
Gender:	Male
State:	Tennessee
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$100,369
Lifetime Award	$5,000
Grant Amt Req:	$4,100
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Other-Congenital thrombocytopenia
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $2500 in 8/2024, $2500 in 3/2024
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Inpatient/Outpatient Hospital Stays, Dr/Specialist Visits
	Goals: Improve condition.
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS-Ind Ded-$3,200, Ind OOP-$3,500
	Total Expected Cost: $4,100
Family Story:	Our family started when Levi was born in 2017. When he was born, he was born with congenital thrombocytopenia that required him to need 1-2 blood transfusions a week. After traveling to multiple hospitals nationwide, it was determined that he needed a bone marrow transplant. He had his first transplant at 7 months old and it failed which required him to have a second one at 14 months old. Since then, we still travel to St. Louis, MO to follow up with Levi's transplant team for follow-up appointments and labs. Levi was more recently diagnosed with autism and ADHD which has required him to have daily ABA therapy and weekly OT and speech therapy. The costs of all of the appointments are just adding up every week and the bills continue to pile up. Prior to Levi being born, I was a nurse and worked full-time. Since having Levi and another medically fragile son, I haven't been able to return to work to care for them and take them to their appointments.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Lucas
Age:	14
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$89,379
Lifetime Award	$2,000
Grant Amt Req:	$2,820
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Mental Health
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $2,000-6/2024
	Recommendations: Mental Health Therapy, Medical Drug, Dr/Specialist Visits, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: Consociate Health $3,200 Individual Deductible $6,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $2,820
Family Story:	Thank you so much for considering our application for a scholarship for both boys. Last year we benefited from the scholarship while we were awaiting a Katie Beckett decision. Although we were approved for Katie Beckett, there are many physicians, counselors, etc who not only don't take Katie Beckett, they also don't take our insurance. My husband works for a small company whose insurance is based out of Ohio and very difficult to work with. No one in Savannah has heard of them. Therefore we are applying for this scholarship for both of our boys again this year to help with prescription copays and the cost of seeing their Medication Manager who takes neither insurance, nor Medicaid. In addition, Jacob would benefit from Music Therapy if that is covered under the scholarship as it is not covered by our plan nor Medicaid. Both boys were late diagnosis for Autism spectrum disorder as it was missed by their initial pediatrician. Their diagnosis were made in January 2019 and Covid arrived in February. The shutdowns further delayed therapies. My oldest son, Lucas, has lower support needs than my son, Jacob. Both suffer from deficits in cognitive abilities and socialization. School has been unbelievably hard for them in every aspect. Jacob has adverse reactions to medications and while we work through these to help with behaviors and sleep issues, he could not function in a school setting. We had to pull him out last year to homeschool. The system was putting him through grade after grade when he was reading on a 2nd grade reading level. My oldest son was bullied relentlessly at school. He stares at people and has a vocal stem which is a big source of the bullying. We also pulled him out of school. The boys have been receiving ABA which has tremendously helped our family. Although they are out of the normative age to receive ABA, it has helped with routines, social skills training, outbursts and physical aggression. Thankfully, Katie Beckett now helps with these copays as of last December. My husband and I both work. He works rotating shifts and I work around his schedule, the boys therapies, and me teaching to my oldest child. We have yet to recover from the ABA copays last year which is why we are applying for a scholarship again. Last year, some of the monies granted to us were not used as we had trouble getting our insurance to issue timely EOBs for out of network claims where we had to file the paperwork ourselves and pay the bills up front. Thank you so much for reading!

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,000
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Rafa
Age:	2
Gender:	Male
State:	Tennessee
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$100,369
Lifetime Award	$3,500
Grant Amt Req:	$7,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Other-Congenital thrombocytopenia
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Genetic Condition
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Medical Drugs, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Diagnostic (Imaging, Labs, Testing), Inpatient/Outpatient Hospital Stays, Emergency Room/Urgent Care Visits
	Goals: Manage condition.
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS-Ind Ded- $3200, Ind OOP-$3500
	Total Expected Cost: $7,500
Family Story:	Rafa was born with congenital thrombocytopenia that required him to have a bone marrow transplant. Post transplant, he has had multiple infections, complications, and frequent visits back and forth to both our local hospital and Cincinnati Childrens hospital. I have been unable to go back to work as a nurse since Rafa and my other son with autism and ADHD have so many appointments and needs.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Elizabeth
Age:	0
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$76,853
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$1,620
Medical Diagnosis:	Plagiocephaly
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical
	Recommendations: Cranial Helmet
	Goals: Improve head shape
	Insurance Coverage: Tricare
	Total Expected Cost: $1,620
Family Story:	We are seeking support to help cover the costs of cranial helmets for two of our 17-week-old triplet daughters, who were diagnosed with plagiocephaly and brachycephaly. Unfortunately, these helmets, which cost $1,620 each (totaling $3,240), are not covered by TRICARE. As an active-duty Air Force family, this unexpected expense is hitting us hard, especially during our military PCS. The helmets were fitted today, September 19th, and we are reaching out for assistance to cover this critical cost. Any contribution would mean the world to us and ensure our girls receive the medical care they need. Thank you for your kindness and support.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,620
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Victoria
Age:	0
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$76,853
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$1,620
Medical Diagnosis:	Plagiocephaly
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical
	Recommendations: Cranial Helmet
	Goals: Improve head shape
	Insurance Coverage: Tricare
	Total Expected Cost: $1,620
Family Story:	We are seeking support to help cover the costs of cranial helmets for two of our 17-week-old triplet daughters, who were diagnosed with plagiocephaly and brachycephaly. Unfortunately, these helmets, which cost $1,620 each (totaling $3,240), are not covered by TRICARE. As an active-duty Air Force family, this unexpected expense is hitting us hard, especially during our military PCS. The helmets were fitted today, September 19th, and we are reaching out for assistance to cover this critical cost. Any contribution would mean the world to us and ensure our girls receive the medical care they need. Thank you for your kindness and support.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,620
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Shiloh
Age:	0
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$58,184
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$3,074
Medical Diagnosis:	Cystic Hygroma
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Lymphatic Malformation
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Surgery/Procedures/Treatments, Doctor/Specialist Visits
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: Aetna-Ind ded-1400, Ind OOP- 4000
	Total Expected Cost: $3,074
Family Story:	During my pregnancy, i learned that my son Shiloh had a neck mass. At the time, it was during my scan on a day we were getting 3D pictures to see him, the doctor delivered that news. Its was suppose to be a happy existing moment but it turned into worry and anxiety due to the unknowns. After that, I was referred to a high risk Doctor who diagnosed Shiloh with Cystic Hygroma. I blamed myself because I was really sick during the pregnancy. Shiloh was born on 11/30/2023 and had cyct on his right neck on underneath his beard. Shiloh just underwent a procedure called sclerotherapy. He has had multiple Doctors visits and the procedure that I need assistance wth paying.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$3,000
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Shriyan
Age:	6
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$77,590
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$10,800
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: Atrium Health $3,000 Individual Deductible $6,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $10,800
Family Story:	Our journey has been one of immense challenge and resilience. I am a physical therapist who immigrated to the United States from India under difficult circumstances. My wife and I shared an interreligious love that led to marriage, but our union was met with hostility and fear. We were forced to flee our homeland to escape communal violence, seeking safety and a better future in a foreign land. Upon arriving in the U.S., I secured a seat in a master's program, determined to rebuild our lives. With dedication and hard work, I graduated and worked tirelessly to pass the NPTE, ultimately achieving my goal of becoming a licensed physical therapist. I didn't stop there—I pursued a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree, all while we faced the struggles of starting anew in a different country. In 2017, after feeling financially secure, we were blessed with the birth of our son. But our joy quickly turned to concern when he began suffering from colic and vomiting every day due to sensory deficits. To add to our worries, he was diagnosed with hereditary spherocytosis, a rare blood disorder that caused us immense mental agony and physical stress. We did everything we could to keep him safe and healthy, enduring sleepless nights and countless medical visits. When our son was around four years old, his primary care physician suggested a behavioral evaluation due to observed symptoms of autism. My fears were realized when he was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and a language disorder. This diagnosis was another heavy blow, but we remained steadfast in our commitment to giving him the best possible care. His severe sensory issues have meant that, to this day, he cannot eat solid food, and we must puree everything he eats. My wife, who once had a promising nursing career, has dedicated her life to caring for him, sacrificing her career to ensure he is safe and cared for in every possible way. Our son receives occupational therapy, speech therapy, and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy. ABA has been particularly crucial for his development, but it has also been a significant financial burden on our family. At $45 per visit and 20 visits per month, we spend about $900 monthly on ABA alone. I am the sole breadwinner, and with a biweekly paycheck of less than $2,000, we are struggling to meet our son's needs while also covering our other expenses. We had to request a pause on ABA therapy for the summer due to financial constraints, but we are now at a point where we need to resume therapy this week. I am deeply afraid that I won't be able to afford it and may have to discontinue ABA, something I desperately do not want to do. Our son is an incredibly smart child—he knows all the capitals of the countries and can do math with ease. However, he needs constant supervision to remain safe. We are doing everything we can to help him achieve his maximum potential, but we need assistance to continue providing the therapy that is so vital to his development. A grant to continue ABA therapy would be a lifeline for our family, enabling us to keep our son on the path to achieving his full potential in life. We appreciate any help we can receive to ensure that our son has the opportunity to thrive.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Brayden
Age:	9
Gender:	Male
State:	Tennessee
Family Size:	2
AGI:	$4,341
Lifetime Award	$4,500
Grant Amt Req:	$2,000
Medical Diagnosis:	ADHD
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,500-2022; $1,500-2023; $1,500-2024
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve sensory issues
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS
	Total Expected Cost: $2,000
Family Story:	Brayden is a nine-year-old boy who was diagnosed with ADHD at age 5. He is kind, smart, and funny. Being able to have access to private occupational therapy has been a game changer for Brayden and helped in so many ways. He is starting the third grade this year and also receives OT through the school system, but it only applies to schoolwork. Private OT allows Brayden to work on things like social emotional skills, how to regulate emotions, sensory difficulties, and how to build confidence.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/20/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Kai
Age:	5
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	2
AGI:	$45,474
Lifetime Award	$1,500
Grant Amt Req:	$2,700
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: ADHD
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $75 Individual Deductible $3,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $2,700
Family Story:	It's been a journey, We come far but still so much to go. My son Kai was around 14 months when I realized his development wasn't going as I expected. He was not talking and having several meltdowns a day. I reached out to get early invention to get help but was denied and told to wait until he was 2. I reapplied when he turned to and was accepted. Since then we have been going to several therapists and schools. Kai has improved so much throughout the years and I have also learned and grew so much. Kai is somewhat verbal but has a difficult time expressing himself and being able to manage his behavior. School has been a challenge for him and I have had to pull him out at times because he is unable manage the demands and I cannot afford a special school setting for him. As he gets older it is actually getting harder not easier as I try to manage our lives through his disability. My health is now beginning to suffer as a result of the demands and stress of being a single mother and managing my son's condition. We are grateful and appreciate any help you can provide.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/20/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Collins
Age:	5
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$143,692
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$2,600
Medical Diagnosis:	Speech Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Social
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Increase communiation skills.
	Insurance Coverage: UHC- Ind Ded $5,000; Ind OOP $15,000
	Total Expected Cost: $2,600
Family Story:	Collins is the youngest child, she has 2 older brothers. Her oldest brother, Hayes, has dyslexia. Her middle brother, Rhett, has a speech disorder and is also gifted. She enjoys dancing!

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Dimitri
Age:	4
Gender:	Male
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$47,365
Lifetime Award	$1,000
Grant Amt Req:	$5,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Non verbal communication
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1000 in 2025
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna $7,350 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $5,000
Family Story:	Dimitri was discovered to be non verbal around 18 months. His pediatrician Peter Heymann suggested we enroll Dimitri into the county Early Intervention Program. Dimitri was diagnosed with autism. Due to his lack of speech, we are unable to explain potty training so he still wears diapers at age 4 and while he has "complex jargon" he is still not speaking words or responding to his name. We have him receiving Occupational therapy and Speech therapy but reaching our $7,350 deductible is very difficult. The only alternative is to switch to the low deductible plan which takes a third of my pay and does not leave us enough to buy basic necessities.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Joziah
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Alabama
Family Size:	2
AGI:	$56,163
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$3,742
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Expressive Speech
	Impact: Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy, herapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve communications skills, day to day behavior
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $500 Individual Deductible $1,500 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $3,742
Family Story:	Joziah was born in Connecticut 1/19/2021 at 34 weeks and stayed in the NICU for 2 weeks. He came into this world unexpected at the time being that it was early, but my body could not handle it anymore which led to an emergency C-section. He was blessed that it was only a two week stay in the NICU and was able to come home to be with me. At about 6-8 months I started noticing that he was not doing some of the things that other kids at the at home daycare he was going to were doing. Joziah was not waving to anyone and would occasionally, certainly not all the time, respond to his name. Everyone kept telling me that I should not compare children but something in my gut just was not sitting right. As time went on, I started noticing that he walked on his tip toes, was not trying to speak, was leading me to things without talking, and also would get very focused on things that he would not respond at all when you called his name. At, that point I started looking into early intervention and information on autism when he was about 18 months. I am a single mom and that proved a little difficult being I had no support from family to help with getting him to sessions because I still had to work to pay the bills. I decided that maybe I should move closer to family, who at the time lived in Alabama. We moved here Oct 2022, and I hit the ground running because at that point, him being 21 months, I started to notice behavior issues with hitting himself on the face, banging his head on the wall, as well as biting himself and others. I was able to get him into early intervention for speech and private therapy for speech with Mitchell's place. I also had him take some occupational therapy because he was having a hard time feeding himself with fork and spoon as well as drink from a cup. I started noticing a change but still some behavior issues here and there. We finally were able to get an assessment 3/2024, stayed on waiting list for a year, where they confirmed he is on the spectrum as well as some suggestions to help him progress along the way and one of those suggestions was an early learning program and ABA. I want the best for my son like all parents and will do anything to help him grow and learn in this world we live in. Since Joziah was already going to Mitchell's place for speech and I had seen so much progress and they did his assessment I made the decision to send him to this early learning program. He was diagnosed as level 2 on the spectrum and is making progress each day. He went from not talking at all to now trying to put sentences together. We still have a long way to go as any family on this journey but it's hard on me being a single mom. My mom helps out as much as she can, but she is retired and on a fixed income. Learning about the cost of Mitchells place, almost $2000.00 a month (about $1960 give or take), I was hit with can I do this? I decided to try because I do believe that Mitchells place is the right place for him to thrive. My insurance covers some of that but it still leaves me with about $1960 a month for myself to pay. It does not cover the base pay for early learning program with ABA for 8 hours which is $1260. So, the remaining $670, give or take, are from the copays they expect to see each month, I' am hoping with this application I would be able to get some assistance to help with the therapies.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/20/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Amari
Age:	2
Gender:	Female
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$84,326
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$6,240
Medical Diagnosis:	Developmental Delay
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Speech Disorders
	Impact: Medical, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech and motor skills.
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna - Ind Ded $5,000; Ind OOP $9,000
	Total Expected Cost: $6,240
Family Story:	Hello I am Amari's mother Rosio. I lost my job back in June of 2024. I am actively seeking employment, but the job market does not favor the job seeker. Amari has developmental problems. She needs speech and occupational therapy. Amari was on my insurance but our therapy routine got turned upside down with the loss of my job. We got her on her father's insurance but the co-pays are out of our reach. Krista from Anna Shaw Institute recommended trying this grant.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Jose
Age:	7
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	2
AGI:	$39,717
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$0,211
Medical Diagnosis:	autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Global development delay
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,000-2019
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve behavior and speech
	Insurance Coverage: Cigna $4,000 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $0,211
Family Story:	My name is Jacqueline Torres, my son is Jose Torres, we call him Junior. Me and my son live on our own. I work Full time at Piedmont Athens regional, been here for almost 9 years. My son was diagnosed with Autism near 2 yrs old. Since he has been diagnosed me and his dad immediately started taking him to therapy. We are very grateful for all the help he has received; he has improved so much. Still working hard to get him all the help he needs. We as a family have faced many obstacles due to insurance coverage or service availability, but we try very hard to keep trying. My son has always had my insurance with my job and some years he has had Medicaid as secondary and some years he hasn't. His dad and I divorced back in 2020 so since he has had Medicaid as secondary but recently was cut off from it due to my house income this month. My income at home is just what I bring home and now that Medicaid was cut off, I'm afraid paying for copays and out of pocket medical expenses will become a lot for us so I'm looking for alternative help in the meantime until I can figure out what else to do. My goal is to apply for Katie Beckett and hopefully this goes through to have that extra help for my son's medical expenses.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$0,211
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Ronald
Age:	14
Gender:	Male
State:	Delaware
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$45,126
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$1,275
Medical Diagnosis:	Skin Disease/Condition
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical
	Recommendations: DR/Specialist Visits, Ambulance/Medical Transport
	Goals: Wound care.
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS- Ind Ded $5,000; Ind OOP $7,900
	Total Expected Cost: $1,275
Family Story:	We are family of 4, my husband Richard Tucker Jr, son Ronald Tucker, son Richard Tucker III, and myself Ronda jefferson. Richard Jr currently works for Mr Mulch. I formerly was a mortgage manager at M&T Bank but was diagnosed with a rare illness called Still's disease and though I worked for a number of years after the diagnosis, my doctor finally said that I could not continue to work. We have health insurance through my husband's job, and the deduction per week for the insurance premium is somewhere around $180 t with a maximum total deductible of $10,000 & maximum out of pocket of around $15,000 because of a 20% copay we've met the deductible. Because of my illness we usually meet the individual deductible for me. For each individual the maximum deductible is $5,000 with max out of pocket of $7,500. Ronald went to the beach with a friend from school's family. It was both his and his friend's birthday that week, July 11th and 12th, and my father had just passed away after spending time in Hospice at my home. His friend's family thought it would be good for him to get out, which I agreed as well. The following day, July 8th, was my father's funeral so we thought it would just be nice for him to have some fun. While at the beach, the sand was extremely hot and blistered his feet. He had forgotten his shoes in the van. The injury was unusual and nobody could figure out what may have happened, such as was he stung by a jellyfish or stepped on glass because his feet were bleeding as well, so they did call the paramedics and he was taken to the hospital. We paid $200 at the ER, which I never actually been asked for payment at the actual ER during treatment, but the hospital was very up to date. He also needed to see his doctor every other day for the first week to keep cleaning the wound to make sure all of the sand and salt were out and so that they could cut off the dead tissue. He did not need any additional mobility aids because I already had a wheelchair, walker and canes from various stages or flare-ups of my illness, so we did not have any extra expenses for those. Because of the deductible amount, there was only an adjustment or payment of $185 from insurance which left a bill for over $1200 remaining. There was also other concerns at the time such as making sure my father's funeral was covered (We didn't know it at the time but thankfully my church got donations and were able to help cover a good portion of it as well as some other donations) Also, I had to take my father back to the hospital sometime in early June and he was readmitted, and on that same day I experienced an issue with my eye which I was more prone to due to previous surgeries on my eyes thanks to medication I had to take. So I also had the ER bill and have had to see a couple of different specialists. So we had a lot going on in the month of June and July. Additionally we had some extra bills and August as well as my other son has an osteochondroma, a bone growth, on his shoulder that is very large so we've had to go up to Al Dupont once In the late winter and then again in August to see a specialist and have x-rays, etc. As with most people at this time, money is extremely tight. The month after my father died, we got an electric bill that was higher than usual but I assumed it was because Dad had machines in the home, plus it was during the really bad heat wave in June, and there were many people who came to visit him during the

	week he was at home with me. The HVAC also stopped working while there were about 15 people in the house, but thankfully my husband's former boss has a brother who works in HVAC and just charged us a little for labor. Our city was raising the electric, and the first bill we got after that change was in the 400s, but I figured that was because of the machines and broken hvac. However, the next bill was $543 compared to maybe about $380 last year. We have to get our electric through the city, which does also include Water and Sewer , so the rate change was due to the fact that more police officers need to be hired. I'll need to get more bills to really understand the long-term effect of the increase. I was approved for Social Security disability and the last couple of months, and will be receiving some payments through a third party disability insurance that will total $2,846.40 then $174 will be deducted for my Medicare. I will be getting retroactive pay for that, but much of that will need to go back to the third party disability insurance as they need to be repaid. as I paid for the premium after taxes were taken out of my paycheck, those funds are not taxable, which is around $1163 a month so that 1163 of the $2,846 will not be taxed. Anything paid through that insurance (Unum) is not taxable. Also,the files were too big to see his visit notes, so I will email them separately. Thank you for reviewing this. Ronda

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,275
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Giulia
Age:	7
Gender:	Female
State:	Florida
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$52,780
Lifetime Award	$3,000
Grant Amt Req:	$6,180
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Allergies
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	**Previous Grant: $1,500-2023; $1,500-2024
	Recommendations: Mental Health Therapy, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $1,500 Individual Deductible $6,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $6,180
Family Story:	Giulia was born at 34 weeks, was intubated and in the NICU for 11 days. At the age of 4 she started VPK and her teacher concern with her development referred her for a neurological and psychoeducational evaluation. Giulia was then diagnosed with ASD, ODD and ADHD and developmentally delayed in her fine and gross motors. We have since been paying private services for Giulia for ABA, OT, Tutoring for Giulia. We recently added Gymnastics to help with her gross motor coordination.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/20/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Zachary
Age:	16
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$76,566
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$7,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Hodgkin Lymphoma
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Inpatient/outpatient Hospital Stays, Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing), Dr/Specialist Visits (including services during that visit), Surgery/Procedures/Treatments, Medical Drugs
	Goals: Treatment, remission and cure cancer
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS Individual $800 Ded/$2000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $7,500
Family Story:	On August 7th 2024 Zachary was diagnosed with cancer. Zac spent four days in the hospital and was released to come back a few days later for iv hydration during appt he we were told due to his numbers we couldn't wait and had to start chemo that day. The next 6 days we spent in the hospital getting chemo and a blood transfusion. Since the start we have spent most days at appointments. And I his mother have been out of work for most of this to be with him. This coming weekend he will have his second round of chemo and it is also his and his twin sisters birthday and he will spend it in the hospital.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$3,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Cole
Age:	4
Gender:	Male
State:	Florida
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$67,824
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$2,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Expressive language disorder/ dysarthria
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve speech
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $2,000 Individual Deductible $4,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $2,000
Family Story:	My 4 year old son has difficulty with articulation and an expressive language disorder. He has been referred to speech therapy by his pediatrician, dentist and ear/nose and throat doctor. His speech therapist diagnosed him with dysarthria, anarthria and phonological disorder. These issues are also occupanied by jaw weakness and a tong thrust. We are struggling to afford his payments each week for speech therapy.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Wyatt
Age:	5
Gender:	Male
State:	Virginia
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$93,141
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$8,500
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism Spectrum Disorder
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Sensory processing difficulty
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: UHC $3,000 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $8,500
Family Story:	Our family did not begin the ordinary way. After years of hoping, countless medical interventions, and heart-wrenching setbacks, we decided to try one final option—IVF. It was our last hope, and by some miracle, we were blessed with two viable embryos. Those embryos are now our two sons, Wyatt, who is five, and Emmett, who is two. From the very beginning, it was clear that Wyatt was different. He didn't make eye contact like other babies. His toys had to be in exactly the right place, and if something disturbed that order, it was as if his world fell apart. As his mother, I couldn't shake the feeling that this wasn't typical behavior, yet everyone around us reassured me that it was normal. "That's just how one-year-olds are," they said. "That's how two-year-olds act, how three-year-olds act." When Wyatt's little brother, Emmett, was born, Wyatt was just 2 1/2 years old. His interactions with Emmett were often rough, sometimes out of love, sometimes out of frustration, but always too intense. I knew something wasn't right. We finally got a referral to have Wyatt evaluated for autism, but the waitlist was over a year long. That year felt like an eternity. Recently, we received the official diagnosis: Wyatt has level one autism spectrum disorder. The emotions that came with that confirmation were overwhelming—relief, fear, and determination all at once. Wyatt was referred for occupational therapy, speech therapy, ABA therapy, and talk therapy. He is also enrolled in a private kindergarten this year, following the recommendation of his preschool teacher. But here's where our hearts ache. After everything we went through to bring our boys into this world, we're still burdened by the financial strain of fertility treatments. Now, with the added cost of multiple therapies, the weight is almost unbearable. Wyatt is a sweet, bright boy who deserves every chance to thrive. These therapies and his schooling are essential to his success, and it breaks my heart to think that we might not be able to provide that for him, simply because we can't afford it. Any help, no matter how small, would mean the world to us. We just want to give Wyatt the opportunity to reach his full potential. Thank you for considering helping our family during this challenging time.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/17/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Landon
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	North Carolina
Family Size:	4
AGI:	$111,644
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$19,560
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: mixed receptive-expressive language disorder
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve behavior and speech
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $1,600 Individual Deductible $3,200 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $19,560
Family Story:	Landon is 3 years old. He is the most energetic and happy child. He is always smiling. He loves Cocomelon, nature, and swinging. We live together with my husband, Landon's dad, and Landon's brother, Mason, who is 4 years old. Mason and Landon enjoy jumping on the trampoline together. Landon was recently diagnosed with Autism level 3 and is non-verbal. He has been going to speech and occupational therapy since October of 2023 and has made some positive progress since then. If approved, this grant will help our family tremendously. Thank you for your consideration.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath

Action:	
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Jackson
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	South Carolina
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$141,446
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$5,775
Medical Diagnosis:	ALL
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Inpatient/Outpatient, Medical Drug, Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing) Surgery/Procedures/Treatments
	Goals: Curative
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $6,000 Individual Deductible
	Total Expected Cost: $5,775
Family Story:	My wife, Paula Warren, and I have three kids, Hattie (5), Jackson (3), and Wells (5 Months). Unfortunately Jackson was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia June 25, 2024. We are fighting cancer as a family through chemo, pokes, blood transfusions, and hospital stays. Jackson's full treatment will last for 2.5 years with the intense portion through April 2025. Life is wild with a new born along for the ride. So far Jackson has responded well to treatment and we really hope it stays that way. A grant would be wonderful to support our family through this time with so many unknown expenses. We hope Jackson like many kids with ALL will beat cancer and grow up a happy, health boy.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath

Action:	
Amount:	$3,000
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Yehudis
Age:	0
Gender:	Female
State:	New Jersey
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$27,790
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$2,300
Medical Diagnosis:	KIF11 Syndrome
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Bilateral congenital retinal folds
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $50 Individual Deductible $9,450 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $2,300
Family Story:	yehudis was diagnosed with an extremely rare genetic mutation-KIF11 syndrome. She also has congenital retinal folds in both eyes which makes her severely vision impaired. she needs lots of therapy, and we found a provider that is very e

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/20/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Cyrus Ryan
Age:	2
Gender:	Male
State:	Georgia
Family Size:	2
AGI:	$53,244
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$10,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Mental Health Therapy
	Goals: Improve mental health and speech
	Insurance Coverage: Kaiser Permanente $500 Individual Deductible $2,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $10,000
Family Story:	When Cyrus was born two years ago, he filled my life with profound joy. His laughter and the way he reaches out to hold my hand are moments I deeply treasure. As a single mother, I am fully responsible for raising Cyrus, and despite the many challenges, he is my greatest source of strength. When Cyrus was one year old, I began to notice signs that suggested he might be facing difficulties beyond what I had anticipated. These early signs, coupled with other significant issues, led me to make the heart-wrenching decision to end my marriage. The emotional burden of this decision was immense, but I knew it was necessary for both Cyrus and me. Since then, the challenges have continued to mount. Cyrus's father has not adhered to our parenting agreements, leaving me to manage all responsibilities alone. Adding to the strain, I have faced two unexpected job layoffs, which have created significant financial pressure. Furthermore, Cyrus's recent diagnosis of autism has added another layer of difficulty. Understanding and accepting this diagnosis has been a painful and ongoing process. I am still trying to fully grasp the root causes and implications of his condition, which adds to the emotional weight I carry daily. To support Cyrus, he attends Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy, occupational therapy (OT), and speech therapy multiple times a week. These therapies are crucial for his development, and I am dedicated to ensuring he receives the care he needs. The journey has been incredibly tough, filled with sleepless nights and constant worry about how to provide the best for Cyrus. Each small achievement Cyrus makes offers a glimmer of hope and strengthens my resolve to keep moving forward. I am applying for this grant to seek support for Cyrus's future. With continued therapy and the right resources, I believe he can reach his full potential. This grant would provide essential financial assistance and help us manage the ongoing challenges we face.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

United
Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Ansley
Age:	15
Gender:	Female
State:	Tennessee
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$79,817
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$1,255
Medical Diagnosis:	Capillary Malformation Left Arm
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Surgery/Procedures/Treatments
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $750 Individual Deductible $3,600 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $1,255
Family Story:	Hi! We are applying for a grant for Ansley Wilbanks to help cover the expenses of laser treatment for a port wine stain. Ansley underwent treatments as an infant due to limited use of her left arm. Since she has gotten older she has suffered difficulties with her left arm and it has prevented her from being able to do things the same way as her peers. We have 8 children that include a 19 month old foster son that we are working to adopt. He was diagnosed with a heart defect due to developing Kawasaki disease as an infant. Due to his intense medical care needed (including g-tube dependent) my husband had to quit his job to care for hi full time. I provide the insurance for our family, so it was best or me to continue to work. Ansley has a 9 year old sister that is also G-tube dependent with developmental delays. We are trying to provide the best care, but are starting to drown in medical expenses. Due to my income alone, our family does not qualify for Anley to receive any government assistance for insurance. Ansley's physician recommended us reaching out and we are asking for any assistance that the foundation could provide to help support her medical cost as we continue this series of treatments. Thank you!

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,255
Comments:	

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Owen
Age:	7
Gender:	Male
State:	West Virginia
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$107,608
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$35,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Eye, Ears, Nose, Throat
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Autism
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Medical Drugs, DR/Specialist Visits, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing), Procedures/Treatments/Surgery
	Goals: Remission of EOE and improve life.
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS - Ind Ded $1,500; Ind OOP $4,000
	Total Expected Cost: $35,000
Family Story:	Hello, We are the Williams family and live on a farm in the small town of Kenna, WV. We are blessed with three boys, Owen who is 7, Eli 4, and Trey who is 4 months old. Owen was born 6 weeks early with an emergency c section and was critical in the NICU for weeks. I did not even get to hold him for the first time until he was 2 weeks old. During his NICU stay they did an MRI which showed he had multiple strokes. The neurologist told us that they have seen smaller strokes cause major deficits and larger strokes cause no deficits so this meant we would have to watch and wait. The fear of unknown was the worst and this was the hardest time of my life. Owen had many appointments the first year of his life with Neurology, Cardiology, and Gastroenterology -luckily he was able to stop seeing Neurology and Cardiology since he wasn’t showing any signs of deficits and the hole in his heart closed on its own. Owen is a very happy healthy 7 year old who is very kind and caring. He was diagnosed with Autism at age 4 and had many months of ABA therapy, Feeding Therapy, and Occupational Therapy. He did great and was able to “graduate” from therapies. Recently however he has developed more food aversions and major sensory struggles so I have appointments set up to get him re evaluated this month. This winter he also started having reflux symptoms and was spitting up food/drink after eating. His GI doctor did a scope and determined it was not reflux but actually Rumination Syndrome where the stomach spasms involuntarily and causes stomach contents to come back up but luckily not acidic since recently ingested. The pathology report showed he had EOE which is Eosinophilic Esophagitis which can be described as similar to eczema in the throat. The body is allergic to something either food or environmental and attacking itself in the esophagus. If this is left untreated it will cause damage and cause strictures making you choke on your food and have to go to ER to get removed and then get throat stretched out. The first treatment for him was a steroid to swallow for two months to help repair some damage and eliminate all dairy from his diet. This diagnosis came the same week I gave birth to my third son so it proved to be a difficult task in changing his diet and finding safe foods he liked. The second scope showed a dramatic reduction in the number of eosinophils which is great but we have to wait until the next scope to determine if eliminating the dairy keeps him in remission as the steroid could have been the reason his numbers went down. EOE does not have a cure and requires a lifelong Elimination of trigger(s) or a weekly injection called Dupixent (last resort) to prevent damage to esophagus. We are applying for this grant to help pay for medical bills that have been piling up. We are still paying off a minor surgery our second son had as well as numerous bills in recent months. Our insurance goes from June-May so we met our Max out of Pocket for Owens first scope including his OR Bill, Anesthesia Bill, and labs as well as my OB bills (Hospital Delivery Fee, Anesthesia, Physician Bill, Newborn Care). After the insurance policy year started over again in June he had his second scope and has his third scope already scheduled for November which he will meet his max out of pocket

	again. Our monthly insurance premium is around $900 a month and with our other monthly bills we have had to just pay off a small amount each month until we get it paid off. I looked into a program the hospital had which reduces the bill 50% but we were just over the requirement, so we did not qualify. This grant would be a huge blessing and take a huge weight off our shoulders to get some of our bills paid off and allow us to keep him in therapies he needs for his Autism. Thank you so much for considering us for this grant and providing this grant for so many families to fill in the gap for those of us who have traditional insurance and do not quality for any other assistance.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare
Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Elijah
Age:	11
Gender:	Male
State:	Maryland
Family Size:	5 or more
AGI:	$67,615
Lifetime Award	$3,000
Grant Amt Req:	$3,200
Medical Diagnosis:	Type 1 Diabetes
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis:
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: Dr/Specialist Visits, Medical Drug, Diabetic Needs (Supplies, Medical Drugs, Equipment)
	Goals: Improve quality of life
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $2,000 Individual Deductible $4,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $3,200
Family Story:	My son Elijah was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes in 2022. He was started on insulin shots, but was changed to an insulin pump for better control. I have insurance, but it is not the best. I have to pay out of pocket for his supplies which are expensive. I also have to pay for his visits to the Endocrinologist that he sees every 3 months. My husband passed away in 2020 and I am a single parent raising 4 kids at home. Having Elijah on the insulin pump has decreased the amount of finger sticks and shots. It also allows him to have more freedom to do the things he likes to do. Elijah is a sweet boy and he has done a great job with this diagnosis. This grant would greatly help us financially as it has done in the past and it would relieve me of the financial burden that comes with this diagnosis. I truly appreciate this foundation and the help it has provided to Elijah in the past. I would greatly appreciate any amount that you can give to us. Thank you very much.

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/18/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$2,500
Comments:	

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

Region:	East
Child's Name:	Metin
Age:	3
Gender:	Male
State:	Rhode Island
Family Size:	3
AGI:	$80,546
Lifetime Award	
Grant Amt Req:	$4,000
Medical Diagnosis:	Autism
Board Summary:	Secondary Diagnosis: Speech Delay
	Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological
	Recommendations: ABA Therapy
	Goals: Improve behavior
	Insurance Coverage: BCBS $4,000 OOP
	Total Expected Cost: $4,000
Family Story:	To whom it may concerrn, I'm an political refugee from Turkey who had to flee the country and had applied asylum in the US 6 years ago. I got married in US after my 40's and had a child 3 years ago. I was working for IT (Information Techonology) industry until end of 2022 but in December 2022 I got laid off due the massive lay offs in IT sector. two months later I lost my parents in the earthquake in Turkey (02-06-2023) because of being a refugee I wasn't able to attend the funeral which made it worse for me. Since then I'm using depression and anxiety medication. Currently I do not make money only my wife has a job and it's not enough to cover copays and other expenses by only living on one wage. I looked for a new job nearly for one year but after realizing that our son need a special education I decided to focus on my son and prepare him to kindergarten as well as it can be made. Our son Metin is a child who gets emotionally disregulated very easily since he was born. We noticed delays in his walking and speech when he turned 2 years old we were refered to early intervention and in May 2024 we got an autism diagnosis. At the end of June we moved from CT to RI and since then we're trying to find a ABA, Speech and Occupational therapy for our son we newly come to a decision but we appreciate your support on covering copays. All the best, Tekin

Recommendation: Stacey Heath 9/19/2024

Action:	Recommended
Amount:	$1,500
Comments:	

Special Request	
Region	**East**
Child's First Name	**Kynnedi**
Child's Age Now	**4**
Original Write-up	Diagnosis: hypotonia / low muscle tone and muscle weakness Secondary Diagnosis: Asthma Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological Recommendations: Orthotics, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing), Doctor/Specialist Visits Insurance Coverage: UHC $1,000 Individual Deductible $4,000 OOP Total Expected Costs: $5,100
Grant Award Date	**03/28/24**
Grant Award Amount	**$1,500**
Grant Awarded For	**Orthotics, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech), Diagnostic (Imaging, Lab, Testing), Doctor/Specialist Visits**
Special Request	Parents would like to add Surgery/Procedures/Treatments

Special Request	
Region	**East**
Child's First Name	**Kynnedi**
Child's Age Now	**4**
Original Write-up	Diagnosis: Autism Impact: Medical, Social, Psychological Recommendations: Cubby Bed Goals: Improve child's sleep ECI/SES: Early Childhood Intervention Insurance Coverage: BCBS $7,500 Individual Deductible Total Expected Costs: $12,000
Grant Award Date	**06/27/24**
Grant Award Amount	**$1,500**
Grant Awarded For	**Cubby Bed**
Special Request	Parents would like to add ABA Therapy, Therapy (Aqua, Feeding, Occupational, Physical, Speech)

Sebastian and Kronin Lync with their brother Bearington from North Carolina.

We wanted to say thank you so much. You have no idea how much the grants have changed our lives and family! – Kelcie (mom)