

RALMA FAULKNER WELFARE FUND CRITERIA

The Ralma Faulkner Welfare Fund formerly known as the Welfare Fund is funded entirely by voluntary donations; it was set up for the benefit of individuals with sickle Cell Disease. Under the Constitution of the Society, we are unable to help individuals who live outside the UK or People with Sickle Cell Trait.

1. Eligibility

Applications must meet the following criteria:

- 1.1. Applicants must have a Sickle Cell Disorder, which needs to be confirmed by the applicant, Consultants or Haematologist.
- 1.2. Applicants who have Sickle Cell Trait will NOT be eligible.
- 1.3. An application can only be made by any Sickle Cell Suffers living in the UK .
- 1.4 A successful applicant will not be eligible to make another application WITHIN THREE YEARS of receiving the grant UNLESS there are exceptional needs.
- 1.5 Applicants must be members of the Sickle Cell Society.
(Please contact the Society for details about how to apply for membership)

2. PRIORITY APPLICANTS

- 2.1. Those in receipt of Welfare Benefits
- 2.2. Unsupported individuals
- 2.3. Elderly
- 2.4. Single person (with dependants (under 16 years old)
- 2.5. Families/individuals on low income

NB: An applicants financial circumstances will be taken into account when considering an application, irrespective of employment status.

3. PROCEDURE FOR MAKING AN APPPLICATION

3.1. Applications will be considered from one of the following referral agencies:

- (1) Health Visitors
- (2) Sickle Cell Counsellors/
- (3) Hospital Social workers
- (4) Community Social Workers
- (5) Sickle Cell Society Regional Care Advisors and Support Groups
- (6) GPs/Practice Nurse

3.2. Applications should ONLY be completed by one of the above and forwarded to the Sickle Cell Society with the following documentation:

3.2.1. Proof of Sickle Cell Status

3.2.2. Pro forma verifying cost of item (Where appropriate)

3.2.3. Letter supporting application from the referral agent.

3.3. All applications will be considered by the The Societie's Welfare Sub-Committee. Their decision will be notified to you within 30 days of receipt of the application.

3.4. Applicants are required to ensure that efforts have been made to obtain the lowest price for their requested item.

3.5. Where the amount awarded to the applicant does not meet the full cost of the item, the applicant will be expected to submit a letter stating how the shortfall will be met.

3.6. Any grant awarded will be paid by cheque. The cheque will be made payable to the supplier or to the referral agent.

3.7. A cheque will only be made payable to applicants in exceptional circumstances. Full details of these circumstances should be stated on the form.

4. Examples of items which will be considered are listed below:

Bed

Bedding

Clothing

Fridge

Cooker

Washing Machine

Carpet

Phone – Installation only

Applications should only include one item to be considered.

5. Examples of items which will not be considered:

- Telephone bills
- Hire Purchase and Credit Card Bills
- Car
- Furniture (ie. Settee, table wardrobes etc.)
- Decorating Materials
- Television Licence
- Insurance
- Alarms/Security Systems

6. DISCRETION WILL BE GIVEN TO:

- Heating bills
- Holidays – UK only
- Prams and Cots
- Driving Lessons (ONLY if there is poor mobility)
- Funeral Expenses

7. APPEALING AGAINST A DECISION

7.1. Any appeals against a decision made by the sub-welfare committee should be sent in writing to the Chairperson of the Society, within 21 days. The appeal should state in full the reasons why the application should be re-considered.

7.2 The appeal will be considered by the Welfare committee headed by the Chair-person. Their decision on appeal is final.

7.3 Their decision will be made within 30 days of receipt of the appeal.

7.3. The Welfare Committee's decision on appeal is final.

Please contact Iyamide Thomas by Email-
lymidethomas@sicklecellsociety.org for further information