



Skyward Emergency Funds Project



In partnership with the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), FACT of Virginia is piloting the Skyward Emergency Funds Project to help address the needs of DJJ involved youth and their families. This pilot project is an expansion of the FACT Emergency Funds Project which was established in 2020 to assist families and individuals who have experienced the trauma associated with family violence with financial assistance.

Sixty-five percent of all young people committed to DJJ's care have at least one significant trauma in their lives. These funds are intended to help address short term needs not covered by other existing support. The Skyward Fund can provide a critical opportunity to support these youth and families in their journey forward by bridging financial gaps and increasing stability.

A budget of \$10,000 has been made available for two awards of \$5,000 to the Greater Richmond Trauma Informed Community Network (GRTICN) serving Henrico and Chesterfield Counties for the provision of direct financial support of up to \$1,000 per family/household for youth and/or their families who are facing a financial emergency.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Funds must be spent within one year of the notice of award
- Requests must be submitted by the TICN Lead Agency/Coordinator.

- This award is distributed on a reimbursement basis. As such, the TICN that is awarded funds under this project will be reimbursed up to \$10,000 upon completion of a brief narrative report (see questions below), invoice, and financial accounting statement of the expenses covered to FACT’s Executive Director. Receipts for expenses must be made available for review upon request. FACT’s Executive Director shall have sole authority to determine whether submitted expenses are reimbursable under this program, as such, programs should consult with the Executive Director if there are questions about allowable expenses prior to making payments.

Programmatic Criteria:

- This project is intended to be community led. As such, GRTICN is required to have developed a coordinated referral and response protocol with the local Court Service Units for youth/and or families of youth to access this financial assistance. This process must include documentation of due diligence in maximizing existing resources (rental assistance, food pantries, etc.) prior to accessing this limited award.
- Funds may not be paid directly to individuals or families but rather to vendors providing services or goods.
- This project is intended to provide direct, flexible, emergency, financial assistance for youth or families of youth involved in the DJJ system. It is intended to “fill in the gaps” of existing support, therefore, assistance provided to participating youth or families should be flexible in nature.

Timelines:

Application is due by November 29th, 2024. A response of award or denial will be provided within ten business days from receipt.

Funds must be spent within one year of the award notice.

All documentation must be emailed to nicole.poulin@dss.virginia.gov within 30 days of the total award being spent. Please send one email with all the required information and include your agency’s name and “FACT emergency grant final documents” in the subject line.

Funds will be received via hard copy check issued by the Virginia Department of Treasury within 30 days of receipt of approved final documentation. *

Narrative Report Questions (due with final invoice and financial documentation):

1. What are some examples of how funds from this award were spent? Please include at least one story as an example of how this project made a difference for a family or individual in your community.
2. What were the greatest challenges faced in implementing this project?
3. What were the greatest successes gained in the implementation of this project?
4. What suggestions do you have for FACT, if any, about how this project could be improved?

Application questions

Please respond to the following questions. Once completed, please return this document with any required attachments electronically to Nicole Poulin, Nicole.poulin@dss.virginia.gov

Please respond to the questions below.

- 1) Name of TICN:

- 2) Name of the TICN Lead Agency and point of contact name and email:

- 3) Name of Court Service Unit(s) youth and/or families will be referred for assistance from:

- 4) Does your TICN and CSU have in place a coordinated referral and response protocol within the scope and reach of this project for DJJ youth and/or their families to access this financial assistance? If so, please attach a copy. Yes No

Please direct any questions to Nicole Poulin, Nicole.poulin@dss.virginia.gov or 804-310-1520

**FACT reserves the right to monitor sites to ensure appropriate use of funds and/or terminate the agreement if funds are not being used according to the terms outlined above*