

Accessible Vehicle Resources and Information

Jordan's Fund

Jordan's fund is a grant making foundation. Their giving ranges widely. We provide grants to assist individual families and organizations whose mission is to assist families of children with special needs.

<http://www.jordanfund.org/what-we-do.html>

Kaitlin's Foundation

Kaitlin's Mobility Foundation provides funds and resources for families with special needs children ages 18 and under, with a purpose to offset the cost of mobility equipment that is medically and /or conveniently necessary. Funds are distributed on a non-discriminatory basis regardless of sex, race, religion, economic status, income level or family size. They provide up to \$500 in grants.

<https://www.kaitlinsfoundation.org/application>

Sparrow Clubs

Sparrow Clubs not only provides financial and emotional support for children and their families in medical need, but also empowers kids (elementary to college age) to help others through charitable service in their communities.

The Sparrow Clubs program teaches life lessons in compassion and selflessness through building relationships between a Sparrow family, a school student body, and our community. Sick kids get help, healthy kids become heroes and communities experience change.

<https://www.sparrowclubs.org/>

Special Kids Fund

Special Kids Fund runs a widely acclaimed Wheelchair Van Assistance Program, helping needy families nationwide access handicap vans for their disabled family member. They help children, adults and disabled veterans. Assistance is based on financial need and availability of donated vans.

<http://www.specialkidsfund.org/wheelchair/>

Mitochondrial Research Guild

Seattle Children's Mitochondrial Research Guild provides grants up to \$2500 for families living with mitochondrial disease whose children are treated at Seattle Children's.

<http://www.nwmito-research.org/family-grant/>

Community Fundraising

While there are some organizations and grants that are there to help, sometimes you are your own best advocate. Often grants you come across will not be enough to cover the full purchase of an adaptive vehicle. You may have to do some fundraising on your own.

You may be surprised to find that there are people willing to help a fellow citizen. You will have to do some work on your part with networking and researching your options.

Here are some fundraising ideas...

Contact your local church's, schools or other community organizations.

Utilize online options such as;

Go Fund Me www.gofundme.com

Kick Starter www.kickstarter.com

Facebook for networking and asking for help www.facebook.com

The Internet can be a powerful resource that can connect people.

It can also allow you to do your own research. Use key words such as "accessible vehicle funding", "fundraising ideas". Terms may need to be added, changed, or removed to help refine the results.

Family Story: How I creatively raised the funds to purchase an accessible van

Our son reached the point where he was too heavy to lift in and out of the car. Not only was he heavy, but his wheelchair was even heavier!

Determined, I decided it was time that we needed an accessible van. There were a few funding sources that I knew of, but none of them were enough to purchase the van.

So here is how I did it and how much was raised....

I hosted a fundraiser garage sale. It took a couple months to plan and prepare for. I asked family/friends and people that I worked with to donate items that they would otherwise donate to Goodwill. I used Facebook as my primary networking tool. I also used it to help me to recruit volunteers to help me with the work before the sale and during the garage sale. The sale was Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Amount raised \$3500.00

I applied for a grant through Jordans Fund. They matched what I was able to raise at the garage sale fundraiser. Amount Granted \$3500.00

I applied for a grant through The Mitochondrial Research Guild at Seattle Children's. Amount Granted \$2400.00

In total, we were able to raise \$9400.00. The van we ended up purchasing was \$13,000 (the van was previously owned). The remaining amount we were able to take from savings to purchase.

With a lot of determination, talking and networking it took about 6 months to accomplish this.

This has made life much easier and was worth all the sweat and work!