
BACKGROUND

2006CFD0030-000788
June 12, 2006

Ministry of Children and Family Development

GRANTS SUPPORT CHOICE, ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY

Vancouver Foundation manages \$40 million in funding for families of individuals with developmental disabilities and children with special needs.

Vancouver Foundation is managing two funds for the Province: the Family Independence Fund, for families of individuals with developmental disabilities, and the Children and Youth with Special Needs Supports Fund, for families of children and youth with special needs.

Grants will cover costs to help an adult or child with a developmental disability or a child with special needs to live at home and access their community. Examples of what the grants will be used for are:

- Home renovations such as lifts, elevators, ramps, flooring, hallway/door widening, or adding an additional room for developmentally disabled individuals who wish to remain at home and families of children and youth with special needs.
- Modifying family vehicles to improve transportation for developmentally disabled individuals and children and youth with special needs.

Each fund will have an advisory committee and will share a co-ordinated approach and information. The advisory committees will:

- Establish guiding principles and a process for the evaluation of applications and allocation of funds;
- Review and evaluate the grant requests to ensure they comply with the terms of reference for the funds; and
- Approve financial grants to applicants.

Vancouver Foundation will develop the funding guidelines and granting criteria for the funds, and expects the first funding cycle will begin in October or November of 2006.

Vancouver Foundation, CLBC and the Ministry of Children and Family Development will inform interested parties about the funds and how to apply.

The Ministry of Children and Family Development and Community Living BC together provide a range of intervention and support services for approximately 16,000 children and youth with special needs and their families, including respite, early intervention services, family support and autism intervention.

Community Living BC delivers community supports and services for children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families, including more than 9,950 adults through services that include residential options, day and training programs, and approximately 8,400 children and youth who also receive a variety of supports.

CLBC was created on July 1, 2005 as a Crown Agency and is accountable to the provincial legislature through the Minister of Children and Family Development. Its 2006/07 budget is \$602 million.

Vancouver Foundation

Community foundations, from coast to coast, exist to strengthen their communities. Since 1943, British Columbians have demonstrated their generosity by making Vancouver Foundation the largest community foundation in Canada.

In 2005, \$35 million earned from nearly \$700 million in assets was distributed to hundreds of non-profit organizations. From medical research to animal welfare; from youth-driven projects to crisis centres, from arts and culture support to education, Vancouver Foundation strengthens both the community it serves and British Columbia.

In 2005, the foundation distributed more than \$2.3 million to support children, youth and families.

-30-

Media contact: Lisa Gardonio
Media Relations Officer
Ministry of Children and Family
Development
250 356-2939
www.mcf.gov.bc.ca

Sally Greenwood
Director, Communications
Community Living BC (CLBC)
604 664-0156
www.communitylivingbc.ca

Andria Teather
Program Director
Family Independence Fund, Vancouver
Foundation
604 688-2204
www.vancouverfoundation.bc.ca

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province's news feeds using RSS, visit the Province's website at www.gov.bc.ca.