

Parents of children with complex medical conditions have told us they struggle with finances.

There are resources in this guide that may help with some of the challenges. You may find that only some of the resources apply to you. If you are having a hard time figuring out how to apply for these supports, please ask.

Experiences of Parents

Families tell us that caring for a very ill child can mean extra financial stress. Families often tell us:

- They have trouble making ends meet.
- They sometimes have trouble feeding their family.
- They have trouble paying for medications.
- Are not aware of benefits they are eligible for.
- They have legal or immigration challenges.
- They do not have a safe place to live.
- They do not have enough help caring for their child or children.

What can be done?

- Provincial and Federal benefits
- Do your taxes
- Explore other programs
- Please read on to find out about resources in the area.

“Families tell us that caring for a very ill child can mean extra financial stress.”

Resources

1. Do you have trouble making ends meet?

The Provincial and Federal Government offer benefit programs that can help:
www.canadabenefits.gc.ca
www.ontario.ca/BenefitsDirectory
Ontario Disability Support Program
www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/odsp/
Ontario Works
www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/ow
Getting help doing your taxes can save you money and help you access programs and benefits:
Community Income Tax Clinics
1-800-959-8281 •

2. Do you have trouble feeding your family?

Daily Food Bank
416-203-0050 • www.dailybread.ca
School aged children www.breakfastclubscanada.org
FoodLink HotLine – food program listing
416-392-6655 • www.foodshare.net

3. Do you have trouble paying for medications?

Ontario Drug Benefit Program
Financial assistance for households that spend a large portion of its income on prescribed drugs
416-314-5518 • 1-800-268-1154
www.drugcoverage.ca

4. Do you receive the child tax benefit?

Canada Child Tax Benefit • Help with costs of raising children •
Universal child care benefit and children’s special allowances • Child Care Support
1-800-387-1193

Ontario Trillium Benefit • 1-866 668-8297

5. Do you have legal or immigration challenges?

Multicultural Health and Community Services
416-324-8677 www.accessalliance.ca

Community Legal Education Ontario (CLEO)
Legal Help. www.cleo.on.ca

Legal Aid Ontario – Legal help
416-979-1446 • 1-800-668-8258
www.legalaid.on.ca

OCASI-Settlement – Immigration help
416-322-4950 • www.settlement.org

6. Do you have a safe place to live?

Assaulted Women’s helpline
416-863-0511

Domestic violence against women
416-323-9140 • www.schliferclinic.com

Toronto Homeless Services
www.toronto.ca/housing

Emergency Shelters 1-877-338-3398
www.toronto.ca/housing

Resources, Continued

6. Safe place to live - continued

Toronto Community Housing Corporation -
Affordable housing help • 416-981-5500 <http://www.torontohousing.ca/>

Housing Connections, Toronto
Special Priority Housing • 416-981-6111

7. Do you have enough help caring for your child at home?

Compassionate Care Benefit
Employment Insurance Benefit
1-800-206-7218 (TTY: 1-800-529-3742)

Employment Insurance Benefit for
Parents of Critically Ill Children
(expected to be available June 2013)

Community Care Access Centres (CCAC)
Home nursing visits, care coordinator, social
workers, physiotherapists, personal support
workers www.ccac-ont.ca • 310-CCAC (310-2222)

Special Services at Home (SSAH)
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Toronto Regional Office
416 325 0500

ACSD Assistance for Children with Severe
Disabilities - includes respite care <http://www.respiteservices.com/Toronto>
416 322 6317 ext.1 (416 322 7877 ext. 280)

Hospice Toronto – Volunteer Hospice Palliative Care
support
www.hospicetoronto.ca • 416-364-1666

Tammy Latner Center for Palliative Care
Visiting palliative care physicians to families in
the City of Toronto
www.tlcpc.org • 416-586-4800 ext. 7884

Bereavement and Grief Support

The Unforgettables Fund
Funds that support funerals and burials

Children's Wish Foundation – Provide children
living with high-risk, life threatening illnesses
with the opportunity to fulfill a wish
905-831-9474 • 1-800-267-9474
www.childrenswish.ca

Questions?
The Hospital for Sick Children,
Department of Social Work
416-813-5883 •
e-mail: ruta.niedra@sickkids.ca

*This brochure is adapted from original work
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www.healthprovidersagainstpoverity.ca*

SickKids

THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN
555 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M5G 1X8

FAMILY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

*A Resource Guide for
Children with Complex
Medical Conditions*