



## **The Guardian ad Litem Association of Buncombe County Child Assistance Fund Guidelines and Request Form**

The Guardian ad Litem Association (GALA) strives to support and enrich the lives of children who are abused or neglected. We maintain a fund, supported by donations and grants, to meet the needs of children in the Buncombe County Juvenile Court System which are above a child's ongoing basic requirements. Social Services (DSS) is required to fund the critical needs of a child in their custody. Children whose court cases have been closed within the year prior to the request are also eligible.

GALA funding is supplemental and should be requested when DSS and other community resources have been explored. Examples of GALA approved funding includes: art supplies, camp fees, car seats, clothing, diapers, gymnastics class, swimming lessons, school trip fees, sports shoes/equipment, strollers, etc. We do not fund medical or therapeutic procedures. We do prioritize children with multiple critical needs or emergencies.

### **Community resources (not an inclusive list, but helpful):**

Medicaid (eyeglasses, etc.), ABCCM—Asheville/Buncombe Co. Christian Ministries (clothing, food, medical care, etc.), Blue Star Program for Orthodontic care, Eckard Kids, Elida Homes, Eblen Charities, Goodwill Industries, Lion's Club (scholarships, eyeglasses, etc.), Mattress Man, PTO/PTA and school organizations, Salvation Army; Sleep Tight Kids; Youth Villages; Girls on the Run WNC (scholarships to participate), Western Carolina Rescue Ministries—they have a warehouse of furniture, etc., contact Rev. Michael Woods, 828-254-1529.

We review each request on a case-by-case basis. More than one request may be made per year. To serve the greatest number of children, we suggest the following guidelines:

- \$125 per request if the child is in foster care
- \$175 per request if the child is in a kinship placement
- \$515 per year for camp fees (overnight or day camps)

**Requests for funding must be discussed with the case social worker.**

Requests should also be discussed at a CFT meeting, unless there is a time issue.

**Each request form must be emailed or delivered to the supervising GAL staff member and copied to the case social worker so they will have a copy for the DSS file.**

The request form must be approved by the supervising GAL staff member. If the request is approved by the GAL supervisor, the supervisor will forward the request to the GAL child assistance fund contact. **Only the supervising GAL staff member may submit a request.**

The members of the board of the GALABC will vote on all requests in a timely manner. (this request form is NOT needed for the \$50 school supplies gift cards)



Guardian ad Litem Association of Buncombe County  
CHILDREN'S ASSISTANCE AND CAMP FUND REQUEST FORM  
galabc.org

**Submit this form to the supervising GAL staff member and provide a copy to DSS**

Date:

Case File #:

Child's zip code (if not currently in Buncombe Co., then original zip code):

GAL Name & Phone #:

Kinship or Foster placement:

Amount of Request (see suggested guidelines): \$

What are the funds to be used for:

Have any family or DSS contributions been made so far:

Have other funding sources been explored:

If a Camp request—location:

is transportation needed:

Make check payable to (preferably a vendor):

Will you pick-up the check at the GAL office (31 College Place):

If not, mailing address: