

# The Maria Fund

## Application Instructions

The Maria Fund was created in honor of Maria Katherine Carino-Faubion. Maria was placed in the foster home of Larry and Jan Faubion (founders of Kids Crossing) at the age of 7 months. Because she was born hydrocephalic with only a brainstem, and needed significant care, Maria was given only 30 days to live. Due to the ongoing care and love provided to her by the Faubions, Maria lived to be 22 years old. Due to Maria's special needs, she was unable to participate in the daily activities any "normal" child may engage in. For this reason, The Maria Fund was created.

### **Who can apply?**

The Maria Fund will be available to all families, children, and youth served by Kids Crossing, but priority will be given to foster families, group center providers, and children in out-of-home placement. The families themselves or any Kids Crossing personnel can submit applications.

### **What should the funds be used for?**

The Maria Fund was developed to help our foster families participate in events that may otherwise be difficult due to the financial burden of caring for multiple children. Such activities may include: a family trip to the movies, going out to dinner, museum or zoo memberships, sports equipment, summer Camp Fees, etc.

The funds should be used to help supplement extra-curricular activities and should not be used to cover daily living expenses.

### **Does an application need to include any additional information?**

For requests over \$50, Kids Crossing requests an invoice or additional information be included (i.e. printout with membership information, flyer or brochure, etc.).

### **How will the money be dispersed?**

Once an application is approved, Kids Crossing will issue a check to the person and/or address indicated on the application. If the funds will be used toward a specific organization or event, please be sure to specify the recipient's information.

### **Can one family apply more than once?**

Families are encouraged to apply as needed but are not guaranteed approval of each application. Additional requests will require the completion of a new application.

### **How are applications approved and/or denied?**

The committee will review applications on a weekly basis as they are received. The committee meets every Tuesday and approvals will be based on the priority level and amount requested. Applications may be placed on a hold status if there are insufficient funds. The committee will notify all applicants of the status of their review within 3 business days after review.