

Footbridge for Families: Eligibility Guidelines (as of April 2022)

Referral Source

- Need is fully documented and submitted by a Footbridge-approved Referral Partner.

Best Fit

- All other avenues of support have been exhausted and/or need cannot be met by other government or community resources in a timely manner (i.e., quickly enough for the crisis to be resolved before it leads to negative outcomes that would otherwise have been avoided).

Impact on Children

- Aid is currently restricted to pregnant women and/or families who have at least one youth 25 years or younger residing in the home. We are able to provide aid to two different caregivers who share custody and live in separate homes with the child. Foster parents and grandparents are included in our definition of “caregiver.”
- If the family receives the financial assistance, it will significantly lessen the stress/burden on the caregivers, having a positive impact on the children and youth in the household.

Financial Request

- The dollar amount requested is under \$2000. While Footbridge can go up to this amount for single-instance support in crisis situations, this should not be interpreted as a \$2000 allowance that should be exhausted each time. Also, PLEASE DO NOT ADVERTISE THIS CAP TO FAMILIES AS WE NEED TO FIRST VERIFY THAT THEIR NEED FITS OUR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Urgency (Short-term, one-time need)

- The need can be met quickly—the third-party vendor will be able to be identified and paid quickly and will be able to resolve the issue/need quickly.
- This is a *short-term* need and *one-time* financial assistance from Footbridge will be able to resolve the immediate need and have meaningful impact.
- Our support will change the trajectory of a family rather than buy them a little more time living in an unsustainable situation.

Financial Crisis / Category of Need

- If this need is unmet, it could lead to a crisis for the family. We do not purchase washers/driers, help reduce family debt or invest in mold remediation at this time.