

## **GALABC Child Assistance Fund Guidelines and Request Form**

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

Funding examples include but are not limited to: art supplies, baby supplies and furniture, camp fees, clothing, gymnastics, music lessons, school trip fees, sports shoes/equipment, swimming lessons, tutoring. Medical/therapeutic expenses will only be considered if they are not covered by Medicaid or another third party resource. We prioritize children with multiple critical needs or emergencies. Kinship placements are also given priority.

**To serve the greatest number of children, we suggest the following guidelines:**

- \$150 per request for child in foster care
- \$200 per request for child is in kinship placement
- \$515 per year for camp fees (overnight or day camps)

**Funding requests must be discussed with the case social worker and during a CFT meeting, if possible.**

### **Submitting application**

- Email or deliver request to supervising GAL staff member.
- Include your last name and case # in the subject line.
- Copy case social worker for the child's DSS file.

A request form must be approved by the supervising GAL staff member. If approved, the request is forwarded by the supervisor to [galcafb.com](mailto:galcafb.com). **Only GAL staff submit requests.**

The GALABC Board votes on requests in a timely manner and strive to fulfill requests within 7 to 10 days.