

FAMILY SUPPORT FUND

Thompson Foundation
FOR AUTISM & NEURODEVELOPMENT

When a diagnosis is overwhelming, help is within reach.



A diagnosis of autism or another neurodevelopmental condition often brings unexpected financial challenges. Even with Medicaid or private insurance, families may still face significant out-of-pocket costs for essential therapies, medical equipment, travel, and other recommended services. When every other funding source has been exhausted, the Family Support Fund helps bridge the gap—ensuring children can access the care they need to grow, learn, and reach their fullest potential.

A PROVEN SOLUTION

Launched in 2023 to deliver relief to our families, the Family Support Fund removes barriers to care, giving children the chance to thrive.

Together with the Thompson Center for Autism & Neurodevelopment, we are making a difference in the lives of people impacted by autism and neurodevelopmental diagnoses. Serving more than 5,000 families annually, the Thompson Center is a lifeline for children across Missouri and beyond. With the opening of our new, expanded facility, we will serve 10,000+ families each year—bringing hope to thousands more, but also dramatically increasing the number who will need financial support.

To meet this need, we invite you to help build the Family Support Fund, a lasting source of financial support for families, today and for generations to come.

Why the Family Support Fund matters

THE NEED

Coverage gaps leave families behind

- **60% of Thompson Center families qualify for Medicaid.** Even then, coverage gaps are significant—limiting therapy hours, denying coverage, and excluding supports like social skills groups or assistive technology.
- Even when prescribed by a clinician, therapies often carry high out-of-pocket costs when insurers don't deem them "medically necessary" — yet these are often exactly what transforms daily life.
- Rural families must travel hours for care, adding lodging and transportation costs to an already heavy burden.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Every award, rigorously reviewed

Priority is given to families:

- At or below 300% of the Federal Poverty Guideline, adjusted for family size and cost of living
- Receiving Medicaid
- Awaiting or actively receiving care at the Thompson Center

Applications are distributed through Thompson Center clinicians, reviewed by Thompson Foundation staff, and approved by the Family Support Fund Subcommittee of the Thompson Foundation Board of Directors. This process ensures transparency, fairness and maximum impact.

Helping families access care beyond insurance coverage

A SPECIALIZED BED FOR A CHILD'S SAFETY AND SLEEP

TOILET TRAINING AND SOCIAL LANGUAGE THERAPY

MILEAGE FOR RURAL FAMILIES



EXTRAORDINARY TOGETHER

Every dollar builds a permanent fund that will provide sustainable and accountable financial support to families across Missouri and beyond for generations to come.

Your gift ensures no child is denied essential care due to financial barriers.

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