

# Sara Rickertsen

## Special Needs Grant Program

Lexington Community Foundation (LCF) administers the **Sara Rickertsen Special Needs Grant Fund**. Sara is an intellectually disabled adult who is non-verbal and has a seizure disorder. A few months after she was born, the family realized Sara had developmental delays. She began seeing physical, occupational and speech therapists at the age of nine months. She attended special education classes from the age of three until she was twenty-one, and she now goes to South Central Developmental Services in Cozad. Sara resides at a group home in Lexington.

Even though she is non-verbal, Sara has her own way of communicating. Despite her disability, Sara has been able to learn and accomplish many skills thanks to her educators and therapists.

The family of Sara Rickertsen has established the **SARA RICKERTSEN SPECIAL NEEDS GRANT PROGRAM** in her honor. It is the family's wish to better enable others to continue helping those with disabilities live fulfilling lives.

### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Grant funds up to \$1000 will be awarded annually to charitable projects that answer the needs of persons living with disability in the Lexington area. The number of grants awarded will be determined by the number of qualified applications received.

The grant applicant must be an organization directly involved in working with physically and mentally handicapped individuals. Organizations run by parents of children with disabilities are supported by this grant fund and are encouraged to apply.

Eligible projects may include projects that provide assistance to individuals with disabilities by promoting health, social and economic inclusion, access to education, professional training, employment, sport, culture and leisure activities.

To receive funding consideration, a completed application and narrative description should be submitted to the Lexington Community Foundation office for review by the Rickertsen family and the LCF Grants Committee.

Lexington Community Foundation accepts grant applications any time throughout the year.

### **Grant proposals should include:**

- A. Completed application
- B. Narrative description of your program(s) / project(s) **(NOT TO EXCEED ONE PAGE)**
  1. Purpose of the grant
  2. Describe how the program(s) / project(s) will positively impact the youth with disabilities
  3. Timetable

The LCF Grants Committee will review all requests. Funding decisions will be made within one month of the date the application is received.

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**Contact:**

**Title:**

**E-mail:**

**Phone:**

**Fax:**

**Project/Program Name:**

**Amount Requested:**

**Brief Description of Program(s)/Project(s):**

**Total Budget:**

**Start Date:**

**End Date:**

**Attach one-page narrative describing the program and its perceived impact.**

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Signature

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Date