**Procedures and Guidelines**

The BSF schedules six meetings a year, but will also meet at unscheduled times. The BSF committee uses the following guidelines to determine grants:

- Catastrophic illness means any illness or condition that has urgent need related to treatment and associated expenses not covered by the usual means such as insurance, charity, other state funds, and federal funds.

- Arkansas doctors, hospitals or their representatives must present all requests for grants.

- The family seeking help will be people legally and financially responsible for the child’s medical expenses.

- The committee does not approve grants for funerals.

**Baby Sharon Fund**

**Committee Members:**

Richard Emmel, Ed.D., Chairman  
Dr. Pat Casey, M.D.  
Dan Hennessey, O.D.  
Steve Reed, M.H.A.  
Mark Pearson, C.P.A.

**Contributions can be sent to:**

Baby Sharon Fund Administrator  
Individual Income Tax - State of AR  
P.O. Box 3628  
Little Rock Rock, AR 72203

(Write "Baby Sharon’s Children’s Trust Fund" on the memo line of the check.)

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**A safety net for families when a catastrophic illness strikes**
Contribution

Most contributions arrive during tax season because Arkansas lists the Baby Sharon Fund (BSF) on the state income tax form. The taxpayer simply checks a box for the desired contribution amount and the money is sent to the fund. The committee works diligently to spend public money wisely, and to offer assistance to families when no other help is available. All work is voluntary and contributions are only used to help sick children. There are no operating expenses or paid employees. Our main source of funding is contributions, but the committee members also solicit help from organizations and businesses. A committee member serves for four years, and most of us volunteer for at least two terms. Thank you for taking the time to get to know us.

How to Apply for a Grant

Since most childhood catastrophic illnesses are treated in central Arkansas, the social work departments of local hospitals are primary sources for Baby Sharon grants. A medical professional must present the request to the committee. An initial grant request can be downloaded from:

http://www.Arkansas-cares.org

and mailed to:

10012 West Markham
Little Rock, AR 72205

About

The Baby Sharon Fund committee, appointed by the governor and legislature, administers the BSF to provide “safety net” financial assistance to families affected by catastrophic illnesses. To do this, the BSF committee meets on a regular basis, and reviews cases brought to them by medical professionals. After considering available dollars and information from the medical professional, the committee determines the cases that get BSF funds. These grants are provided to families that are unable to get help from any other source.

Please send your gifts to:

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