

Lighthouse of Hope

National Hospice Foundation

What is the Lighthouse of Hope Fund?

- The Lighthouse of Hope provides funds to fulfill dreams by providing experiences for patients at the end of life.
- These experiences enhance the quality of life of hospice patients and their families so that their remaining time together can be meaningful and memorable.
- The funds are available for patients of NHPCO member organizations. Applications can be submitted by a member of the patient's hospice interdisciplinary team.
- The fund can provide up to \$2,500 for an experience. Each hospice location may receive five (5) grants per calendar year.

What qualifies for this fund?

- The fund is strictly for **experiences**. This could range from flying to visit a family member, to visiting the ocean, to going out to a nice dinner with loved ones.
- The fund does not cover basic or medical needs.
 - We know those basic needs are important; however, paying for these needs is not the purpose of the Lighthouse of Hope. For those needs, try reaching out to the [Dream Foundation](#) or a local United Way or service charity.
- There also must be a financial need, demonstrating that the patient could not afford this experience without assistance from Lighthouse of Hope.

How to I submit an application for my patient?

- Visit our website:
<http://www.nationalhospicefoundation.org/lighthouseofhopefund>
- Click on “Online Request Form” and fill out the information about yourself, your patient, and the desired experience. Please include an itemized estimate of the costs.
- You as the provider are point of contact with Lighthouse of Hope, not the patient or the family.
- If approved, we will send a check to your hospice with the patient’s name noted in the memo line.

What do I do after the experience?

- Keep all receipts and send copies back to us at the National Hospice Foundation. Please also include a one-page Impact Report of the activity or event, including a breakdown of how the funds were used. We need this report within 30 days after the experience.
- Take photos and share them with us! We love seeing how the Lighthouse of Hope Fund is helping give people more memories.
- Ask your patient and their family if we can share their story.

Fund Recipient: Alex

- 10-year-old Alex was diagnosed with hepatopulmonary syndrome and cirrhosis of the liver, needing continuous oxygen to breathe.
- When his hospice care team asked what was important in his life, he mentioned his love of swimming and going to water parks.
- The Lighthouse of Hope Fund provided the money for Alex and his family to travel to a water park. Arrangements were made so Alex could enjoy swimming and just be a kid.



Fund Recipient: Dana

- 43-year-old Dana was diagnosed esophageal cancer and was receiving hospice care.
- One of her favorite memories was going to the beach with her twin sister, Deanna. Her final dream was to go to the beach and feel the sand and sun one last time.
- The Lighthouse of Hope Fund provided the money for Dana and her Deanna to drive to the ocean and have a last memory together. Dana passed away peacefully in her sister's arms on the way home.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What reporting does NHF require from me?

A: After the experience, NHF requests copies of all receipts and an Impact Report. A brief one page after-action report of the activity or event can be emailed. If possible, please include a photograph of the event or activity and include a family impact statement. If the report is not received from the provider in a timely manner (30 days following the experience) future grant submissions will be returned without review.

Q: What do I do if the experience can no longer occur after I receive the check?

A: If for any reason the experience is not able to occur, the funds must be returned to the National Hospice Foundation.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can NHF issue Lighthouse of Hope checks directly to the patient or patient's family?

A: Funds are only mailed to the provider in the amount specified on the application. It's best to work with your accounting department to determine how best to allocate out the amount. NHF cannot send funds directly to the patient or family or to third party vendors.

Q: If part of the experience occurs using cash (meals, gas, etc.) is this allowed?

A: Ask for receipts whenever possible. Small amounts are acceptable without receipts but should be noted in the Impact Report. Every dollar must be reported on or returned to NHF.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I use a Lighthouse of Hope Fund grant to pay for medical expenses or equipment?

A: Funds are restricted for the use of meaningful experiences. Funds may not be used for:

- Bill payments, cash, or basic needs (such as groceries, clothing, toiletries and grooming)
- Legal assistance
- Automobiles or automobile repairs
- Property and home improvements
- Travel outside the United States
- Funeral arrangements
- Medical supplies, treatment, equipment, or transportation (such as ambulance or wheelchair van services)
- Requests that are political, legal, or dangerous in nature.

**This list is not all-inclusive. NHF reserves the right to deny requests not on this list.*

Contact Info

- Other questions or concerns? Feel free to reach out.

National Hospice Foundation

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877-470-6472 or 703-516-4928