



## EDWARDS FOUNDATION CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIPS

*Attention Applicants! A second special grant round for the Edwards Foundation Child Care Scholarship Fund has been added for 2012. The application deadline is Friday, November 2 at 5:00 pm. Please see the updated details below.*

With funding from the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation, the Vermont Community Foundation has been providing qualified child care centers with scholarships for underserved families since 1990. The Board of Directors of the Edwards Foundation intends for the scholarship program to benefit children who seem to be getting "lost in the cracks" when the day care subsidy is not enough or the child falls just outside of federal or state program eligibility criteria. The fund was established to help those who, as a result of geographic or economic isolation, may face difficulties when the time comes for the child to enter the public school system.

We hope this program will reach children who most need a preschool program to help them with the rudimentary knowledge and social skills that are expected of children entering kindergarten. It is hoped that by helping to provide a quality preschool experience, they will be able to begin their formal school careers with a pattern of success and stability and the confidence and basic skills so necessary to early achievement.

### **Who May Apply**

Any nonprofit child care center with a demonstrated capability of serving children from economically stressed families is eligible to apply. If you are not registered as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with the IRS, you will need to use a fiscal sponsor that is a 501(c)(3), municipality, church, or public school. Applicants must employ staff and provide services without discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

There is \$13,000 available for grants in this special grant round. Child care centers that already received a grant in the June 2012 round are not eligible for additional funding this year.

### **Grant Size**

\$500 to \$2,000

### **Deadline**

The application deadline for this special grant round is Friday, November 2 at 5:00pm. Applicants will be notified in early December 2012.

## Application Guidelines

These grants are intended to support children in real need of assistance. We request information about specific individuals that the scholarships will support, as well as socio-demographic information about the populations served. The foundations seek to assure that the child care center has a pre-existing and ongoing commitment to serving these children in need and their families. We evaluate proposals using the following criteria:

- Organizational track record of working with underserved families
- Comprehensive programs that are accessible to working families
- Maximization of available tuition subsidy and scholarship programs available in Vermont
- Geographic areas served
- Specific situation and need of proposed scholarship recipients
- Applicant's history of awards received from the Edwards Foundation Childcare Scholarship Fund
- Availability of funds

The childcare center that receives an award will determine the children to be aided and report periodically on their progress. If you received a grant for scholarships in 2011, you should attach the report to your application.

## Non-discrimination

Organizations applying to the Edwards Foundation Child Care Scholarship must comply with the non-discrimination laws of the state of Vermont and must not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

## Apply to the Edwards Foundation Child Care Scholarship Fund

*Please note:* By submitting your application to the Foundation, you give us permission to share your application with other interested funders (if any), both individuals and foundations.

- [Click here to start a new Edwards grant application in our online system.](#)
- [Log in to your online account to access an in-progress or submitted application.](#)

## We're Here to Help

If you have any questions, please contact Jen Peterson at [jpeterson@vermontcf.org](mailto:jpeterson@vermontcf.org) or 802-388-3355 x288.