

Financial Aid Policy

PURPOSE

Financial Aid is intended to be **One Time Emergency Help or BRIDGE** to Households in the Pennridge Community. The intent is to help residents with emergency help until they find alternative sources. The **One Time** Financial Aid is limited to Security Deposits for Utilities [electric, gas, heating oil, and water & sewer] and for utilities, where shutoff notices have been issued and shutoff is imminent.

FUNDING

The budget/funds for these services come from the generosity of the people [businesses, churches, individuals, and social/fraternal organizations] in the Pennridge Community. No funding comes from Public / Government sources. *The funding is limited; therefore, the amount of aid is limited.*

HOUSEHOLD/CLIENTS

Client Households must be part of the Pennridge community as defined by the boundary of the Pennridge School District.

LIMITS

The funding is limited; therefore, the amount of aid is limited. If you have previously received financial assistance, you may no longer be eligible.

OTHER HINTS AND TIPS:

- When you meet with a financial aid officer at FISH, **please try to be understanding**. We receive hundreds of requests for help, and it can be overwhelming for the volunteers who are meeting with you, just as it is overwhelming for you to have to ask for help.
- **Please come prepared**. Make sure you have your current bill, and all identification with you when you meet with our financial aid volunteers.
- Understand that funding is very limited - **FISH is not a public welfare office** and **we do not have paid social workers** on staff. All financial aid funds come from donations we receive from people in our community. We need to be good stewards of those limited funds and, therefore, we cannot honor every single request we receive for financial help.
- Please see rules above for what we can and cannot assist with.
- FISH is staffed almost entirely by volunteers. We have only one part time operations director as paid staff. Please be considerate of this fact. We cannot "do it all". :^)
- **AND LAST** - Thank you for trusting us to try to help you and your family! It is a blessing to serve the community in this way. We really do try our best and we really do care.

Client code: _____ Paymt # _____



Agency #: _____ acct #: _____

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL AID – CLIENT DATA

NAME _____

Last 4 Digits SSN XXX - XX - _____

SPOUSE OR PARTNER _____

PARTNER Last 4 Digits SSN XXX - XX - _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____

COPY OF PHOTO ID MUST BE ATTACHED.

COPY OF IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD MUST BE ATTACHED

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

MARITAL STATUS S M D W Separated CO-HABIT

AID IS REQUESTED TO BE PAID FOR

CIRCLE ONE SECURITY DEPOSIT – ELECTRIC – HEAT – WATER/SEWER

Pennridge FISH is a charitable 501 [c] 3 organization, registered in the State of Pennsylvania. We serve low-income clients residing in the Pennridge School District with an emergency Food pantry, Clothing outlet, and Financial Assistance for necessary utilities. There is never a charge for our services. FISH is an Equal Opportunity Provider.

IMPORTANT-COPY OF THE INVOICE OR LEASE MUST BE ATTACHED

Pay to agency _____

Address & PO Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Amount owed _____ Amount approved _____

The following three [2] statements must be initialed:

This application may be shared with:

- Bucks County Opportunity Council
- Keystone Opportunity Center
- Salvation Army

Initial above

- The agency or landlord listed as Pay to agency

Initial above

I certify that the information contained above is correct to the best of my knowledge, and further acknowledge that invalid information may be prosecuted under the statutes of **theft by deception, a criminal offense.**

Date _____ **Signed** _____

Mail to: Pennridge FISH - Po Box 9, Perkasio, PA 18944