



Sarasota County Senior Advocacy Council, Inc.

Grant Program Description

All programs are funded from public donations, private grants and special event fundraisers. The Senior Advocacy Council Board reviews applications for grants monthly. Be advised that due to the review process timeline, grant requests may take several weeks to be processed or approved. Any approved grants will be paid directly to the provider.

Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS): SCSAC will fund a PERS (aka Life Alert button) to seniors who are not eligible for a system through the VA or other Long-Term Managed Care programs. The applicant must be willing to be interviewed by telephone to verify usage of the unit and to confirm the continued need for the Electronic Caregiver system.

Durable Medical Equipment: SCSAC will purchase durable medical equipment not covered by Medicare, Medicaid or other private insurance. Typically items not covered are bedside commodes, shower chairs, transfer boards, compression stockings, grab bars, raised toilet seats, walkers and companion wheelchairs.

Other Health-related Expense Assistance: Partial or full payment toward services such as vision checkups/eyeglasses, dental work, hearing aids, or incontinence supplies will be considered if appropriate documentation is provided and the applicant's insurance is verified to not cover these expenses.

Other Emergency Assistance: SCSAC may provide financial assistance to seniors who have needs outside the scope of our current programs, provided they meet the financial criteria as described in the application form. For example, SCSAC can provide one-time utility assistance, toiletries, clothing, food, or other assistance as needed. Assistance may be in the form of a referral to another agency or nonprofit better able to assist. Each application is reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

SCSAC will also leverage its membership to assist with resources or services that they may have access to which would help meet the senior's need.

General Eligibility Requirements: Sarasota County resident, minimum age of 50, and verification of income. Applicants must provide all documentation requested on the application form. The maximum grant award is \$500 per year, per applicant.