

New Jersey Columbian Charities Fraternal Assistance Program

Purpose

The New Jersey Columbian Charities Fraternal Assistance Program provides support to New Jersey Knights of Columbus who are suffering extreme financial hardship due to unemployment, sickness, family medical and hospital bills, overdue rent or mortgage payments, property tax, food, clothing, and losses due to fire, flood or storm. The program was established to encourage all of us to fully embrace our responsibilities as first articulated by our founder, the Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney. Father McGivney saw and addressed the importance of reaching out to our fellow brothers and their families in need and therefore founded the Knights of Columbus.

The first source of support for our brothers should be their own councils. The Fraternal Assistance Program was designed to complement the support from the councils. All financial assistance provided through this program will be in the form of grants. There is no requirement that the grant be repaid. The grants will match the cash support provided by the council up to a \$1,000 during the previous 12 months. As there are limited resources available to the Fraternal Assistance Program, support to any individual is limited to \$1,000 in a 12 month period.

Eligibility

Any member of a New Jersey subordinate council with at least twelve months good standing in the council and who is in need of temporary assistance, and the widows and orphans of such members are eligible.

Procedures for Applying for Financial Assistance

1. If you are or you know a brother Knight or widow in need of assistance, please notify the council's Grand Knight.
2. The Grand Knight should contact the Fraternal Assistance Program Administrator at NJCCFraternalAssistance@njkofc.org to obtain a copy of the application form. Only the Grand Knight can obtain the form. Prior to requesting the application, the Grand Knight must confirm that the member is/was in good standing.
3. Upon receiving the application, the Grand Knight will assign a Trustee of the council to serve as the Investigator.
4. The Investigator calls on the brother/widow requiring assistance and has he/she complete and sign the first page of the application.
5. The Investigator then completes the second page of the application explaining in detail the distressed financial condition of the brother and family and forwards the application and other pertinent information to the Grand Knight of the council.
6. The Grand Knight and Financial Secretary of the council must determine that the application is meritorious and affix their signatures to the form before sending the application to the Program Administrator at NJCCFraternalAssistance@njkofc.org or 28 Great Oak Road, Hamilton Square, NJ 08690.
7. All applications will be reviewed by the Program Screening Committee. The Committee reserves the right to reject, approve, set limits, and set conditions on any and all applications.

Confidentiality

All information received by the Grand Knight is strictly confidential and is not to be shared with other members of the council.