

Good+Foundation Family Cash Grants 2023 Report



Family Cash Grants have become an integral part of how Good+Foundation pursues its mission to dismantle multi-generational poverty. As we reflect on the valuable insights from last year and enhance the program for the fifth year of funding, we are committed to providing even more impactful support to under-resourced families nationwide.



“The grant Good+ provided was one of the biggest blessings of the year. I was able to bring my family together and provide a holiday meal that took our minds away from the troubles we faced this past year. You do not know how much my family needed the support.”
- Family Cash Grant Recipient

In a time of escalating food and living expenses and cuts in benefit programs, it is critical to find new ways to create economic security for under-resourced families. In recent years, unconditional cash transfer programs have gained traction in the social service sector since they provide both immediate and long-lasting impact.

Cash grants of any size give families the ability to address their most pressing needs head-on. They can choose how to use the money, whether for purchasing food, paying rent, healthcare and childcare costs, or unforeseen emergencies. This autonomy fosters parental confidence, goal-setting, and ultimately, independence. The demonstrated benefits of cash grants are vast, including improved mental health, higher rates of employment, and reduced likelihood of children entering the foster system.

While existing public cash grant programs offer critical support, the need outpaces resources. Families of color face more barriers when enrolling in these programs, often due to historical discriminatory ideas and policies. Good+Foundation recognized the unmet demand for assistance and paired these grants with essential goods to amplify the impact for entire families.

Family Cash Grants enable families to identify their immediate needs while they pursue long-term goals through our partners’ programming, serving as a transformative resource to uplift under-resourced communities.

Our Model

Good+ began offering Family Cash Grants in 2020 to address the diverse and immediate needs of families in response to the pandemic. The positive feedback from early grant cycles underscored the necessity for continued investment.

Since the program began, we've distributed more than \$1.1 million in grants, with \$300,000+ given in 2023 alone to 40 program partners. All of Good+Foundation's grantee program partners were eligible to apply and were asked to share their plans for identifying families and distributing the funds. We're pleased to report that we were able to provide cash grants to every Good+ program partner that applied. We asked that funds be disbursed to families in \$200 increments, to equitably distribute funds and ensure that parents receive a sufficient amount to make an impact.

After evaluating the program's impact on families in Los Angeles and New York City over three years, in 2023, we piloted a \$25,000 disbursement through AVANCE-Houston, a high-impact and long-standing Good+ partner. AVANCE shares our commitment to two-generation programming and intentional father engagement to maximize positive outcomes for children and families.

Families typically receive their Good+ grants around the holiday season. During winter, utility bills rise due to the colder weather, and there is an increased demand for winter-appropriate clothing. Additionally, with children home from school during holiday breaks, they do not have access to free school meals which means grocery bills also increase at this time.



2023 by the Numbers



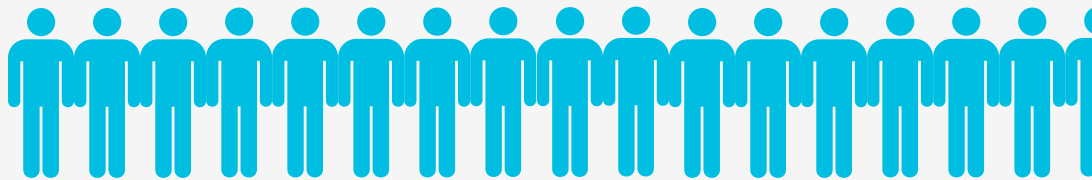
\$300,200
Distributed to 40
program partners

New York
567 families*



serving families from all five boroughs

Los Angeles
809 families*



serving families from all SPAs

Houston
125 families*



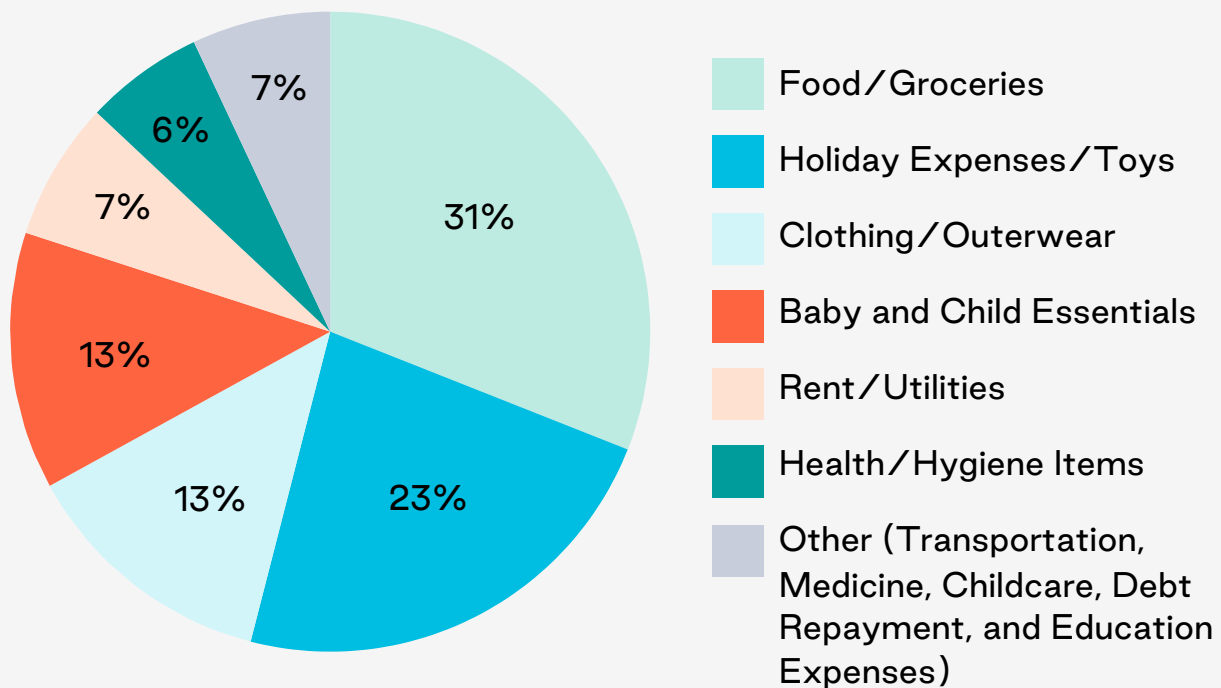
2023 pilot program

**Each figure equals 50 families*

**SPA= Service Planning Area*

Family Expenditures

“I used the grant to buy groceries, hygiene products, and coats for my kids. It felt really good to be able to buy these things for my family. It had been a while since we had purchased any items without worrying if we would have enough to pay.” - Cash Grant Recipient



As found in previous years, food-related expenses took the top spot for family spending, reflecting the ongoing rise in food prices. Holiday expenses were the second largest category, illustrating how grants can alleviate the stress faced by families during the holiday season as they struggle to balance gifts and toys in addition to their regular, often unaffordable monthly expenses. As rents continue to increase, families have also been able to allocate more of their existing income to housing, freeing up the grant money for other essential needs.

By strategically choosing the holiday season for grant disbursements, Good+ provides caregivers with the means to offer memorable holiday experiences for their families, foster healthy childhood development, and narrow the gap between under-resourced children and their peers.

Impact Stories

Hope and Tyrese's Story

Hope and Tyrese are new parents who enrolled in a home-visiting program in search of more support for their family. Hope works as a manicurist and Tyrese stays home to take care of their baby, Tisha. Since Tisha was born, they have been unable to secure permanent housing and have been moving between hotels and other temporary placements. With a Family Cash Grant from Good+, they purchased mini appliances that they can easily transport as they move around. There was even enough money to buy toys to support Tisha's healthy development. This assistance brought relief to Hope and Tyrese while they worked towards greater economic security.



Jordan's Story

Jordan is enrolled in a fatherhood program that provides support to dads in substance abuse recovery. He recently made the difficult decision to step away from his job and live apart from his two children so that he can fully prioritize his health. During this time of separation, he was determined to give his kids a happy and memorable Christmas, and a Family Cash Grant from Good+ helped make this possible. He used these funds to buy toys and even festive PJs for the whole family. Jordan arrived at his co-parent's house early Christmas morning, already in his matching PJs, excited to spend the day with his family. He was most excited to watch his daughter open a special doll with color-changing hair and for his children to know these gifts came from their dad. He used these funds to create important family memories for his children as he works on his recovery, which will allow him to become the present, loving father that he knows he can be.

Names and photos have been changed to protect families' privacy.



To learn more about the impact of this program on our partners and families, please contact
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