



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA



# Information about the Care in the Community Disability Welfare Fund



**November 2022**



**Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government

# What is the Care in the Community Disability Welfare Fund?



The Care in the Community Disability Welfare Fund:

- is for disabled people and their whānau / family who have been affected by COVID-19
- supports disabled people to connect with local **funding providers** in their community.



A **funding provider** is a group / service that you might get support from.



Some ways that COVID-19 might have affected disabled people are:



- making them very sick for a long time

- making it harder to go out to places safely



- making it harder to get the money needed to live well.



The Government has put a total of 8 million dollars into the Care in the Community Disability Welfare Fund.



In this document we will call the Care in the Community Disability Welfare Fund the **Fund**.

## Who can apply for funding?



Support is available from the Fund for every disabled person in a whānau / family.



This means if you have more than 1 disabled person in your whānau / family they can apply for the same amount of support.



Each disabled person can apply for funding of up to **2 thousand dollars**.



Disabled people of all ages can apply for funding.

# What kind of funding can you get?



You may be able to:

- get direct funding which is money given to you to purchase / buy the support discussed with the funding provider
- have things bought for you by the funding provider such as:
  - support services
  - devices such as flashing doorbells for the Deaf
  - equipment such as walking frames.





Different funding providers offer different kinds of support like:

- connecting people with the different services they need
- food deliveries
- support for Māori whānau and Pacific people.



People can only get funding from 1 funding provider.



# What can the Fund be used for?

The kinds of things that will be given funding first are:



- support for disabled people to connect with social groups and communities



- support for the whānau / family of a disabled person



- things that will make it less likely for a disabled person to catch COVID-19 like face masks



- connecting with support networks.

# What can the Fund not be used for?



The Care in the Community Disability Welfare Fund **cannot** be used for:



- support provided by the Community Connector service
- supports / services that have already been bought
- paying for **subscriptions**
- buying **cash assets**.



**Subscriptions** are when you agree to pay money to someone lots of times such as every month.



**Cash assets** are documents that can be used in place of money like:

- shares
- stocks
- bonds.

Other things the Fund **cannot** be used for include:



- buying a vehicle like a car
- alcohol – beer / wine / spirits



- cigarettes / tobacco
- items used for vaping
- gambling like Lotto tickets



- food.

You can get funding support for food from:



- the **Food Secure Communities Programme**
- **Special Needs Grant** for food.

WORK AND INCOME  
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You can find more information about the **Food Secure Communities Programme** at the Ministry of Social Development website here:



<https://bit.ly/3UnQ2IT>

WORK AND INCOME  
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You can find more information about the **Special Needs Grant** for food at the Work and Income website here:



<https://bit.ly/2ReNyN6>

## How do you apply for the Fund?



To apply for the Fund you need to first find a funding provider in the area where you live.



You can find a list of all funding providers on the Ministry of Social Development website at:

**<https://bit.ly/3hsTZ0f>**



You should contact the funding provider that best supports your needs.



The funding provider will work with you to find out what support / funding you need.



You do not need to show **proof** of your disability to get funding.

Showing **proof** is when you show that something is true / real.



Funding providers may ask if you can show proof of any supports you buy such as:

- a receipt
- an invoice.



You do not have to show proof of these if you cannot do so.



It is important to know that:  
funding **cannot** be used for:

- items you have already bought
- items / services you already get funding for.



All funding is given to meet the needs  
the disabled person / their whānau  
have now.



Funding will not be given to pay for  
any **future** needs you might have.

**Future** means in the years to come.

## Where to get more information



You can find more information about the Care in the Community Disability Welfare Fund on the Ministry of Social Development website at:



<https://bit.ly/3TI8650>



There are also answers to common questions about the Fund on the website at:

<https://bit.ly/3TfAg1n>



If you have a question that is not answered on the website you can contact us by email on:

[cicdisabilityfund@msd.govt.nz](mailto:cicdisabilityfund@msd.govt.nz)



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This information has been written by the Ministry of Social Development.



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