

Small Group Childcare Benevolence Fund FAQs:

1) *Why is HOPE piloting a childcare benevolence plan for Small Group meetings?*

At HOPE, our mission is to offer experiences, relationships and places where people can find life and purpose through Jesus Christ. We recognize that for some parents, the cost of childcare might be an obstacle in their ability to experience Jesus Christ and build relationships with their peers while participating in a Small Group meeting.

To assist parents in removing this obstacle, we have decided to offer a benevolence fund to parents for childcare costs incurred as a result of participating in a Small Group meeting. Through childcare benevolence, each family is able to make the best decisions for their family regarding their children's eating and sleeping schedule as well as their preferred babysitter.

2) *Does HOPE have a recommended list of babysitters?*

No, for liability reasons HOPE is not allowed to give you recommendations of babysitters. Family, friends and others you know with children are going to be the best place to find babysitter recommendations.

3) *Will receiving benevolence money affect my income level?*

Childcare financial assistance is an extension of HOPE's benevolence funds. HOPE will not issue a Form 1099 to the recipient as these disbursements are classified as benevolence by financial and tax auditors.

4) *How soon do I need to fill out the Childcare Benevolence Form?*

You must submit a Childcare Benevolence Form within 45 days of the Small Group meeting you attended. The Form should be submitted on a monthly basis.

5) *How many hours of childcare will HOPE reimburse?*

We have estimated that the average Small Group meeting will last up to two hours. The amount paid to a babysitter is entirely and fully up to the parents. HOPE's assistance is intended to help offset some (but likely not all) of the childcare costs associated with the parents' participation in a Small Group. The current reimbursement is based on a meeting reimbursement, the rates are as follows:

1 child = \$15 per meeting
2 children = \$18 per meeting
3 children = \$20 per meeting
4+ children = \$25 per meeting

6) *Is there a cap on how much reimbursement my family can receive for benevolence?*

Yes, for the period September thru December 2014, the maximum amount a family can be given is \$150.

7) Are there any restrictions or qualifications to the benevolence program?

Any family that attends HOPE on a regular basis, for which childcare is an obstacle to participation and all other childcare solutions have been considered, is eligible to request assistance from childcare expenses incurred for children under the age of 13. Policy exceptions for older children with special needs will be considered.

8) *How will I receive my check?*

Reimbursement checks will be mailed to your home address listed on the Childcare Benevolence Form. Generally checks are processed every three weeks.

9) I have a unique situation that isn't addressed in FAQs.

Please contact Sally Johnson at sjohnson@hopecentral.com if you need any further assistance.