



**The Hamilton Tiger-Cat Support Fund (HTCAASF)** is like a helping hand for our former Hamilton Tiger-Cat players who might be going through tough times. Here's what you need to know:

**1. Why It Exists:**

- The fund is here to support our fellow alumni who are facing economic challenges due to medical issues or sudden income loss.

**2. Who Can Apply:**

- If you're a former Tiger-Cat player and have played with the team for at least **2 years**, you're eligible to explore the Support Fund Applications.
- Take a peek at the **CFLAA Support Fund Guidelines** before applying.

**3. Recent Ways We've Helped:**

- **Medical Expenses:** We've supported an alumni member and their family during cancer treatments.
- **Physical Hardship:** Another former player, dealing with addiction-related challenges, received support to transition into a rental property and get back on their feet.
- **Family Struggles:** We've assisted the family of a recently passed HTCAA member with funeral costs.
- **Back Surgery Recovery:** A Hall of Fame player undergoing surgery got financial help to cover hospital costs.

**4. Where the Funds Come From:**

- Our alumni dues, the annual golf tournament, the Wall of Honor dinner, and other charitable initiatives coordinated by the HTCAA all contribute to the fund.

**5. Want to Contribute?:**

- If you'd like to make a difference, reach out to HTAASF Chair, Ryan Donnelly, at [rdonnelly@goodlifefitness.com](mailto:rdonnelly@goodlifefitness.com).

Remember, we're all part of the Tiger-Cat family, and supporting each other is what it's all about!

## **HTCAA Support Fund Guidelines**

Please read these guidelines before completing your application.

There are **3 options** for receiving financial assistance (**Plan A, Plan B, or Plan C**) that are outlined below. The following criteria apply to the **three options**.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

- A former player must have a minimum 2-year career with the Hamilton Tiger Cat football club. A year is defined as playing at least one regular-season game and having contributed one game's union dues to the CFLPA
- The Alumni must be Retired for a minimum of 2 years to qualify.

### **APPLICATION INFORMATION**

- An application for support can be submitted by the player, a family member, or a friend acting on his behalf.
- All information provided is strictly confidential.
- Funding decisions will be made on an objective non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, colour, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, or stature as a player.
- All bills to be considered for payment must be included in your application.
- **The HTCAASF pays bills only to Service Providers. No money will be paid directly to the applicant.**
- Items **not** covered by the **HTCAASF**:
  - Alimony
  - Child support
  - Taxes
  - Fines
  - Legal expenses
  - Tuition fees
  - Credit card bills
  - Mortgage payments
  - Luxury items
  - Car purchase

### **FUND ADMINISTRATION**

The CFLAASF is administered by a committee known as the **HTCAA Support Fund Committee** which is appointed by the HTCAA Board of Directors. The committee is responsible for the vetting of all applications and the allocation of funds to applicants.

## **THE PROCESS**

### **Step #1**

The applicant will complete an application form providing all requested information. If you have questions, concerns, or need assistance completing the form contact:

**Ryan Donnelly, HTCAASF Chair**

**Email: [rdonnelly@goodlifefitness.com](mailto:rdonnelly@goodlifefitness.com)**

### **Step #2**

The application is reviewed by the Executive Director for clarity, omissions, and to confirm all pertinent information is included and up-to-date. The committee will then determine if the applicant falls within the criteria for financial assistance.

### **Step #3**

A decision on the request will be by consensus of the committee. **Options include acceptance, rejection, or modification of the amount requested.** The applicant will be notified of the decision in writing.

### **Step #4**

If approved, cheque(s) will be **forwarded directly to the service provider(s) to pay for any approved invoice(s).** **Cheques will not be issued directly to the applicant.**

## **HTCAA SUPPORT FUND PLANS**

### **PLAN A**

#### **Long Term Medical**

This plan provides financial assistance to a fellow alumnus who is experiencing a **long-term medical challenge** that has created financial hardship.

#### **Eligible Expenses**

- prescription drugs
- assisted living
- medical equipment and supplies e.g. wheelchair

**The lifetime maximum amount of Plan A support is \$3500 Canadian.**

## **PLAN B**

### **Emergency Compassionate Grant**

This plan provides financial assistance to a fellow alumnus who is facing temporary short-term financial difficulties resulting from a loss of income or an extraordinary expense.

#### **Eligible Expenses**

- rent and shelter
- food and clothing
- funeral
- utilities
- short-term health

**The lifetime maximum amount of Plan B support is \$2,000 Canadian.**

## **Plan C**

Plan C provides funding through websites such as GoFundMe, YouCaring, etc., has become a popular and successful strategy to raise funds in support of individuals and associations.

This plan provides financial assistance to a fellow alumnus who is facing financial difficulties resulting from a loss of income or an extraordinary expense.

The HTCAASF committee will review the application and then make their decision. If approved, a cheque will be forwarded for payment directly to the crowd funding manager.

**The lifetime maximum amount each alumnus is eligible to receive for crowd funding is \$1,000 Canadian.**

To apply for any of the support plans email **Ryan Donnelly** at [rdonnelly@goodlifefitness.com](mailto:rdonnelly@goodlifefitness.com) for applications.

You will need to submit an overview of the situation at hand and an application will be emailed to you.