

Our Mission

The Cystic Fibrosis Association of Erie County ("CFA") began its journey on May 3, 1965, to bring public attention to cystic fibrosis ("CF") and to help families affected by this devastating disease. Today the CFA continues to serve CF families in Erie and Crawford counties, PA. Our goal is to help relieve some of the day-to-day stress and anxiety and financial burdens that come with the daily challenges of CF. The CFA provides financial assistance to offset the high costs of medical insurance deductibles, the copy of medical bills, and the copy of prescription medications. CFA reimburses the caregiver for meal and hotel accommodations when a patient is hospitalized. The CFA provides scholarships for trade schools and college degrees.

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Understanding who is a carrier

An estimated 30,000 children and adults in the United States are diagnosed with CF each year.

There are more than 10 million Americans who are symptomless carriers of the defective CF gene. A simple sweat test can help detect carriers, who could pass CF onto their children.

In order to have cystic fibrosis, a child must inherit one copy of the defective CF gene from each parent. Each time two carriers of the CF gene becomes pregnant the chances are 25% the child will have CF and 50% the child will carry the CF gene but not have CF.



Cystic Fibrosis
Association
of Erie County

Until we find a cure.

Serving CF Families
since 1965

What is CF?

Cystic Fibrosis is a life-threatening genetic disease that primarily affects the lungs and digestive system.



What are the symptoms?

Depending on the severity of the disease, some people may not even experience symptoms until adolescence or adulthood. Symptoms can also worsen or improve over time. CF has a variety of symptoms that affect both the respiratory and digestive systems including:

Salty-tasting skin, foul-smelling greasy stools, persistent cough and excessive mucus, bulky stools or difficulty with bowel movements, frequent lung infections, severe constipation, wheezing or shortness of breath, stomach aches, poor weight gain and growth, and vitamin deficiency.

How we help

Direct Dollar Disbursement ("DDD")
Policy requirements at: www.cfaerie.org

- Reimbursement for medical insurance deductibles.
- Evidence of medical care, at an eligible CF treatment center, is reimbursable at \$250 per round-trip.
- The copays for CF medical appointments and hospitalization.
- The copay for CF prescriptions.
- Provide cash assistance for CF-related nonprescription necessities.
- CF-related expenses through the "special request" relief program.

When the CF Patient is hospitalized:

- The caregiver may submit for meal receipts for \$50 per day up to 14 days.
- The caregiver may submit for a hotel room not to exceed 14 days per hospital stay.

Visit our website for helpful information at www.cfaerie.org

About Us

The CFA began its journey in May of 1965, when Lucille S. and T. Paul Sullivan had a child with cystic fibrosis who passed away at the age of 10. The Sullivans hoped to bring public attention to this disease, realizing that early diagnosis and treatment could help keep children alive until a cure was found.

To this day, CFA is still a team of unpaid volunteers who proudly continue the Sullivan's legacy.

CFA currently supports approximately 40 CF families struggling with this life-shortening, inherited disorder for which there is still no cure.

Our families rely on us since the federal government, to this day, does not research for a cure of this devastating disease.