



FINANCIAL AID AT SPRING LAKE RANCH

Thank you for your recent inquiry regarding Financial Aid. Spring Lake Ranch is pleased to be able to offer limited financial assistance for those demonstrating significant need. This letter contains information about Financial Aid, its parameters, and how to go about accessing assistance.

The Sarcka Scholarship Fund, named in honor of our founders, exists to support individuals and families who might not otherwise be able to afford the Spring Lake program. The funds supporting this program come from two sources during the previous, fiscal year: Donations to the Sarcka Scholarship Fund in the form of Annual Giving and Program Income, primarily maple syrup sales. It is our hope that the funds can provide an opportunity for a person to have a successful stay at the Ranch and not stop short of their goals due to a lack of funds. However, the funds are **very limited**, and we have a responsibility to manage these funds diligently. Therefore, we must consider each request carefully.

Financial Aid awards are available after a resident has completed 60 days in our program. The award would appear in the **following month's bill**. The level of the initial grant is based in part on what a family is able to provide and in part on the funds available in the Sarcka Scholarship Fund. Grants may not exceed 50% of monthly fees, and every effort is made to keep a grant consistent for a three month period before being re-evaluated for its financial merits. The maximum length of time a Resident/Client may receive Financial Aid is one year. Financial Aid is available for those in the Cuttingsville Program or in Royce Street Transitional Program, not for those in independent apartment living. **Please note that grants are applied only if all current balances are paid up in full.**

Each grant is also reviewed by the Financial Aid Committee on a monthly basis. Another aspect of the decision to provide Financial Aid is the work and progress the Resident is making at the Ranch and their commitment to a reasonable plan for the future. To understand this we will undertake some review of the person's progress with their Long Term Advisor, the Resident Coordinators, the Resident Service Director, and perhaps with the family member themselves.

To be considered for Financial Aid a letter of request, citing the need for assistance, and a fully completed application may be returned to my attention at any time but must be at **least three weeks in advance of the month** when Financial Aid may begin.

Jim Taggart, Executive Director
Spring Lake Ranch
1169 Spring Lake Road
Cuttingsville, VT 05738
jim@springlakeranch.org