

## **ARMS AROUND BAINBRIDGE — GRANT PROGRAM**

Arms Around Bainbridge's mission is to provide financial and emotional support to Bainbridge Island residents in crisis due to serious illness. AAB defines a "serious illness" as a physical condition that: (i) is expected to continue for at least three months from the date of review and results from illness or accident; and (ii) prevents the individual from meeting his/her basic daily financial needs during that time. AAB does not provide support to persons whose root cause of illness is a psychological condition or addiction.

As an adjunct to its general mission, AAB will also provide funds to assist a person who suffers from a serious medical condition and is generally able to meet his/her basic daily financial needs, but is confronted with an expense beyond his/her usual budget. *Examples* of such situations are an extraordinarily high utility bill or a car repair.

### **APPLICANT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Other than receiving a written referral from a medical-services provider or social-services agency or a written request directly from a potential applicant, AAB does not use a formal application form.

Applications for AAB'S Grant Program will be subject to an abbreviated application and review process. Upon receipt of an application, a single member of the AAB Board will contact the applicant to acquire basic information about the applicant's medical condition and financial status, as well as additional details about the specific expense for which assistance is being requested. If the applicant is referred to AAB by Helpline House or another agency that provides services to low-income individuals, the interview with the applicant may be limited to details about the specific expense or, in AAB's discretion, eliminated entirely.

The Board member will prepare a short confidential report for review by the entire AAB Board at its next meeting. In their discretion, a majority of the Board may elect to approve the expenditure by e-mail in lieu of a formal Board meeting.

An individual may apply more than once for a grant. Such assistance, however, will not be given to an individual more than three times in any six-month period, after which the individual may be directed to apply under AAB's standard program for long-term support..