

Dr. James R. Popplewell Fund

Monies have been made available to Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC) for disbursement to needy consumers through a discretionary fund for many years, assisting those consumers with special needs to be used for positive and productive purposes. The monies come from individual donors and are accepted by the VMRC Board of Directors to be placed in a special discretionary fund.

In an effort to further advocate for and assist consumers, Kazi Popplewell contacted VMRC's Executive Director about making a sizeable contribution to this discretionary fund in memory of Dr. James R. Popplewell, VMRC's long-time physician. An initial donation of \$10,000 was made for enhancement of the discretionary fund and the estate has committed to similar, sizeable contributions to be made annually. The Dr. James R. Popplewell Fund was created on April 9, 2012 by the VMRC Board of Directors, combining all individual donations which now make up this fund.

The Dr. James R. Popplewell Fund is to be utilized for purchases that cannot be funded by Purchase of Service (POS) dollars. The fund will be accessed to cover emergency situations related to health and safety concerns or certain special circumstances. Decisions to access the fund must be in compliance with standing VMRC policies and must not supplant the use of available generic or family resources. The fund will not cover expenses related to conferences or funeral/burial expenses. Additionally, this fund is not intended to replace personal and/or family responsibility unless deemed to be an extraordinary circumstance. All requests for use of these funds will be reviewed on an individual, case-by-case basis. The Executive Director or designate will make the final decision as to whether the fund is accessed.

Depending on the circumstances, some disbursed funds may be considered a loan with repayment expected under terms agreed upon by both parties. No repayment of funds will be deemed necessary if elements surrounding the request are considered appropriate and no fault of the recipient's own making. VMRC will provide an annual accounting of this fund each April to the VMRC Board of Directors.