



The **CAMPAIGN** for the  
**FAIR SENTENCING**  
of **YOUTH**

## ***Emergency Assistance Grant Program for ICAN Members***

### ***Brief Overview***

The Emergency Assistance Grant (EAG) Program is a program created as part of the CFSY's [Community Prosperity Initiative](#) (CPI) to support the prosperity of those coming home after decades in prison. The purpose of the EAG is to provide temporary financial relief for members of the CFSY's [Incarcerated Children's Advocacy Network](#) (ICAN) who are experiencing significant financial hardship and crisis. These cash grants will serve as a bridge for individuals who are struggling to pay their bills and will cover (or offset) the costs of daily living expenses, while we work to put in place longer-term, sustainable solutions.

### ***Need***

Many hardworking ICAN members face significant barriers when trying to reintegrate after decades in prison and with criminal (often felony) records. These challenges are exacerbated and compounded by racism and other forms of systemic oppression. The CFSY hears from ICAN members every week who are struggling to pay rent, buy basic necessities, and make difficult decisions about which bills to pay, and which to defer. Many also face barriers to accessing cash and credit, due to a lack of traditional employment and rental histories, and discrimination. The CFSY's [CPI](#) was created to develop partnerships with corporations in order to ensure that people returning home after decades in prison have access to the resources and services necessary to prosper. While work through the CPI continues to change systems to be more fair and equitable, this pilot program aims to provide more immediate relief to ICAN members facing economic hardship.

### ***Grant Availability***

The CFSY minimizes barriers for accessing the EAG, while doing our due diligence to ensure these limited resources are distributed in the most equitable and impactful way possible. The minimum eligibility criteria is unemployment or being furloughed, or significantly underemployed; and inability to cover basic daily living costs. The maximum grant will be \$2000 in 12 months; grants will not require repayment. The application and approval process includes multiple steps, with staff who hold diverse positions within the organization. EAG applications and all information provided to the CFSY will be kept strictly confidential.

To donate to the EAG and for more information please contact the CFSY's Director of Strategic Partnerships, Anna Melbin - [amelbin@cfsy.org](mailto:amelbin@cfsy.org)