KNOW A KID WHO NEEDS A HELPING HAND?

Mass Child offers $1,000 or more to MTA locals to help preK-12 students

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The Massachusetts Child is a charitable corporation founded by the MTA in 1996. The Mass Child program reimburses MTA's preK-12 local associations for expenses that directly benefit students in need, making it possible for them to succeed. The Mass Child Board of Directors reviews requests on a case-by-case basis to confirm that they meet the guidelines. Locals with 500 or fewer members may receive up to $1,000 per school year. Locals with more than 500 members are eligible to receive reimbursement equal to $2 per member. Mass Child is funded entirely through donations, and contributions of any amount are greatly appreciated.

WHAT WE REIMBURSE

Starting with the 2016-17 school year, the Mass Child has returned to its roots: assisting locals to make sure that students in need have appropriate clothing and school supplies that are not typically provided by schools. The Mass Child Board of Directors voted at its final meeting of the 2015-16 school year to end reimbursements for field trips, electronics (such as calculators and computer hardware and software) and extracurricular items in general. The decision was not made lightly, but we believe it ensures that as many children as possible are helped, especially because many more locals are now applying for Mass Child grants.

Mass Child will continue to be a resource for MTA members who want to make sure their students have warm clothing for the winter months, appropriate footwear, bags or backpacks, and materials not routinely supplied by schools, such as notebooks and binders.

Purchases MUST be for specific children, and Mass Child cannot reimburse a local making bulk purchases. If you have any questions, please contact Mass Child President Jackie Lawrence at *JLawrence@somervilleteachers.com* or MTA staff consultant Scott McLennan at *smclennan@massteacher.org*

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- **GO SHOPPING** – Using funds from your local, buy the qualifying items for students with financial need.
- **SUBMIT A REIMBURSEMENT FORM AND RECEIPTS** – The reimbursement form, available at *massteacher.org/masschild*, must be signed by the local association president. Receipts must clearly show which items the local wants reimbursed.
- **REIMBURSEMENT CHECKS** – Checks will be made out to the local association. Checks are sent to locals after requests are reviewed at Mass Child board meetings. For the 2017–2018 school year, the board will meet on Sept. 14, Nov. 16, Jan. 18, Mar. 15, Apr. 12 and June 14. Requests received after June 11 will be considered for the next fiscal year.