

## Samantha Goldsmith Fund

The Samantha Goldsmith Fund was created in 2022 in honor of Samantha “Sammy” Goldsmith. In 2020, Sammy was struck by an automobile while in England with friends and suffered a severe TBI. Sammy unfortunately succumbed to complications from her injury. To help continue her legacy, Sammy’s family and friends raised funds to assist organizations that provide support to those that sustain a brain injury and their families. The Samantha Goldsmith Fund is their endowment to the Brain Injury Association of New York State.

The Samantha Goldsmith Fund will provide a one-time grant of up to \$5,000 to assist brain injury survivors and their family in their time of need with unforeseen expenses related to the life changing events tied to brain injury.

The fund specifically supports items and/or projects that otherwise may not be obtained through other resources or measures. These items/projects include, but are not limited to:

- Travel costs that will support the travel of family members to be with the loved one at the time of injury. In addition, will support travel costs for the survivors to return home and/or to an appropriate facility for continued rehabilitative care.
- Modifications to the home environment to make it accessible for the survivor to return home in a safe, adaptive space.
- Devices/Equipment to support the brain injury survivor to reacclimate back to their home environment.

The fund will not support:

- Basic necessities e.g.: food, housing, clothing, electric bills
- Long-term debt e.g.: mortgages, credit cards, student loans
- Medical expenses otherwise covered under private insurance, Medicaid, Medicare

Each request is a confidential matter and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The Samantha Goldsmith Fund review committee will be made up of volunteers from the brain injury community, ranging from professionals to caregivers.

Please note that the Samantha Goldsmith Fund is a one-time grant opportunity. Applicants may submit multiple applications, however only **one** award will be provided. The maximum grant distribution amount is \$5,000, but this amount is **not** guaranteed.

Eligibility:

- Proof of New York State residency for the brain injury survivor or the immediate family members impacted by the funding
- Letter of support from a medical professional and/or health care system to verify injury and need

- Submission of other funding sources and/or insurances for review, or proof that insufficient time exists to obtain other funding in time of emergency
- Written estimate from a credited vendor detailing the project and cost, unless identified and verified as an emergency
- Application and all supporting documentation must be completed prior to committee review

The review process will be completed in a timely manner to best respond to urgent and emergency needs.

Process to request funding:

- Complete online application, found at [bianys.org](http://bianys.org) and send to [info@bianys.org](mailto:info@bianys.org)
- Provide all necessary supporting documents and statement of need to support application, unless application has been identified and verified as an emergency
- Application will be sent to grant administrator for initial review – if there is need, there might be follow up prior the application being sent to the committee; incomplete applications will **not** be reviewed
- Committee will review and provide decision, please note there could be follow up questions
- If approved, applicant will be notified and schedule for payment will be made

Grant awards are meant to be paid to vendors. They will not be paid directly to the applicant or an individual unless special circumstances exist and are documented.

If an application needs to be mailed, please download and complete the application, and send with all supporting documentation to: BIANYS at 5 Pine West Plaza, Suite 506, Albany, NY 12205. Please mark all submissions “Attention Samantha Goldsmith Fund”.

If funds are approved, you may be contacted by the grant administrator for follow up information for reporting purposes.

Please direct all inquiries to Allison Barna at the Brain Injury Association of New York State at [abarna@bianys.org](mailto:abarna@bianys.org) or (518) 459-7911.