

# Strong Families **Service** **Definitions**



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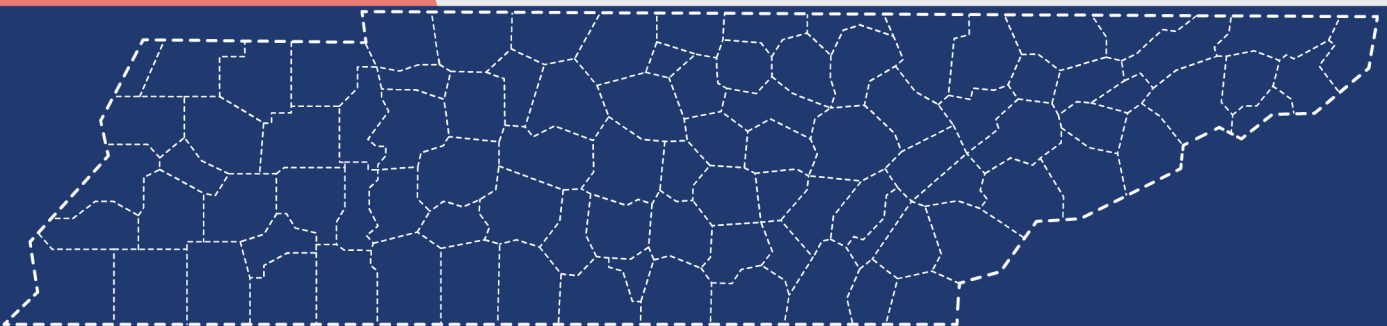
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# Types of Services

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## **A. Material/Financial Assistance (Supplies Assistance)**

### **A1. Assistance with baby equipment, furniture, etc.**

Provision of essential baby items funded by the agency to support the health and safety of infants. This can include cribs, bassinets, changing tables, pack n' play (or other safe sleep apparatus), sheets and blankets, car seats, strollers, high chairs, baby monitors, baby clothing, diapers, wipes, diaper pails, and other essential furniture or equipment that ensures the well-being of the child.

### **A2. Food Assistance**

Direct provision of food supplies to families in need, ensuring access to nutritious meals, particularly for expectant mothers, infants, and young children. This includes the provision of infant formula, baby foods, and other age-appropriate nutritional options to support healthy growth and development.

### **A3. Assistance with supplies for maternity care and/or postnatal care**

Providing necessary supplies for prenatal and postnatal care, including items like prenatal vitamins, breastfeeding supplies (such as breast pumps, nursing pads, nursing bras, and storage containers), necessary toiletry items for mothers, maternity clothes, and hygiene products like postpartum recovery kits.

## **A. Material/Financial Assistance (Supplies Assistance)**

*Continued*

### **A4. Childcare assistance paid for by agency, daycare expenses**

Financial support provided by the agency to cover daycare or childcare expenses, enabling parents to work, attend appointments, or participate in educational programs. This assistance can cover a range of childcare options, including licensed daycare centers, in-home childcare providers, and before or after-school programs.

### **A5. Co-pay or other medical/healthcare bills paid by agency**

Financial assistance provided by the agency to cover medical co-pays, prescription costs, or other healthcare-related bills, ensuring access to necessary medical services for families in need. This may include covering the costs or co-pay for doctor visits, hospital stays, medications, mental health services, dental care, and other health-related expenses that are not fully covered by insurance or public assistance programs.

### **A6. Utilities paid for by agency**

Financial assistance provided by the agency to cover utility bills (e.g., electricity, water, heating, gas, internet, phone) for families, ensuring they have access to essential services.

### **A7. Other financial/bill assistance**

Provision of financial support or direct services to cover various bills, such as a car payment or car insurance. Applicable assistance is to ensure that families have reliable access to transportation for attending medical appointments, job interviews, or work, in addition to any costs related to other essential needs.

## **B. Housing Services**

### **B1. Rental Assistance**

Financial assistance with rental expenses, housing application fees, utility deposits, security deposits, and/or moving fees. This includes assistance locating long-term housing, based on safety needs.

### **B2. Transitional Housing**

Provision or funding of temporary housing solutions for families transitioning from homelessness or unstable living conditions to more permanent housing. This can include a variety of housing types such as long-term hotel stays, short-term rentals, group homes or shared housing, Specialized transitional housing programs. Note: Referrals to transitional housing provided to an outside organization should be counted under section C3, Information and Referral.

### **B3. Emergency Shelter or Safe House**

Immediate, short-term housing or shelter provided to pregnant women, mothers and their families in crisis situations, such as domestic violence, natural disasters, or homelessness. Note: Referrals to emergency shelter housing provided to an outside organization should be counted under section C3, Information and Referral.

## **C. Information & Referral**

### **C1. Prenatal Medical Care (pregnancy confirmations, prenatal screenings, pregnancy tests, STI testing, ultrasounds)**

Providing a range of essential medical services to individuals during pregnancy to ensure both maternal and fetal health such as pregnancy confirmations, prenatal screenings, pregnancy tests, STI testing, ultrasounds, and other medical services that are integral to monitoring and supporting a healthy pregnancy and ensuring timely interventions when necessary.

### **C2. Nutrition Information (provided by Nutritionist, Registered Dietician, or Nurse)**

Dietary guidance and support provided to individuals by qualified nutrition professionals during pregnancy and post-partum. This can include advice and recommendations on balanced eating, essential nutrients, and meal planning to support a healthy pregnancy and tips for managing common pregnancy-related issues through diet.

### **C3. Referral to OBGYN and/or Pediatric MD**

Providing families with information and referrals to obstetricians, gynecologists, pediatricians, or other professional medical services that ensure proper medical care for pregnant women and children.

### **C4. Referral for MH and/or SUD services**

Providing families with information and referrals to mental health (MH) and substance use disorder (SUD) services to address and support mental health and substance abuse treatment needs. This may include connecting individuals with licensed therapists, psychiatrists, substance abuse counselors, inpatient, or outpatient treatment programs.

## **C. Information & Referral**

*Continued*

### **C5. Referral to other services, supports, and resources**

Providing families with information and referrals to additional services, such as legal assistance, interpretation services, social service agencies, financial counseling, educational resources, or community-based programs. This may include referrals to food banks, Medicaid/health insurance providers, WIC, housing programs, childcare services, domestic violence shelters, and other federal or government funded programs.

## **D. Emotional Support**

### **D1. Individual Counseling**

Providing access to one-on-one counseling sessions for individuals to address emotional, psychological, or trauma-related issues. This service involves licensed mental health professionals providing services tailored to the individual's specific needs, with the goal of improving overall well-being and coping strategies.

### **D2. Other Non-therapeutic Counseling (Options counseling, wellbeing support, guidance, coaching, etc)**

Providing various forms of supportive counseling that do not involve direct therapeutic interventions but focus on providing guidance and assistance in different areas. Non-therapeutic counseling services such as options counseling, wellbeing support, guidance, and coaching should aim to support individuals in making informed decisions and managing their personal and emotional needs throughout their pregnancy journey.

## ***D. Emotional Support***

*Continued*

### ***D3. Support Groups or Group Counseling (facilitated or peer)***

Organizing or facilitating group counseling sessions or support groups specifically for expectant mothers and fathers, as well as mothers and fathers during the postpartum period. Provision of a safe, communal setting where participants can share experiences, receive emotional support, and learn coping strategies. The sessions may also include grief support groups for those who have experienced pregnancy loss. Groups may be led by a trained facilitator or run as peer-led groups where members support each other.

## ***E. Education & Workforce Development***

### ***E1. Assistance with resume building, interview skills, or other job-related skills***

Providing support in developing job-related skills, including resume building, interview preparation, and other skills necessary for employment. This may involve one-on-one coaching, workshops, or access to online resources.

### ***E2. Parenting/Life Skills Classes***

Facilitating educational classes focused on parenting techniques, life skills, and personal development to support family stability and well-being. These classes may cover topics such as child development, effective communication, discipline strategies, budgeting, time management, and self-care.



## **F. Advocacy and Assistance**

### **F1. Client Advocacy and Navigation (Assist with applying for services, resource guidance)**

Providing personalized support to individuals seeking resource-related assistance. Connecting clients to necessary community resources, guiding clients through the process of applying for various services, and assisting them in navigating complex systems.

### **F2. Service and Support Coordination**

Organizing and managing the aspects of clients' care and support. Setting up appointments for medical, social, or counseling services, and ensuring that clients have seamless access to the resources they need.

### **F3. Transportation Assistance**

Direct transportation services by the agency, such as driving individuals to appointments, job interviews, or other necessary activities. Transportation may be provided using approved agency-owned vehicles or, when necessary, employee-owned vehicles.

### **F4. Interpreter Services**

Provision of interpreter services to ensure individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) and/or hearing impairment can access services, communicate effectively, and receive the support they need in their preferred language or communication method. This service may include in-person interpreters, telephonic or video interpretation, CART services, and translation of documents.

# General Terms

## **Child/Minor**

A person under the age of 18 or as otherwise defined by state law.

## **Continuing Client**

Any time you see a client for a subsequent visit within the same Fiscal Year.

## **Federal Fiscal Year**

The period of October 1–September 30. For example, federal fiscal year 2019 is the period of October 1, 2018–September 30, 2019.

## **Grantee**

The primary grant recipient of funds directly from OCJP/FAU. (Interchangeable with “subrecipient”)

## **Medical/Healthcare bills**

Expenses including doctors, dentists, hospitals, physical therapy, ambulance, and other medically related expenses such as copays, prosthetic devices, and pharmaceuticals.

## **New Client**


The first time you see a client within a single Fiscal Year.

## **Tennessee Strong Families Client**


To be considered a TSF Client, individuals must meet the eligibility criteria for the fund source, meaning they are an expectant parent at the time of the first service, and have signed an acknowledgement of consent form for services.


# Contact FAU


 [family.advocacy.unit@tn.gov](mailto:family.advocacy.unit@tn.gov)

 <https://www.tn.gov/finance/office-of-criminal-justice-programs/ocjp/tennessee-strong-families-grant-program.html>

# Contact UT SWORPS

 844-887-9677

 [strongfamilies@utk.edu](mailto:strongfamilies@utk.edu)

 <https://sworps.org/index.php/technology/tennessee-strong-families-support-team/>



**TN Strong Families**  
Support Team

This project is funded under an agreement with the state of Tennessee.