

FLORIDA THA BENEVOLENCE GUIDELINES

The Florida THA Program is intended to provide assistance to backside employees based on medical and financial need. To qualify, backside employees must be licensed, currently working for a licensed trainer only and appear on that trainer's badge list. The applicant must be currently working at Gulfstream Park or Palm Meadows. Please be aware that any attempt to misrepresent or falsify information on the application will be considered fraud and will subject that barn to suspension from our program indefinitely.

Eligible backside employees considerate for benevolence assistance include:

- Grooms
- Hot Walkers
- Exercise Riders
- Night Watchmen
- Foreman
- Assistant Trainers
- **Trainers (see trainers' section)**

All applications for assistance must be filled out fully and completely. Employees are required to present current track ID, active state license, and most recent paystub or proof of employment. **All applicants must have worked on the backside at one of the two venues listed above for a minimum of 30 days in the past six months.** Applicants will be considered and/or approved only by members of the benevolence committee.

EYE CARE

Eye care appointments are made through the FTHA office. Coverage for a backside employee is up to \$225.00 for eye exam and prescription glasses. **For trainers it is up to \$125.00 every other year.**

DENTAL CARE

Dental care appointments are made through the FTHA office and are based on medical need or emergency. A backside employee may receive up to \$950 yearly. **A trainer may receive up to \$850 yearly.**

MEDICAL

Chaplain Tom LaPointe will assist those with more serious medical issues by helping to enroll them in the Broward County Health system.

PRESCRIPTIONS

All paid prescriptions submitted to the Benevolence Committee for consideration are 50% reimbursable up to \$750 per year to the person upon committee approval.

FUNERAL ASSISTANCE

A currently licensed person (or immediate family, which includes mother/father, wife/husband, child, sister/brother, in the event of a death of a licensed person) may receive monetary assistance upon approval from the FTHA and Gulfstream Park through the Board of Relief Fund available at Gulfstream Park.

KENT STIRLING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Those eligible include the following and their immediate dependents: Children of Florida-licensed trainers, assistant trainers, foremen, grooms, exercise riders, hot walkers, and night watchmen. The family **MUST** reside in the state of Florida full-time. Prove of residency is required.

At present the scholarships are available for undergraduate/graduate students. Household income may not exceed \$75,000 annually except under burdensome financial circumstances of the applicant or his/her family as determined by the Committee.

Funds are sent directly to the educational institution. For those students in a four (4) year university or graduate program, allocation is \$4,000 and for community college and trade school it is \$2,000 per year.

OTHER BENEVOLENCE

The benevolence committee may, by majority vote, award a benevolence request under special extenuating circumstances not listed in the above parameters.

Please do not hesitate to apply if you feel your circumstances warrant consideration.

TRAINERS

Trainers making a request, must, for consideration, complete an application and submit a copy of the previous year's tax return. The trainer must also be currently racing at Gulfstream Park. Spouses and children of trainers will not be considered for benefits unless a special request is made in writing by the trainer to the benevolence committee.