

# Letty's Purse

Local philanthropists Jim & Dottie Kluttz have created the Letty's Purse grant fund for the Savannah Children's Choir. This fund, named in honor of Jim's mother Letty, offers grants with a twist – applicants must make written and oral presentations, and also commit to “pay it forward” by then committing to help someone else in need. The Savannah Children's Choir is thrilled with this partnership with Letty's Purse, because it aligns with our “whole child” approach, and improves our members' written and oral communication skills.

Letty's Purse is open to any member of the SCC, and it is NOT needs-based. Any child may apply. Funds may only be used for SCC-related expenses (Summer Camp, costuming tuition, travel) However, understand that no program is intended to cover 100% of financial obligations, alone or in combination. Each family is expected to make a financial commitment towards their child's participation in SCC.

The applicant is the SCC Member, not their parent.

Here's how the process works:

## Application

Your child must fill out the very simple written application form.

- Find the form at [Member Resource Page/Letty's Purse Application](#)

The form asks for the following:

- Describe the financial need.
- Describe how the child/family will match the request (no 100% grants are offered)
- Describe the “good works” the child will do as a result
- Describe how the good works will be verified.

The Kluttz's recognize that they're dealing with children, so they don't expect elaborate projects.

However, they do expect well-thought-out projects that obviously are from the child, and not the parent.

Here's an example of an application:

- I need help with 1/3 of my tuition.

- My family will pay the remaining cost. I'll develop a regular schedule of chores to pay back my family for their contribution. Also, I will set a goal of 100% attendance at all SCC rehearsals.
- I will volunteer to sing once a month at a retirement home for three months.
- The retirement home coordinator will document my time there, and send a letter when I'm done to Mrs. Sullivan. My parents will document my regular chores and report my progress in a letter to Mrs. Sullivan. The SCC maintains attendance records, and can document my attendance.

Past “Pay it Forward” projects include:

- Performing at a senior living facility or Hospice
- Babysitting for neighbors
- Picking up trash in the neighborhood
- Researching and presenting to the SCC a paper on a musical concept or about a composer

## Concept Approval Session

Mr. & Mrs. Kluttz will be at rehearsal at a date announced well in advance for a Letty's Purse Concept Approval session. Your child will be asked to present their application, which means turning in the form, and also talking to Mr. & Mrs. Kluttz about their application.

- Mr. & Mrs. Kluttz may agree to or change the amount requested (up or down)
- Mr. & Mrs. Kluttz may agree with or change the scope of the “Pay it Forward” project

## Project & Verification

Once the concept has been approved, your SCC member must complete their project, and have their “Good Deed Verification Form” completed and signed.

- The signed “Good Deed Form” must be signed and turned into Mrs. Sullivan by the stated deadline.

Only when the Good Deed Form has been turned in will Letty's Purse funds be released.