

## Gay Parenting Assistance Program (GPAP)

### - Pledge guidelines and overview of associated benefits:

The Gay Parenting Assistance Program (GPAP) offers two levels of assistance to gay prospective parents who qualify based on financial need and other criteria:

- Stage I (Journey Booster) provides access to **discounted services** donated by providers (including medications and other third party services). Every year we have well over a hundred couples and individuals who are eligible for this assistance.
- Stage II / Direct Assistance matches couples or individuals receive **pro-bono services** and often also supplements them with **cash grants**. This assistance is offered to 15-20 couples and individuals annually.

In the subsequent form you will be asked for the pro-bono services (and their quantity) that you are pledging as part of the direct assistance, the level of discount you are willing to offer as part of Stage I, and an optional annual quota for these discounts.

When pledging free or discounted services, we ask that providers pledge the **entire set of services they perform in-house as part of a normal surrogacy journey** —namely they can only exclude out-of-pocket add-ons (such as court fees or medications), services that are performed by third party providers, or unusual extras (such as gender selection).

The reason is to allow us to build a plan and a budget for each GPAP case based on the pledged service components. To make this possible and manageable, the offers need to be as complete as possible. Also when it comes to discounts, offering it for only a component of the service would be misleading when IPs compare the various offers on [our directory](#).

For the purpose of this pledge agreement we make a distinction between what we consider as **core services** for a surrogacy journey, and sub-components or ancillary **items** that can be excluded if they are not performed in house, or added if they are (and go beyond what is typically part of the core service).

The **core service** components we need for Intended Matched Parents are defined as:

- a. **Surrogacy agency** services (including at least matching and coordination).
- b. **Legal contracts** for the IPs with gestational carrier and egg donor (if applicable), and representation of the IPs in negotiating such contracts.
- c. **Egg donation matching** (or provision of frozen eggs) and related services.
- d. **IVF & egg donation** treatment and medical screening services.
- e. **Legal finalization** services for parental determination, pre-birth orders and / or second parent adoption.

Sub-components of any of the above services are expected to be provided as part of the service package *unless they are performed by outside parties*. For example:

- Initial consultation / evaluation
- Physical exams
- Psychological evaluation or support
- Escrow and fund management
- Insurance review
- Medical records review
- Case management
- Birth planning
- Semen or embryo cryopreservation
- Cycle coordination

Sub-components or ancillary services that are performed by third parties can be excluded in the appropriate section and billed at cost. For example:

- Medications
- FDA required bloodwork
- Anesthesia
- Court fees
- Outside monitoring
- Courier / shipping
- Translations

Non-standard components that are not provided as part of your typical surrogacy packages can also be excluded or offered as supplementary donated services. For Example:

- PGS / CCS
- Comprehensive genetic testing
- Gender selection

### **Benefits for contributors:**

As recognition of the generous support providers offer through this program, MHB offers the following benefits:

- *All GPAP contributors will be listed in our [provider directory](#) (with Pro-bono (Stage II) contributors at the top tier)*
- *Providers who pledge discounts only will be listed immediately after the first tier, and ahead of non-participating providers.*
- *ALL GPAP contributors will be added to our year-round referral / [consultation request form](#)*
- *Pro-bono contributors will also be recognized at our conferences*
- *Pro-bono contributors are often recognized as such in our press announcements (unless opted out), social media and newsletters*

***In addition Pro-bono contributors are eligible for a discount of up to 30% on our conference sponsorship fees, as follows:***

*Fertility centers:*

- *10% discount per each pledge of **IVF & egg donation medical services***

*Surrogacy agencies:*

- *10% discount per each pledge of **Surrogacy agency** service*
- *15% discount per each pledge of a set of **Surrogacy agency + Legal contracts and / or Finalization** services*

*Law firms:*

- *5% discount per each pledge **Legal contracts services** for IPs or surrogates*
- *5% discount per each pledge of **Legal Finalization** services for IPs*

*Other / Ancillary services providers (genetic screening, escrow services, pharmacies):*

- *A rate can be negotiated directly with MHB based on the scope of the pledge.*

Please note:

- GPAP pledges for each calendar year will be accepted starting 6 months prior (July 1 of previous year).
- Applicable pro-bono pledges will be eligible for a conference discount even if they are eventually not used.
- Pro-bono pledges need to be made no later than 60 days **prior to a conference** in order to benefit from applicable discounts.
- Pro-bono services made after March 31 of each year, which is typically past our matching period, may not be eligible for discount (unless we can still use them).
- MHB reserves the right to turn down pledges (or not offer conference discounts) in additional cases that do not abide by the above guidelines, or for services that are not usable for other reasons.
- MHB reserves the right to limit conference discounts to providers who are new in the field. Barring special circumstances, providers who are less than 2 years in business can offer Stage I discounts only, and those in business 2-5 years will be limited to one pro-bono service.