

I. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

One page only. This page will be shared electronically with Grant Committee Members & Fund Advisors.
Note: If Philanthropy Network Greater Philadelphia's Common Grant Application is used, the CCCF's Summary Sheet MUST accompany application. To obtain an electronic version of this application, visit www.chescocf.org

Date: 8/26/2015

Contact Information:

Organization Name: **Meals on Wheels of Chester County**
Address: 404 Willowbrook Lane
West Chester, PA 19382
Phone: 610.430.8500
Website: www.mowcc.org

Contact Name: Jeani Purcell
Contact Title: Director
Contact E-mail: meals@mowcc.org
Fax: 610.430.8505
Year Incorporated: 1991

Has your nonprofit ever applied to the Community Foundation? Yes No Not Sure

Has your nonprofit ever received funding from the Community Foundation? Yes No Not Sure

Donor Advised Fund(s) Fund for Chester County Don't know/Not sure

Field/s of Interest:

Arts, Culture & Humanities Environment/Animal Welfare Education
 Health Human Services Religion

Organization Information:

Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served):

There are 21 Meals on Wheels chapters that serve approximately 85% of the populated area of Chester County.

Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served:

During our fiscal year that ended June 30, 2015, our volunteers delivered nearly 75,000 meals to 733 homebound residents of Chester County. Ninety-three percent of these individuals were over the age of 60. Our typical client is elderly and lives on a very limited income. Many are in poor health or have diminished physical or mental capacities.

Mission:

To serve nutritionally balanced meals, Monday through Friday, to residents of Chester County who are homebound due to illness, disability or advanced age.

Proposal Summary:

Our organization respectfully requests \$5,000 from the Chester County Community Foundation. These funds would be used to purchase meals for low-income, homebound individuals in Chester County. Most of these individuals are elderly and have no one during the day to assist them with meal preparation.

Studies show that seniors prefer to remain independent, and in their own homes for as long as possible, however, when low-income is combined with frail health, many seniors have difficulty obtaining adequate amounts of nutritious food. Meal on Wheels helps these individuals “age in place” with the assurance that they are receiving healthy meals.

If Capacity Building Proposal:

___ Mission, Vision & Strategy ___ Governance & Leadership ___ Strategic Relationships
 ___ Fundraising & Development ___ Operations ___ Other: _____

Annual Budget \$ 321,303 (Main Office, does not include Chapter Food Costs)

		<u>3</u>	# of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
<u>77</u>	% of budget for program expenses *	<u>17</u>	# of Board Volunteers
<u>19</u>	% of budget for administrative expenses *	<u>702</u>	# of Active Non-Board Volunteers
<u>4</u>	% of budget for fundraising expenses *	<u>18,323</u>	# of Volunteer Hours
100	% total		

* From audited Financial Statements for fiscal year ending 6/30/2014

Top 3-5 funding sources: (FYE 6/30/15)

- Chester County Department of Aging Services
- Client Donations
- Wyss Foundation
- PA State Office of Long-Term Living, Waiver Program
- W.W. Smith Charitable Trust

Grant Amount Requested from CCCF: \$ 5,000

**II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
 GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE**

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

1. Organization’s history, goals, key achievements and distinctiveness

The first Meals on Wheels program in the U.S. began in Philadelphia in 1954. The Chester County program delivered its first meal in 1971 in the Borough of West Chester. Volunteers from area churches organized the program and delivered meals provided by the Chester County Hospital. The program spread throughout Chester County and it became necessary to create a formal structure to coordinate all of the activities involved. As a result, Meals on Wheels of Chester County (MOWCC) was incorporated as a nonprofit organization in February 1991. Since that time, the program has grown to 21 chapters within the county. The chapters operate independently with the support of the main office in West Chester, PA. MOWCC is a member of the *Meals on Wheels America*, an organization which fosters communication and the sharing of ideas among Meals on Wheels programs on a nationwide basis. We are also a member of the *Meals on Wheels Association of Pennsylvania*, which serves as the principal advocate and leadership organization for Meals on Wheels providers in the state of Pennsylvania.

MOWCC is a volunteer-based, nonprofit organization which is dedicated to serving those who are confined to their homes due to advancing age, illness, or disability. We offer a hot, well-balanced meal at an affordable price. Although we ask each client for a contribution towards the meal price, clients are never turned away due to an inability to donate.

Meals are delivered five days a week, 52 weeks per year by our team of volunteers. Our volunteers are the heart of our effort. They help homebound individuals to maintain their dignity, their much-cherished independence and remain in their homes and communities for as long as possible. MOWCC volunteers not only provide a hot, nourishing meal, but also a friendly smile, conversation and concern. In a recent study commissioned by Meals on Wheels America and AARP, Brown University researchers found that home-delivered meals provide health and psychological benefits beyond basic nutrition. Seniors benefit from the daily face-to-face contact with MOW volunteers. They reported diminished feelings of loneliness, a greater sense of safety, less worry about remaining in their own homes and fewer falls and hospitalizations. Our volunteers contact the Main Office if they notice that there are potential safety issues or that a client may need referrals for other essential services

MOWCC has successfully delivered meals and served the homebound individuals of this county for 44 years. We have been able to accomplish our mission due to our strong network of volunteers, dieticians, chapter coordinators, experienced office staff and our Board of Directors.

Specific results from our last fiscal year include:

- 74,275 total meals delivered in Chester County
- 733 clients served in Chester County
- 703 volunteers
- 18,323 volunteer hours
- 141,034 volunteer miles driven

1. Funding request:

We respectfully ask that you consider our request for a \$5,000 grant that will only be used to pay for the meals that our volunteers deliver to our clients who do not have the financial means to make a donation to help pay for their meals.

• Description of key initiatives

MOWCC strives to help seniors and other homebound individuals remain living independently in their own homes for as long as possible, with the assurance that they are receiving healthy meals. Our volunteers deliver a hot, well-balanced meal each weekday to as many as 700 individuals in Chester County. Individuals that need additional meals are given the option of receiving frozen meals (which also meet our nutritional standards) that are easily reheated.

• Specific needs and issues to be addressed

Life expectancy for individuals is at an all-time high. Living longer can mean more years spent in struggles that accompany old age. Many seniors and other homebound individuals wish to remain living in their own homes, but have limited family support and limited financial means. Something as basic as a daily meal is a challenge for many. MOWCC has helped homebound individuals in the county overcome this issue for 44 years. We ask our clients to make a donation toward the cost of their meals, but they are NEVER turned away due to a lack of ability to make a donation. We have seen the average donation by clients drop significantly in recent years. There are many areas in the county (Coatesville especially) where most clients cannot make any donation at all, leaving our organization to secure the funding needed for these meals. For our fiscal year that ended 6/30/15, total client donations were approximately half of the amount of our food cost. The remaining food cost was covered by:

- the Chester County Department of Aging (in the form of a supplemental payment of \$.55 for each meal delivered to individuals over the age of 60)

- the PA Office of Long Term Living (pays the cost of meals for individuals who qualify for the Waiver Program)
- Fundraising, grant funds and other donations

• **Organizational impact if initiative is undertaken. Activities to implement the initiative. Please include a description of the expected activities; timeline and costs to implement the initiative. If external consulting services are required, include the anticipated costs and expertise of the consultants to be hired**

Meals are currently being delivered and will continue to be delivered by our 21 chapters in the county, despite the need to obtain funding for food costs. We have a good relationship with the Chester County Department of Aging and other funders, and will continue to focus efforts on obtaining funds necessary to cover foods costs.

Our goal is to help each of our individual chapters obtain support from within their respective communities. We are increasing efforts to seek grants and initiate other fund raising activities to accommodate the growing demand for our services and ensure that this vital program continues to be available to the homebound individuals in Chester County. We will continue to work at securing other sources of funding and building support for our program within the county.

• **Why it is important to fund this now**

Good nutrition is an important component of the healthy aging process. Meals that are delivered by our volunteers ensure that a most basic need is met for some of the most vulnerable individuals in our county. These individuals are unable to leave their homes to purchase food and have no one to assist them with meals preparation during the day.

The average client donation has dropped significantly during the past few years, leaving MOWCC to partially or fully subsidize meals for a growing number of clients in the county.

If we are not able to raise the funds that are needed through grants or fundraising, losses within each of our 21 chapters are covered by the organization's emergency reserve account, which is carefully monitored to ensure that every chapter is sustainable and all of our food providers are paid on time.

Please help us to continue serving those who are homebound and financially unable to contribute towards the cost of a hot lunch. Even more than a hot lunch, your support will help these individuals maintain their dignity and much desired independence by allowing them to remain in their homes and communities for as long as possible.

3. How impact and results will be demonstrated

The impact will be demonstrated by our ability to keep all of the chapters in Chester County functioning and growing to meet the demand of the homebound residents of our county. We are dedicated to serving those who need us. This involves

Delivery statistics and reporting are compiled monthly by the chapter treasurer. The treasurer is also responsible for collecting donations from clients and paying our food provider. The main office is responsible for monitoring each chapter for any potential issues and securing funding for each chapter as needed.

III. ATTACHMENTS

E-mail this support information:

1. Copy of 501 (c) (3) federal tax-exempt letter
2. List of Board of Directors, with their affiliations
3. Most recent annual report and financial statement, audited if available
4. Itemized organizational operating budget with actual results for prior fiscal year and current fiscal year to date
5. If capacity building initiative, itemized budget (including external consultant's proposal if applicable)
6. Current strategic plan. If your nonprofit does not have a current strategic plan, explain why.

Note: Philanthropy Network Greater Philadelphia Common Grant Application may be submitted with CCCF Summary Sheet.

Visit www.chescocf.org for an electronic version of this application.

E-mail applications are strongly encouraged.

E-mail completed proposals to grants@chescocf.org

Attn: Beth Harper Briglia, Vice President of Donor Services & Grantmaking
Chester County Community Foundation

Please call or email Beth Harper Briglia at 610-696-8045 or beth@chescocf.org if you have any questions.

Chester County
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

***Connecting people who care with causes that matter,
so their legacies make a difference.***