

I. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

Date 9.15.2016

Contact Information

Organization Name: Barnstone Art for Kids
Address: 388 W. Pothouse Road, Phoenixville PA 19460
Phone: 610.917.0140
Website: www.barnstoneartforkids.org
Year Incorporated: 2012

Executive Director Name: Lynn Detwiler
ED Email: Lynn@barnstoneartforkids.org
Board of Dir Chair Name: Allison Stinger
Primary Contact Name: Lynn Detwiler
E-mail: Lynn@barnstoneartforkids.org

Has your nonprofit ever applied to the Community Foundation? Yes X No__ Not Sure__
Has your nonprofit ever received funding from the Community Foundation? Yes X No__ Not Sure__
X Donor Advised Fund(s)___ Fund for Chester County ___ Don't know/Not sure

Field/s of Interest:

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

Organization Information:

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

Chester County

Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served:

Children, age 4 – 13, who have experienced abuse, neglect and/or household dysfunction.

Mission: Barnstone Art for Kids uses the Power of Art to foster resiliency in children facing adversity.

Proposal Summary:

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

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

Annual Budget \$138,000 (includes \$42,000 in in-kind labor and expenses)

___76___ % of budget for program expenses ___1___ # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
___21___ % of budget for administrative expenses ___8___ # of Board Volunteers
___3___ % of budget for fundraising expenses ___40___ # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
100 % total ___530___ # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources:

\$5000 Phoenixville Community Health Foundation
\$5000 Huston Foundation
\$23800 In-kind Rent and Utility support
\$60000+ Individual Donations

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$5000

II. Chester County Community Foundation Grant Proposal Narrative

I. ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

HISTORY AND GOALS

Barnstone Art for Kids began delivering one-to-one mentored art programs in Fall 2011, receiving our 501(c)3 designation the following Spring. In November 2013, Barnstone embarked on a Strategic Plan to clearly articulate our mission, program and community need. Our research revealed children suffering from Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE)* undergo statistically significant poor physical, emotional and behavioral health outcomes. We also determined children can develop resiliency to mitigate the risks, but very few programs currently exist. The Power of Art program was born.

Since beginning our full year program last year, we have hosted 6 programs and reached over 50 students in the Chester County area. Barnstone Art for Kids addresses Adverse Childhood Experiences (abuse, neglect, household dysfunction) as a public health concern and has specifically developed the Power of Art, a trauma informed resilience program, to reduce the risk of poor outcomes for children suffering adversity. The Power of Art includes a creative full-year curriculum that encourages the development of healthy life skills by pairing a child with a compassionate mentor to create and explore art in a safe, positive environment. The three key components of the program include:

- I. Delivery of a high quality small group program featuring one-to-one matches,
- II. Intensive volunteer screening and trauma informed training, and
- III. Promoting Community and Family Awareness of ACE, Trauma and Resilience.

The Power of Art encourages creativity, team building, choice and individual growth. Each child receives 30 sessions of fun, interactive art activities while spending 45 hours with a trained volunteer. Mentors engage children in hands on art activities and interactive games that provide opportunity for collaboration and learning. Through creative expression, the mentor/child relationship provides a safe and supportive environment for the development of communication and social skills, adaptive problem solving, self-awareness and confidence, and healthy self-care.

RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

What if every child had a nurturing relationship to encourage healthy expression, build confidence and inspire passion?

The Power of Art has received high regards from participants, their families and mentors. Mentor Sean Halloran, Ph.D, writes "As an Art Psychotherapist and someone who has worked in the non-profit world for nearly 20 years, I can confidently say that this program is one of the most creative and effective uses of art with at risk children. The program deserves not only to be praised for its creativity and success, but should also be expanded and replicated due to its meaningful impact on the lives it touches."

In 2015, we implemented a new instrument to track student progress through our programs. The instrument requires each volunteer to rate each participant on several different measures relating to their social development, creativity and problem solving, providing us a way to quantify some of the growth that occurs within our program. Data will be available in 2017, and we expect it will reflect the impact our volunteers, participants and families celebrate each year.

IV. CAPACITY BUILDING REQUEST

As a new organization, the Power of Art program developed a curriculum and established a foothold in our community, positioning the program to continue to serve our target population for years to come. We have strong community support, electric volunteer recruitment, new and growing partnerships, and a loyal contingent of private donors.

As we look to sustain our impact, and to continue to grow, we are asking the Chester County Community Foundation for \$5,000.00 to help create a part time position to oversee and improve our operations. The position will be responsible for providing a procedural framework for our curriculum and establishing organizational procedures and policy documents.

ORGANIZATIONAL IMPACT

As a direct result of these funds, Barnstone Art for Kids will be able to streamline many organizational activities and increase the effectiveness of our board members, volunteers and staff by clearly defining roles and responsibilities. This position will allow our team to continue their passionate and exciting work while at the same time laying the groundwork to best serve Chester County children in the years to come.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

Barnstone Art for Kids will recruit a local college graduate as an independent contractor to complete approximately 150 hours of work over two months toward developing our internal capacity. The scope of work will include:

Phase 1: An evaluation of the existing framework, including documenting current policies, practices and procedures, and providing recommendations to the Executive Director and the Board regarding content, clarity and compliance. The evaluation will encompass existing materials from the curriculum, the volunteer program, personnel, and the Board of Directors.

Phase 2: Develop draft documents for the Board of Directors to approve to assist in the day-to-day operations of the organization. Documents will include:

- ✓ A Board Recruitment Plan including committee descriptions.
- ✓ Board Procedures and Updated Policies along with a format for updating board members about meetings and reports.
- ✓ Enrollment Procedures for families, and well as formalizing family recruitment documents.
- ✓ A General Curriculum Statement to accompany the finalized program curriculum.
- ✓ A Draft Personnel Policy including standards of conduct, leave policy and benefits.
- ✓ Draft personnel forms to include more formalized requests for reimbursement, timesheets, mileage and time off.
- ✓ A Volunteer Recruitment Plan including a recruitment calendar and a polished training powerpoint.
- ✓ A Volunteer training document including current forms, job descriptions and requirements, as well as confidentiality information.

Phase 3: Develop polished and comprehensive manuals for use by the organization, with an eye toward perpetuity and longstanding utility. Additionally, these documents should facilitate a uniform presentation of our organizational process and allow for consistent and clear application.

- ✓ Board Manual: To clearly communicate to existing and potential board members the mission, vision and goals of the organization.
- ✓ Program and Curriculum Manual: To provide easy and accessible information to families, and clear and concise guidelines for program operations and continuity.
- ✓ Volunteer Manual: To standardize the information and training received by each volunteer, and provide a more cohesive experience for our participants.

IMMEDIACY

Children with high ACE scores face many challenges, including academic, social and developmental barriers. The Power of Art Program seeks to fill the gap faced by local children between school and home supports. By providing one-on-one mentoring and a positive and creative outlet, we are able to realize a consistent positive impact on the most at risk children in Chester County. Our program is fueled each day by the passion and vigor of our employees and volunteers, and we recognize the need to solidify our program in order to continue to grow.

2017 is a critical juncture for the Power of Art Program as we make the transition from an energetic and successful start-up to an established non-profit, ready to develop toward new challenges and new opportunities. Support from the Chester County Community Foundation during this transition will give our organization an opportunity to develop more efficient organizational systems while still meeting the growing demand for our programs.

V. DEMONSTRATION OF IMPACT

INTERNAL CAPACITY

The position outlined above will provide the foundation for complete evaluation, continuity, and change within the organization. By assembling a toolkit to structure the more mundane aspects of running a non-profit organization, we will continue to be able to innovate and improve as we grow. Through a clear organizational method we will be more efficient, and better able to accomplish our mission. Though the scope of work included in this proposal will result in visible outputs, we believe the intangible value of these structures will have an even broader impact on our capacity as volunteers, staff and board members.

EXTERNAL CAPACITY

With the additional supports provided by the scope of this grant, Barnstone Art for Kids will be able to devote more organizational energy toward the community, families and participants in the program. In the short term, we hope to use that additional time to build additional community partnerships, and deeper relationships with our existing ones. We hope that by investing further in our community, we will be able to reach more participants, and further extend our impact.

LONG TERM CHANGE

When we step back to consider the growth that has occurred within our organization over our first five years, we are always surprised by how far we have come. As we reach yet another stage in our

development as an organization, we look forward to continuing our growth with the support of the Chester County Community Foundation. We hope, with your support, that we will be able to expand our programming over the next several years to meet the needs of more students, helping to break the cycle of abuse, and build a generation of happy, loving and incredibly creative kids.