

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 of Greater Philadelphia's Common Grant Application is used, the Community Foundation's Summary Sheet MUST accompany application.

To obtain an electronic version of this application, visit www.chescocf.org

Date 9/15/2017

Contact Information

Name: **Historic East Linden Project, Inc., DBA Carter CDC**
Address: **PO Box 37, Kennett Square PA 19348**
Phone: **(302) 293-1854**
Website: **www.cartercdc.org**
Year Incorporated: **2007**

Executive Director Name: **LaToya Myers**
ED E-mail: **lmyers@cartercdc.org**
Board of Directors Chair: **Theresa Bass**
Primary Contact Name: **Ethan Cramer**
Contact E-mail: **ecramer@cartercdc.org**

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):

Kennett Square Borough

Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served:

At-risk children and their families in heavily policed neighborhoods and apartment complexes.

Mission:

"To improve the quality of life in the Historic East Linden Neighborhood and in southern Chester County."

Proposal Summary:

Our expanded community policing program will be a collaboration between the Carter CDC and the Kennett Square Police Department to strengthen children's support networks, confidence, civic engagement and academic achievement through positive relationships with officers.

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

___ Mission, Vision & Strategy ___ Governance & Leadership Strategic Relationships

Fundraising & Development Other: _____

Annual Budget \$ _____

76 % of budget for program expenses

18 % of budget for administrative expenses

7 % of budget for fundraising expenses

100 % total

0 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff

10 # of Board Volunteers

~50 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers

~5750 # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Longwood Foundation, United Way of Southern Chester County, Genesis HealthCare

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$ 7,500

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

The Carter Community Development Corporation began in 2003 as a grassroots group formed in response to a dismal quality of life in the Historic East Linden Neighborhood of Kennett Square. The once-proud community had fallen into a cycle of drug dealing, violence, housing stock degradation and low resident morale and neighbors and supporters were determined to reverse that trend.

Through an extraordinary commitment of volunteer hours over the last fourteen years, our organization has achieved a seemingly impossible result: Our neighborhood is now a peaceful, clean, child-centered community, and has become a model for building a high quality of life in low-income housing.

Our approach is patient and methodical. We recognize that a single meal served to a single child who would otherwise go without is valuable in itself, but that all those small improvements to individuals' days will eventually add up to something much more substantial. The milestones we've met include the last of the ~30 street dealers getting off the corner, the first time the Kennett Run set a course through our formerly very isolated community, the child without family resources who was moved from basic to honors classes through our intervention. In a very real sense, all of these achievements are a direct result of our president meeting the food delivery from the Archdiocese at 6:00 a.m. at least three times a week for the last fourteen years, without fail.

Organizationally, we've been knocking off milestones recently, after years of growing our capacity incrementally. Our third annual audit will be finished soon – late in the year because we negotiated a lower rate by being off-season, but still a noteworthy achievement for an agency that had a \$16,000 budget only a few years ago. The United Way of Chester County funded our after-school program this year for the first time, an award possible only because we were finally able to meet that agency's audit requirement. A strong board, an ongoing funding study with a consultant, and a lot of press are all achievements we're proud of.

A marker of our success that can't really be termed an achievement: Our Executive Director and a key member of our Board of Directors are both on Kennett Square's Borough Council as a direct result of their work for the Carter CDC.

2. Funding request

• Description of key initiatives

We're proud that we do a great deal with a relatively small budget. Our after-school program, which has always relied on dedicated volunteers, now has a terrific professional teacher at its helm, and we're excited at where she and her staff of 13 volunteer tutors, all of whom attend once or more times each week, will take it. We offer after-school meals through that program, and our summer meal program attracts youth from across the region. We have continued the tradition of staging a blow-out family block party every August, and we distribute between 100 and 200 backpacks at that event. For the last seven years, we also have held a National Night Out event in collaboration with the Kennett Square Police Department.

• Specific needs and issues to be addressed

The national conversation on policing is incredibly important to every American, and the cities where police relations have reach a crisis point are at the forefront of our collective consciousness. Kennett Square's engagement with policing is just as critical: We are a very diverse town with a population of perhaps 3,000

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immigrant or first-generation Latinos, a key position in the Black community that stretches from Chester to Wilmington to Coatesville, a largely White police force, and a history of pronounced racism. In light of all that, it is extraordinary that our conversation is about expanding the reach of a proven model that creates real community between at-risk neighborhoods and the police officers who patrol there. That's our reality, though, and it's something our officers and the Carter CDC team have all worked tremendously hard to achieve.

The needs are not surprising: At-risk children need stability, mentorship, academic support, food security, community connections, confidence, and safety. At a time when Latinos of all immigration and citizenship statuses feel targeted, those needs are keener than ever.

We believe that every positive hour for a child contributes to a bigger good, and, in this case, the broad-scope needs we hope to address are public safety for all, limiting the cost of policing, maintaining the peace in a diverse community, and demonstrating a model that can be useful across the country.

▪ **How will this grant enhance your organization's capacity?**

We are in a position to work very closely with the Kennett Square Police Department, and expanding this shared project will bring more human resources to bear on our project. This project will be high-profile, an essential strength for an agency that has been rooted in one neighborhood, and we expect our fundraising to reflect that larger presence in a broader community. For the last two years, we have included Kennett Township in our effort, and we'll develop that relationship further, creating a still larger network and establishing us as a regional presence. In short, every element is in place to build the Carter CDC significantly; we need to find resources and time to capitalize on the opportunity.

▪ **How will this increase in organizational capacity be measured?**

Our geographic presence, the number of children and youth participating in our programs, and the degree to which new partners will be willing to write support letters for future grants are all appropriate measures. We expect our budget to expand as well.

• **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.**

- This program includes our existing National Night Out initiative, which includes a series of interviews between children and officers each June; the production of "baseball card" with a picture and biographical blurb for all officers and our core youth participants; officer visits in heavily policed, at-risk neighborhoods that include distribution of cards, tours of vehicles, and ice pops; and a big public event on the first Tuesday in August. This initiative will expand the officer visits from four neighborhoods to seven.
- Our after-school and summer meals program are places where the kind of informal contact between officers and at-risk children can take place easily, especially as we've established true friendships between children who have been in the program for years and the officers. Part of the initiative will be to ask officers to drop in to act as tutors when they're able; beyond that, however, we hope to find municipal funding to allow Kennett Borough and Kennett Township to add a community policing officer position in 2019, a case that our expanded program will help to justify. In addition, we'll re-brand our

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existing summer meal program as a police-sponsored effort, and we'll establish a second police-sponsored site at Granite Ridge Apartments in Kennett Township in June of 2018.

- We'll work to put a planned Juvenile Intervention Program in place; that effort will identify a half-dozen young people who are particularly at-risk for arrest to enroll in an intensive mentoring program that will include officers, elected officials, juvenile justice officials, community leaders and others who will work in concert to build a sense that many important people support and are checking in with the young people constantly. During National Night Out, those youth who are responding well to the program will assist with implementing the program. The program is complex because of the many people involved and the policy changes that must be made to implement it, but we expect to roll it out in May of 2018.
 - Our excellent new after-school instructor, Meaghan Schiller, will build on our "baseball card" project, which asked students to move from answering questions on a form to writing personal statement and then cut that to a brief biographical blurb. She will develop a number of curriculum elements for the 2017-2018 year that similarly strengthen academic skills through police engagement. Officers will participate in these elements, which will be expanded to include activities for students from our other police visit sites, this year, if possible, or more likely in 2019.
 - The initiative costs will include:
 - National Night Out printed materials, event supplies, food and other: \$ 1,250
 - Portion of Study Buddies instructor salary and taxes: \$ 2,250
 - Additional instructor time over the summer to implement the program: \$ 2,000
 - Equipment for a second summer meals program, including refrigerator: \$ 2,250
 - Classroom supplies for police-oriented activities: \$ 1,000
 - Program coordinator's salary and benefits: \$ 6,250
- TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES: \$15,000

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

The Carter CDC's organizational capacity has been limited by factors such as the expense of an audit. We have overcome many obstacles and have begun hiring salaried part-time employees, getting financial audits, and expanding our geographical reach in the last two years. We are perfectly positioned to build our organization through this initiative, which has a proven track-record but has had limitations because it was entirely volunteer-driven.

Community policing is a pressing topic in the nation and in southern Chester County, where significant Latino and Black populations struggle with the same issues as the nation as a whole, but in a much more positive context. Pushing this model and the positive messages attached to it is urgent.

3. How impact and results will be demonstrated

This high-profile program will attract media attention, and we will publicize it to local, regional and state officials. We'll track our participation numbers, as above, and there's a very public demonstration at the large public event in August.

Our assessment tool will be a very simple questionnaire that we will offer to all officer and student participants. It will ask, simply, which students or officers, respectively, they feel they know, and one thing each student or officer has done to support, teach, help or brighten the day of the respondent.