

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: 8/30/18

Contact Information

Organization Name: Friends Association for Care & Protection of Children

Executive Director Name: Catherine Friedman

Address: 113 West Chestnut St., West Chester, PA 19380

Executive Director E-mail: c.friedman@friendsassoc.org Phone: 610-431-3598 ext. 222

Board of Directors Chair Name: Brian Boreman Website: www.friendsassoc.org

Primary Contact Name: Lorri Sarosy Primary Contact E-mail: l.sarosy@friendsassoc.org

Year Incorporated: 1934

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):

Friends Association serves all homeless or at-risk of homelessness families with children in Chester County.

Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served:

We provide programs and services to all homeless families in Chester County regardless of age, gender, marital status, race, ethnicity, affiliation or orientation.

Each year we serve between 120-130 families (450 individuals)

Mission:

Friends Association promotes the independence of families with children by providing shelter, programs and services that prevent and end homelessness in Chester County.

Our vision is to lead the community in eliminating homelessness for families with children so they will thrive in homes with a safe and stable environment.

Proposal Summary:

Friends Association requests a \$7,500 grant from Chester County Community Foundation to support the four programs in our Homelessness to Independence Initiative. A \$7,500 grant will provide case management, education, connection to mainstream benefits, and rental and other financial assistance to the homeless families we serve annually.

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

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

Annual Budget \$ <u>958,938</u>	<u>8</u>	# of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
<u>82</u> % of budget for program expenses	<u>14</u>	# of Board Volunteers
<u>4</u> % of budget for administrative expenses	<u>521</u>	# of Active Non-Board Volunteers
<u>14</u> % of budget for fundraising expenses	<u>6,500</u>	# of Volunteer Hours
<i>100 % total</i>		

Top 3-5 funding sources:

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

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

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

Friends Association has worked with homeless children and families since 1822, addressing current needs and adopting "best practices" of the day.

In 2009 we began the Homelessness to Independence Initiative in alignment with the HUD Homeless Prevention, Rapid Re-Housing Program. Since then we have worked with 800 families (1,582 children/2600 total individuals), helping them to regain stability, secure jobs, move to and maintain permanent housing and achieve financial self-sufficiency.

In Fiscal 2019 we plan to serve 125 families in the following programs:

- Emergency Family Shelter
 - 31 families (72 children/48 adults)
 - 88% success rate (families move to permanent housing within 60 days)
- Homeless Prevention Program
 - 45 families (94 children/56 adults)
 - 94% success rate (families maintain permanent housing for 6 months or longer and work to achieve financial self-sufficiency)
- Outreach to Homeless Families
 - 29 families (58 children/39 adults)
 - 89% success rate (families transition to a shelter, housing program or permanent housing within 1 month)
- Housing Stability Case Management
 - 20 families (55 children/28 adults)
 - 94% success rate (families who moved to permanent housing from a shelter, maintain housing for 6 months or greater)

We plan to hire an additional case manager to work with the growing number of families we are serving and to work with shelter families to reduce stays and open spaces for families in the Outreach program more quickly.

Our Housing Team is actively involved with partner agencies and organizations committed to ending homelessness. We use information gathered from our affiliates, program outcomes and research to ensure we are using "best practices" and providing optimal services that result in high success rates for the families we serve.

In spring of 2018 we completed our updated Strategic Plan and began implementation of plan components.

Each year staff and board members commit to completing ten hours of training.

We are the only homeless services agency in Chester County to work with families structured as they are when they contact us, including: single moms and single dads, two-parent, multi-generational and grandparent headed households. We work with families to build on existing strengths and skills and to learn to work together for family stability.

Our family shelter is unique in that it is comprised of six separate apartments. One family lives in each apartment with space to cook meals, help children with homework and spend time as a family.

2. Funding request

• Description of key initiatives

In 2017 staff members participated in the **Bridges out of Poverty** training, which defines the effects of generational poverty and promotes a skills and strengths model of care. Using the Housing Stabilization Plan as a guide the case manager works with each family to build on their existing strengths and helps them identify

education and services that will help them transition from poverty/homelessness to permanent housing and financial self-sufficiency.

Elements common to all Friends programs include:

1. Prepared Renter program, monthly budget and Housing Stabilization Plan
2. Children's education and enrichment programs
3. Assistance with accessing mainstream benefits and self-advocacy skills

Program Descriptions

Emergency Family Shelter (EFS) houses families in one of 6 apartment units in our shelter. Each family lives autonomously in an apartment for 60-90 days as they work with their case manager to secure employment, locate permanent housing and access support services.

Families achieve success when they find employment or increase income and move to permanent housing.

The Homeless Prevention Program (HPP) provides 12-18 months of service to those transitioning from the shelter to permanent housing and families facing eviction. Services include case management, education, support services and rental assistance. The long-term nature of the program allows families the support and guidance they need to complete education programs, achieve goals and successfully model new behaviors.

Families demonstrate progress by preparing a monthly budget, meeting monthly expenses and accomplishing steps in their goal plan.

Outreach to Homeless Families (OHF) was started in 2014 to provide short-term case management to families experiencing homelessness as they await an opening in a shelter or housing program, when all are at capacity. At this devastating time parents and their children need assistance finding a safe place to live, food, job search and support services.

Families and their children are temporarily housed in local hotels/motels and work with their case manager to access support services, secure jobs and create a Housing Stabilization Plan.

OHF families transition to a shelter, housing program or permanent housing within 1-2 months.

Housing Stability Case Management (HSCM) was launched in 2017 to provide long-term case management to families who recently moved to permanent housing from a shelter. Services include case management and connection to support benefits. Services are available for 6-12 months.

The goal of HSCM is to provide the guidance and supports a family needs to remain permanently housed and to address any challenges or roadblocks that might arise as soon as they are identified.

• Specific needs and issues to be addressed

More than 780 children and their parents experience homelessness in Chester County each year with an additional, 1,900 children and their parents facing eviction.

Families are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population, accounting for almost 40% of the nation's homeless.

Homelessness is caused by the combined effects of a lack of affordable housing, poverty, diminishing government supports, change in family demographics and a lack of social supports.

Since 1980 federal support for low-income housing has fallen 49%, it has become the responsibility of non-profits to fill this gap.

• Why it is important to fund this now

Lack of affordable housing has been a leading cause of family homelessness in Chester County. The National Alliance to End Homelessness reports that now substance abuse and mental health issues have become two of the top three contributors to homelessness.

The number of families we serve each year has grown in the past two years. We are also working with an increased number of families struggling with addiction and mental health issues.

We are committed to working with all homeless families regardless of their challenges. This has resulted in additional need for case management and agency resources

Agency partners are providing the counseling and treatment services needed by families facing addiction and mental health challenges.

2. How impact and results will be demonstrated

As a Chester County Dept. of Community Development partner agency we enter all client statistics in the Chester County Common Information Management System (CCCIMS). All partner agencies enter data on clients creating a large database of information used by the county and partner agencies to understand program usage, populations served and transition among programs. The information is analyzed to understand current usage, need and for future need projections.

Case managers maintain files for each client served, including intake application, progress tracking, case notes and successes.

We developed an internal tracking program to capture additional program data. Data includes:

- Number and type of mainstream benefits accessed
- Completion of education programs (financial literacy, budgeting, work/life skills)
- Partner agency programs accessed including: job skills programs (ServSafe, Nurse Assistant, fork lift, etc.), counseling, resume, interview and job search skills
- Regular reviews of monthly budget and long-term goal plans
- Children's education enrichment and family events participation
- Transition between programs (i.e. shelter families transitioning to Homeless Prevention Program)
- Financial assistance provided (rent and utility bill payments, car repairs, medical bills, children's needs – school uniforms and supplies)
- Program success rate(s)

We analyze the data for correlations between amounts and types of services accessed compared to success rates and if specific combinations and amounts of services result in higher success rates.

III. ATTACHMENTS

E-mail or 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.

If Philanthropy Network of Greater Philadelphia's Common Grant Application is used, the Community Foundation's Summary Sheet MUST accompany application. Available at www.chescocf.org

E-mail completed proposals to grants@chescocf.org