I. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET  
Date Sept, 9, 2018

Contact Information
Organization Name: DeafCAN! Program - Christ the King Deaf Church  
Executive Director Name: Rev. Beth Lockard  
E-mail: BethLockard@deafcanpa.org  
Address: 730 S. New St., West Chester, pa 19382  
Phone: 484-319-4256  
Board of Directors Chair Name: Teresa Marple  
Website: www.deafcanpa.org  
Primary Contact Name: William H. Lockard  
Year Incorporated: 2002  
Primary Contact E-mail: BillLockard@deafcanpa.org

Has your nonprofit ever applied to the Community Foundation?  Yes ___  No xx  Not Sure___
Has your nonprofit ever received funding from the Community Foundation? Yes ___  No xx  Not Sure___
___Donor Advised Fund(s)  ____Fund for Chester County  ____Don’t know/Not sure

Field(s) of Interest: xx Human Services

Organization Information:
Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served): We are based in Chester County but we also serve Phila, MontCo, DelCo, Bucks, & Lancaster Counties.

Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served: We serve Deaf & hard of hearing people & their families. In 2017, we served 218 people, 108 from Chester County.

Mission: The mission of Christ The King Deaf Church (CTK) “is to be a place open and welcoming the Deaf Community, teaching God’s Word, sharing Christ’s love, and growing together in God’s Spirit.”

The purpose of CTK’s social services program, DeafCAN!, “is to provide a range of community supports to Deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind and late-deafened people in need, especially the most vulnerable, who are often very reluctant to go to others for help because of communication barriers.”

Proposal Summary: We are requesting $6,000 to support our services to vulnerable, isolated Deaf & hard of hearing individuals/families in Chester County who are DeafBlind, immigrants or refugees, struggling with the legal system, and all with physical or mental health, housing, financial, family, employment or other challenges.
If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is: NA

Annual Budget $235,500 (DeafCAN! 179,450)  
___94 % of budget for program expenses  
___3 % of budget for administrative expenses  
___3 % of budget for fundraising expenses  
100 % total

3.12 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff  
6 # of Board Volunteers  
40 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers  
500 # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources: Individuals — 32,000 (DeafCAN!), Chester County Human Services — 20,000, Delaware Co Dept of Behavioral health — 15,000, Connelly Foundation — 15,000, Calvary 9,000

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: $6,000.00
DeafCAN!’s history, goals, key achievements & distinctiveness:
In 1991, key members of a budding Deaf congregation, formed Christ The King Deaf Lutheran Church (“CTK”) in West Chester, PA. Besides organizing a church home to meet the spiritual needs of D/HH people & their families, this small group was the catalyst for starting multiple other groups to address lives full of opportunities:

Social/support groups: Chester Co. Assoc of the Deaf, Self Help for Hard of Hearing, West Chester Deaf Seniors, the Deaf Women Connection & a social service agency: the Center on Hearing & Deafness

All of the organizing meetings for these groups occurred at CTK Deaf Church & with their birth, the spiritual, social, & service needs of this population were finally being addressed. This previously isolated population now had opportunities to worship, receive education & counseling, & be empowered through their own social organizations. The service agency would take the next 16 years to build a range of literacy, mental health, criminal justice, assistive technology, interpreting, homeless prevention, and other services until hard times resulted in its downsizing in 2010, and closure in 2011. Those unfortunate circumstances led to D/HH people in need returning to the church center they had come to trust. With the encouragement of the SE PA Synod & Calvary Lutheran Church, where CTK is housed, DeafCAN! (Deaf Community Action Network) was established to address these growing, unmet human service needs. In our first full year, 2011, 125 different individuals were served and that has steadily grown to 218 in 2017 (yearly demographics attached):

- 24 deaf-blind individuals from 6 different counties
- 30 Deaf refugees/immigrants from 11 countries
- 12 Deaf employees with developmental disabilities - weekly literacy & socialization classes at a Handi-Crafters
- 9 Deaf inmates at Graterford State Prison - weekly visits with literacy/decision making classes (all inmates now transferred to Phoenix & without visits for 2 months)
- Several victims of domestic violence & one homeless family were counseled and sheltered outside the mainstream systems.
- Families with D/HH parents &/or children were provided a new network with regular social & educational activities.
- 44 people assisted with case management contracts in Chester and Delaware Counties.
- 99 Sign Language students & another 79 received Interpreting services
- Many others were general information, training, referral & advocacy.
All this was accomplished in 2017 with less than $150,000 of total revenue. Our services, unfortunately, are minimal compared to the needs presented. However, DeafCAN! is often the only dependable, communication accessible 'place' D/HH people & their families can go.

As of January 1, 2016, St. Philips Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Philadelphia merged with our Christ the King Deaf Church. Pastor Beth Lockard had also been their Interim Pastor for nine years and has been assisting with that ministry since 1982. Christ the King and DeafCAN! are now providing spiritual and human services at both sites. The merger adds significant assets to Christ the King and we are using them to reach more people and families.

Funding Request:
Key initiatives: In addition to our case management contract & program with Chester County, we have other programs that also serve Chester County residents who are DeafBlind, immigrants or refugees, and inmates/otherwise involved in the criminal justice system. Each of those three programs are entirely supported by contributions and grants. We provide the only services in the entire state of PA dedicated to Deaf immigrants/refugees, and inmates, and were the first to provide Support Service Providers for those who are DeafBlind.

Two other services, sign language interpreting and ASL (American Sign Language) predominantly service this County but are supported primarily with service fees.

Specific Needs to be addressed: Communication is the key component to all our relationships with family, friends, work, education, health, even attaining the basic needs of food and shelter. Communication is THE basic need of those we serve. We work with individuals and families in various ways so they get and understand information, then to effectively communicate to others, more fully participate in and contribute to their communities. This work is complex and varied as communication includes first acquiring & being able to use a language, so we have a wide variety of classes, from ESL to ASL (American Sign Language). People need to know what is happening in their environment to be safe, independent and productive, so we work with landlords, hospitals, prisons, and group homes/families to learn about specialty devices that give visual and/or tactile cues for fire alarms, baby cry lights, phones, and doorbells, things most of us take for granted.

Most importantly, communication means helping others to feel comfortable, understood, 'normal' and valued; And that Deaf/HH people CAN! do and be whatever they want. So, our entire Council is Deaf, our Pastor/Executive Director is Deaf, our DeafBlind Coordinator is DeafBlind, our development specialist is Deaf, and most of our teachers and SSPs are Deaf. Modelling is critical not only for those D/HH people we serve directly, it is also crucial for families, employers, health care providers, police, and everyone in our community to see D/HH people doing what they often never realized was possible. This 'can-do' communication helps those others to think more positively, more hopefully, which "translates" into more effective, human, and just plain MORE inter-action with people who otherwise would be left hidden, ignored, or on the fringes.

Organizational impact if initiative is undertaken: Although our work is unique and often seemingly insulated from other services, we constantly reach out to and collaborate with other organizations. Those we serve are often sub-populations within an already low incidence population. Even to find these individuals in need, we have to team with many other organizations and systems. We work with the Dept of Corrections, Immigration & Naturalization, mental health/IDD, children & youth, aging services, vocational rehab, schools, employers, and health systems. We serve individuals but also teach and consult within the community. This keeps our organization open and engaged. We also find that, once we have worked together, many of those other organizations change and become more open and
welcoming, more diverse and inclusive, which provides them and those we serve more opportunities of all kinds. DeafCAN!, in turn, learns about their specialties and is able to connect those we serve with more understanding, accessible partners.

Activities to implement the initiative:
November 3, 2018, “Service Showcase & Dining in the Dark” event/s are intended to broaden the reach and support of our services while introducing them to a broader range of people.
Continue weekly immigrant/refugee classes and supports, not only in West Chester, but also in South and NE Phila., and, by the end of 2018, plan to have a 4th class in Upper Darby.
Continue weekly classes of three levels of sign language instruction in West Chester.
Continue weekly decision making/literacy classes at the new Phoenix State Prison in Skippack. We also have an objective to help the PA Dept of Corrections to build more equitable conditions for Deaf inmates throughout the State.
Continue weekly classes for Deaf workers at Handi-Crafters.
Maintain contracted case management services in both Chester & Delaware counties.
Grow our SSP (Support Service Provider – communication & navigation) services for DeafBlind people throughout the six-county region we serve.

Why is it important to fund this now: DeafCAN! has a small, $20,000 contract with the Chester County Dept of Human Services. However, in 2017, that contract covered only half of our expenses for services we provided to people in need in the County. Then, in 2018, the County restricted the contract even more. We may now only use their contract to serve individuals who are on Medicaid or have annual incomes of only 125% of poverty - only $12,060 for a single person. This leaves more than 75% of those we had served without support, including

- Two Deaf, 80+ elderly couples who had regular home visits to help them understand & cope with their many health, financial, housing, and family concerns.
- 40 year-old Deaf female immigrant who we helped survive a horrendous domestic violence situation after a long distance marriage ‘arrangement,’ found her housing and work, but who still needs support for serious ongoing health concerns, while still adapting to U.S. culture.
- A Deaf, 50 year-old man whose vision deteriorated in last 4 years so that he is now DeafBlind, lost his job, & became dependent on already overwhelmed family members. We had been visiting him weekly and bringing him to social events with Deaf and DeafBlind peers.
- Young Deaf couple with employment & housing challenges already, have three children, one who is very hard of hearing and become extremely depressed/suicidal. We had supported them and their children in all facets of these difficult times.

We need to make up that difference by securing funds from other sources, including your Foundation, Brandywine, Phoenixville, and others who focus on Chester County. We have hired a Deaf, part-time development person who has assisted in sending out over eight proposals in the last three months and helping to coordinate our second “Service Showcase & Dining in the Dark” event on November 3 (attached). We encourage all to come meet some of those we serve, learn about each of our services, and see first-hand the challenges AND abilities of Deaf, hard of hearing and DeafBlind individuals.

Thank you for your consideration. We still have not developed a strategic plan but will be seeking capacity building funds to do so in 2019.

Charitable registration and financial information may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling 1-800-732-0999. Our EIN number is 23-2732797. Choose “DeafCAN!-Christ the King Deaf Church” as your United Way donor choice.