

## GRANT PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

*The Chester County Community Foundation connects people who care with causes that matter, so their philanthropy makes a difference now and forever.*

- The Community Foundation is a collection of Funds: Field of Interest Funds & Donor Advised Funds.
- 99% of the grants issued by the Community Foundation are made possible through the generosity of the Fund Advisors who grant through their Donor Advised Funds.
- \$2.5+ million is granted annually to nonprofits in Chester County and beyond.
- All Community Foundation Funds accept this grant application form.

**Proposals submitted by nonprofits are considered for 2 types of grants:**

### FIELD OF INTEREST & DONOR ADVISED FUNDS (No Deadline)

- ◇ Proposals received **any time throughout the year** are eligible for funding consideration from the Foundation's Field of Interest Funds & Donor Advised Funds.
- ◇ Grant **awards** typically range from **\$500 - \$7,500**.
- ◇ Grant decisions are made **intermittently** throughout the year, as Fund Advisors desire.
- ◇ Proposals are **electronically shared** with Fund Advisors to assist them in making grant decisions.
- ◇ **General operating** grants are encouraged. Nonprofits should be specific about their mission, goals, and measurable outcomes.
- ◇ Grants **focus on Chester County** causes and issues, but **are not limited** to Chester County.
- ◇ Grants may be made to charitable nonprofits working in **all fields of interest** including arts, culture and humanities; education; community improvement; environment; religion; health; and human services.

### FUND FOR CHESTER COUNTY CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS (Due 9/15)

- ◇ The goal of the Community Foundation's capacity building grantmaking is to **strengthen the effectiveness of nonprofit organizations serving the Chester County region**.
- ◇ Capacity building proposals received annually by **September 15** are eligible for this grant program.
- ◇ Capacity building projects should strengthen a nonprofit, in areas including:
  - Mission, Vision & Strategy
  - Governance & Leadership
  - Strategic Relationships
  - Operations and Technology
  - Fundraising & Development
- ◇ Grant **awards** typically range from **\$500-\$5,000**.
- ◇ NPO's with budgets \$ 750,000 or less preferred
- ◇ Grant monies are distributed by **February**.
- ◇ Nonprofits must be **located in and serve Chester County** to receive a grant from this grant program.

- A proposal is considered "complete" when the Chester County Community Foundation has confirmed receipt of the **Grant Proposal Summary Sheet, Narrative** and **Attachments**.
- Proposals are shared electronically online with Fund Advisors, Donors, and the Grants Committee.
- The electronic form is available at [www.chescocf.org](http://www.chescocf.org).
- Per IRS regulations, applicants must be charitable, tax exempt organizations with 501(c)(3) certification and cannot be individuals
- **E-mail proposals to [grants@chescocf.org](mailto:grants@chescocf.org)**. Receipt will be confirmed by e-mail.
- Please contact Grants Administrator Kevin Baffa at (610) 696-8211 [grants@chescocf.org](mailto:grants@chescocf.org) with questions.

# 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](http://www.chescocf.org)

Date

## Contact Information

Organization Name: Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge Executive Director/CEO Name: David Harmer  
Address: 1601 Valley Forge Rd., Valley Forge PA 19481 Exec. Director/CEO E-mail: dharmer@ffvf.org  
Phone: 610-933-8825 Board of Directors Chair Name: Chris Rothey  
Website: freedomsfoundation.org Primary Contact Name: Maureen Troutman  
Year Incorporated: 1949 Primary Contact E-mail: mtroutman@ffvr.org  
FEIN: 23-1657857

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):

We are a Chester County-based educational institution that serves students and teachers from across the country.

## **Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served:**

About 3,000 students and more than 400 teachers attend programs annually, all attending on scholarships, which cover room and board during their stay on our Valley Forge campus. For students, fund-raising is done by our dozens of chapters and partners across the country (about \$500 per student). For teachers, scholarships of \$1,500 each comes from foundations and other supporters.

## **Mission:**

We educate about the history and ideals of the American founding and their relevance today, emphasizing the rights and responsibilities of good citizenship.

We honor acts of civic virtue, through our award programs that salute community volunteers and heroes and with our 42-acre Medal of Honor Grove, dedicated to the more than 3,500 recipients of the nation's highest award for valor.

We challenge all to serve their community and nation and celebrate our shared heritage of freedom.

## **Proposal Summary:**

We are seeking assistance in funding three teacher scholarships, for total of \$4,500, for our summer 2019 graduate programs. Topics include: World War II, Cold War, Vietnam War, War on Terror, 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, Lincoln's Constitution, Innovative Entrepreneurs, Virginia Presidents, and Revolution and Rebellion. Awards can be topic based or designated for a particular program.



## II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

*Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.*

### 1. Nonprofit's history, goals, key achievements and distinctiveness

*Freedoms Foundation was founded in 1949 by Dwight Eisenhower and a trio of American businessmen to "create and build an understanding of the spirit and philosophy of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights." Their goal was to ensure that Americans understood not only their rights, but also the responsibilities, of good citizenship. Among these responsibilities is the ability to work together civilly for the good of the community, despite political or ideological differences.*

*From its headquarters in Valley Forge, the Foundation has advanced these goals in two primary ways: awards and education programs. There have been a variety of awards over the years. The George Washington Honor Medal has been given to Americans from all walks of life who demonstrated good citizenship, including high school essay writers, community volunteers, local heroes, media outlets, and members of the military. More than 60,000 have been awarded since Ike presented the first ones in 1949. Dozens of these awards are still given annually, with volunteer chapters from across the country identifying worthy recipients.*

*Other awards have been granted based on distinguished service to the nation. Recipients include Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Nobel Laureate Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, and astronauts John Glenn and Sally Ride. Our Distinguished Citizen Award has been presented, in recent years, to local entrepreneurs, philanthropists, and foundations, including Alan B. Miller, the Connelly Foundation, Drs. Pina and Jack Templeton, the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trusts, Bob and Penny Fox, and Joan Carter and John Agliatoro.*

*Our education programs have served millions of students from fifth grade through high school, combining encounters with heroic figures from our nation's storied history, tours of the region's most historic sites, and hands-on classroom experiences that include a mock Congress, arguing Supreme Court cases, and dreaming up the next great "Shark Tank" idea. Students come from all across the country, and schools have made our programs a part of their history and social studies curriculums for decades.*

*Our graduate programs for teachers have been an important part of our repertoire since the 1960s, but received a renewed emphasis in recent years, thanks in large part to word-of-mouth advertising from our very satisfied alumni to their colleagues. We had 74 participants in 2013, and expect 440 to attend our nine offerings in the summer of 2019. Teachers pay their own way to Valley Forge but scholarships cover tuition, room, and board once they are on campus. Funding for scholarships comes from individuals, our chapters and partners, foundations, and corporations. A key partner has been the Medal of Honor Foundation, whose Character Development Program we incorporate into our curriculum. For our teachers, that means having the opportunity to hear from, and spend the day with, recipients of the Medal of Honor. Recipients who recently visited with our teachers include Hiroshi Miyamura (Army, Korea), Maj. Gen. James Livingston (Marines, Vietnam), Melvin Morris (Army, Vietnam), Leroy Petry (Army, Afghanistan), and Woody Williams (Marines, World War II), who is known locally for tossing the coin before the Eagles-Patriots Super Bowl game in 2018.*

*Every teacher who attends a Freedoms Foundation summer program returns home informed and transformed, with the ability to inspire almost a hundred students per school year. That is remarkable return on a \$1,500 scholarship. Freedoms Foundation hopes to continue the growth of its programs, both in terms of numbers of teachers served and attracting new partners. For example, this summer for the first time one of our courses will be held in Pueblo, Colorado, in partnership with the Center for American Values. We welcome the chance to work with even more partners and supporters, such as the Chester County Community Foundation, to help us provide the opportunities that will ensure future generations understand what it means to be a civil, active, and responsible American.*

## **2. Funding request**

### **• Description of key initiatives**

*Since 1965, more than 13,000 teachers have participated in Freedoms Foundation's professional development programs. While our programs for students are important, each teacher who attends a graduate-accredited course through Freedoms Foundation has the potential to influence hundreds of students in their classrooms in the years ahead. That is a powerful impact for a modest investment of \$1,500 per teacher scholarship. Our programs include in-depth study of conflicts in partnership with the Medal of Honor Foundation, which provides curriculum support and helps us host recipients of the Medal of Honor, who offer teachers a first-hand account of their experiences and living examples of the hallmarks of good citizenship: courage, integrity, commitment, sacrifice, and patriotism. Our programs also cover many other aspects of U.S. history, from field studies of battlefields from the Revolution and Civil War to the most sacred ground of the Civil Rights Movement, to topics such as the Virginia Presidents, the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, Lincoln's Constitution, and Entrepreneurs and the Economy.*

*In addition to Medal of Honor recipients, our faculty includes William B. Allen, a former chairman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission; David Eisenhower, Director of the Institute for Public Service at the University of Pennsylvania; Allen C. Guelzo, currently the Henry R. Luce III Professor of the Civil War Era at Gettysburg College but soon heading to Princeton; Karen Korematsu, civil rights activist and founder and director of the Fred. T. Korematsu Institute; and Elizabeth Yew-Williams, assistant professor of history at Princeton.*

### **• Specific needs and issues to be addressed**

*At a time when political engagement, especially among the young, is declining, the teaching of civics and American history in U.S. schools continues to decrease. Freedoms Foundation has 50 years of experience in conducting graduate-level professional development teacher programs that explore our country's history and democratic principles, and the individual rights and responsibilities of all citizens. Our focus is to convey the importance of character in protecting and maintaining the institutions of a democratic society and demonstrate that with rights and liberties comes responsibility and a need to get involved with the challenges facing civic and political culture. We think the best way to do this is to provide transformational experiences to those who most transform students, teachers.*

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

*Programs begin June 16 and run through August 2.*

### **• How impact and results will be demonstrated**

*In part, we measure results by sheer numbers. Our enthusiastic alumni spread the word and demand for our programs grows, with many of those educators returning multiple times to immerse themselves in the wide range of our academic offerings. We have gone from three programs to nine since 2013, serving six times as many teachers as we did just a few years ago. But we also measure results by the testimonials we receive from teachers about what happens when they return to their classrooms. In response to the 2018 program on teaching entrepreneurship, one teacher wrote, "There are mini start-up businesses popping up all over the 5<sup>th</sup> grade! One student designs T-shirts that say TEAM (teacher's name). ... Another student is opening a pet-sitting business. Several other students formed a lawn-care business." After participating in the Civil Rights program, a teacher wrote, "We are armed with new ideas, self-reflections on the struggles of race and civil rights, and an understanding of the necessity of teaching the Civil Rights Movement and its connections to today. Regardless of our upbringings, or our school demographics, we are better equipped to help our students recognize their responsibility to move the country forward by building bonds and bridges."*



