HADLEY supports interactive cultural and social enrichment programs which bring together disparate groups of people to promote understanding, justice, social equity, and a vibrant, healthy Kennett community.

- Proposals received any time throughout the year are eligible for funding consideration from Hadley.
- Decisions are made intermittently throughout the year, as the Hadley Committee desires.
- Requests are electronically shared with the Hadley Committee.
- Grants & sponsorship awards are limited to the Kennett Square region.
- Grant & sponsorship awards typically range from $500 - $5,000.
- Grants & sponsorships are only awarded to charitable nonprofits which focus their work Hadley’s key priority areas, outlined on the next page.

Per IRS regulations, applicants must be charitable, tax exempt organizations with 501(c)(3) certification. Applicants cannot be individuals.

- E-mail proposals are strongly encouraged to Hadley@chescocf.org
- Receipt will be confirmed by e-mail.

Questions? Please contact Stephenie Stevens at (610) 696-0501 or Hadley@chescocf.org

Thank you.
HADLEY GRANT/SPONSORSHIP REQUEST

I. COVER SHEET

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

Date: 

Contact Information
Organization Name: Tick Tock Early Learning Center  
Contact Person Name: Karen Ammon
Address: 1694 Baltimore Pike, Avondale, PA 19311  
Contact Person E-mail: Karen@TickTockELC.org
Phone: 610-268-8134  
Board of Directors Chair Name: Catherine Britt
Website: www.TickTockELC.org
Year Founded: 1964
EIN: 23-1646698

Have you received grant/sponsorship money from the Hadley Presents in the past? 
Yes __  No X  Not Sure__

Which of these Hadley priorities are embedded in your program?
X Cultural Enrichment
_____ Diversity/Isms; Bringing Disparate Groups of People Together to Promote Understanding
_____ Environmental Justice & Education
_____ Healthy, Sustainable Practices for Individuals and Communities
_____ Peace, Justice & Non-Violence
_____ Other:

Who do you envision will primarily be attracted to your program? (approximate percentages, please)
85% __ Latinos  
5% __ African Americans
10% __ White Caucasians
____ General Public
_____ Other:

100% Total

100% Total

How many people from the Kennett region will be served by this program?
_____ less than 25  
X 26-100
_____ 101-999
_____ over 1,000
_____ over 5,000

Personnel
23 __ # of Paid Staff
10 ___ # of Board Volunteers
100+ ___ # of Non-Board Volunteers

Timing
Proposed Program Date: July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Hadley Funding/Sponsorship Decision Desired by the first day of what month:
__ Jan  __ Feb  __ Mar  __ April  __ May  __ June  
X  July  __ Aug  __ Sept  __ Oct  __ Nov  __ Dec

Finances
$5,000 __ How much grant/sponsorship funding do you seek from The Hadley Fund?
$8,000 __ What is your overall budget for this program?
$963,620 __ What is your overall budget for this year?
III. DESCRIPTION

Please describe briefly:

1-What is your nonprofit’s mission?
Tick Tock Early Learning Center prepares children from working families for school and life in a loving environment at affordable rates.

Tick Tock Early Learning Center is a child care center and preschool program serving up to 98 children, twelve months through fourteen years of age, in six full-time classrooms and part-time before and after school care. Our Center is open Monday through Friday 7:00am to 6:00pm year round. We assist working families by providing high quality, reliable, educational child care at rates they can afford. Rates are determined on a sliding scale based on income and family size. We offer subsidized care so that these hard-working families may obtain the excellent child care and preschool services that their children deserve.

2-What are you trying to achieve with this program?
Tick Tock ELC prepares our preschool children to succeed in kindergarten and throughout their school career by teaching basic skills with an emphasis on school readiness in an English language immersion program. We present theme related activities in a stimulating, hands-on learning environment linked to the Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards. Our program is safe, supportive, and nurturing. Our curriculum is designed to foster growth across all the domains of child development including cognitive, social-emotional, daily living, language, and gross and fine motor skills.

Our program activities include literacy, math, science, art, music, movement, water play, and dramatic and imaginative play. Our facility offers classroom computers, a literacy center, and multiple, safe, and engaging outdoor play yards. We strive for a balance of structured and free-choice activities, individual and group instruction, and active and quiet listening lessons. We have a Homework Assist Program and recreational programs for our before and after school, kindergarten through eighth grade, students that support and extend their elementary and middle school curriculums.

We have three main goals for the 2019/2020 year:
  Goal 1 – Children enrolled full time at Tick Tock ELC will make measurable progress across the 9 domains of child development based on the PA Early Learning Standards.
  Goal 2 – Complete our building expansion and improvement plans. We have successfully completed a Capital Campaign to add a classroom, completely renovate the current kitchen with commercial equipment, and improve the current facility.
  Goal 3 – Improve Curriculum and programming.

Tick Tock is requesting support from the Hadley Fund to help us accomplish goal number 3. This goal is a continuation of an initiative we started last year. We currently have a weekly music program partially funded by a local sponsor. Ms. Guinevere has been coming for a year and a half and the children love singing with her. We continue to have Science Corner with Miss Karen, a bi monthly science lesson taught by the Executive Director using an inquiry based approach. These lessons are followed by hands on kits that travel around the classrooms. The teachers use these to build on the concept taught. We
have started to collaborate with the Kennett Library and the Southern Chester County Regional Police to hold monthly and bi-monthly story times. Very recently, we have started two new programs thanks to a generous donation from a former board member. Adventures in ME (Music Education) comes bi-monthly to experience instrumental music and music theory. Carousel Performing Arts, also bi-monthly, exposes the students to live performance and creative movement. We are so grateful for our donors who gave us one-time support to get these important programs up and running. Now, we must secure new funding for the 2019/2020 fiscal year to enable us to continue these wonderful programs that encourage and stimulate brain development and build early math and literacy skills.

3-How you will discern the impact and results of this program?
Our program successfully passes stringent annual inspections by the Department of Human Services and the Chester County Health Department. We are designated as a STAR 4 program, the highest available ranking. This is determined by the Pennsylvania Keystone STARS Quality Assurance Initiative following a rigorous compliance evaluation annually. We meet goals and objectives included in the Strategic Plan adopted by our Board of Directors and additional goals and objectives included in our United Way funding agreement. Our parents complete an annual satisfaction survey but our students are the best measure of our program success as they promote grades and enter public school without the need for ELL, ESL, and any other pull-out interventions. We also work closely with the Kindergarten Center to help align our curriculum and obtain their feedback regarding the students who attended Tick Tock. Our students are evaluated through Work Sampling and Ounce performance assessments two times per year to assess our students’ development in multiple domains. These assessments are based on the Pennsylvania State Early Learning Guidelines and current research in the field of early childhood education and used by our teachers to create lesson plans that meet each child’s individual needs.

While assessments and evaluations can be a wonderful tool to measure results, what’s even more impactful is simply witnessing the excitement in our students’ as they anticipate their weekly special programs, watching their self-confidence and imagination bloom, and observing them as they incorporate their new skills and knowledge into their everyday learning environment.

4-Why is it important to fund this now?
The students that directly benefit from Tick Tock Early Learning Center are the children of working families in Southern Chester County. The need for affordable, high quality child care that targets working families is significant. In 2014, the average cost of quality childcare for one child in Chester County was $11,596 for a preschooler and $25,376 for both an infant and a preschooler, the highest in the region. With many of our parents on an hourly wage, some as low as $8/hour ($33,000/year for a two-income earning household), child care could easily consume half of their budget or more. Clearly, this is not an affordable situation.

The particular demographics in southern Chester County also contribute to the need for subsidized tuition programs like Tick Tock’s. Southern Chester County is home to 21.4% of Chester County’s population and 64% of the County’s Hispanic population of Mexican origins. About 90 percent of Pennsylvania’s mushroom farms are within five miles of Tick Tock and serve as the nucleus for the area’s Hispanic population. Thirty-two percent of workers in this area were employed in agriculture and 50.3% spoke Spanish as their primary language at home. The Hispanic population within this area increased from 5,856 in 2000 to 10,565 in 2010, or by 80.4%. The effect of preparing the children of this population to enter school speaking English and ready to hit the ground running cannot be overstated.
The economic implications ripple through our whole community. Among children from low-income families growing up in neighborhoods near Tick Tock, expected outcomes, in terms of income, birth rates and incarceration rates, are among the worst in Southern Chester County. It is imperative that families can afford high quality preschool for their children to prepare them for success in their elementary, middle and high school years.

We are currently serving 88 children within the Southern Chester County Area. 56 of those are in our fulltime preschool program. The remainder are part of our Before and After School Program during which we offer tutoring and homework assistance. In addition to our regular academic program we also offer a wonderful summer enrichment camp to our families. We turn to organizations and businesses in our community to provide activities for our school year curriculum and classroom supplies that meet the Pennsylvania Keystone STARS Quality Assurance Initiative. With Grant opportunities such as yours we are able to offer subsidized care to families in need and provide the children with a high quality early childhood education to foster Kindergarten readiness and future academic success.

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. Organizational operating budget with actual results for prior fiscal year and current fiscal year to date
5. Current strategic plan. If your nonprofit does not have a current strategic plan, explain why.

- E-mail proposals are strongly encouraged to Hadley@chescocf.org
- Receipt will be confirmed by e-mail.

Questions? Please contact Stephenie Stevens at (610) 696-0501 or Hadley@chescocf.org

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