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: 8/9/19

Contact Information
Organization Name: Future Leaders Today
Executive Director/CEO Name: Christopher White
Address: 822 Main St., Phoenixville, PA 19460
Executive Director/CEO E-mail: chris@futureleaderstoday.org
Phone: 610-850-1661
Board of Directors Chair Name: Frank Tanki
Website: www.futureleaderstoday.org
Primary Contact Name: Christopher White
Year Incorporated: 2015
Primary Contact E-mail: chris@futureleaderstoday.org
FEIN: 47-3550964

Has your nonprofit ever applied to the Community Foundation? Yes _X_ No _No_ Not Sure __
Has your nonprofit ever received funding from the Community Foundation? Yes ___ No _X_ Not Sure __
Donor Advised Fund(s) __ Don’t know/Not sure

Field/s of Interest:
___ Arts, Culture & Humanities ___ Environment/Animal Welfare ___ X Education
___ Health ___ Human Services ___ Religion

Organization Information:
Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served):
Future Leaders Today currently runs programs in high schools in Phoenixville, PA in Chester County.

Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served:
Future Leaders Today serves high school freshmen who are disconnected from their schools and communities. Each year Future Leaders Today provides mentoring to 20-40 male and female high school students.

Mission:
The mission of Future Leaders Today is to provide first-year high school students with the training and mentorship to better connect and engage with their high schools and communities, and to encourage each student to consider becoming servant leaders in the future.

Proposal Summary:
Future Leaders Today is seeking funding to purchase the software program platform for donors, Little Green Light. This gives us a centralized platform for communications with donors, providing updates and for receiving donations.

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:
___Mission, Vision & Strategy ___Governance & Leadership ___Strategic Relationships
___Fundraising & Development ___ X Technology Other: ________

Annual Budget $33,000 ____________
___90% of budget for program expenses
___5% of budget for administrative expenses
___5% of budget for fundraising expenses

100 __ of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
7 ___ # of Board Volunteers
2 ___ # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
175 ___ # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources:
Philadelphia Foundation-$15,000
Pride Global-$5,000
Pete Serrell- individual donor-$3,000

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: $1,200 ___
II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

1. Nonprofit’s history, goals, key achievements and distinctiveness

History: In 2014, founder Christopher White started his first Future Leaders Today club pilot program at Phoenixville Area High School. The program was very successful in developing young men, who once were struggling in their school experience and activity involvement, to young men with foundations of servant leadership, hope and seeking volunteer opportunities and employment. In March 2015, Christopher formally founded Future Leaders Today Inc., a non-profit organization created to reach at risk high school youth with the same successful servant leadership mentoring program. In 2016, Future Leaders Today expanded to the Renaissance Academy. FLT has since opened its program to young men and women, with a focus on high school freshmen.

Goals: Grades and Involvement: An individual’s college and career opportunities increase as their grades and involvement in school programs and clubs increase. FLT provides students with resources and opportunities to get involved in their schools and communities in ways that interest them, as well as resources to help with increased academic achievement.

Servant Leadership: Future Leaders Today works to inspire focus on career growth through focus on leading through serving others to instill a sense of hope in the future.

Honesty and Integrity: Future Leaders Today wants to expand the perspective of young people to make them aware of the impact of honesty, integrity and trust in a teacher/student or employer/employee relationships.

Relationships: The focus of Future Leaders Today is to empower youth in understanding the importance of relationships with peers, teachers and club leaders.

Key Achievements:

1. Running two programs successfully in 4 years.
2. Doubled the number of students we send to an away Servant Leadership Camp in 2 years, most for the first time in their lives.
3. 90% of students from last year’s programs connected to school via other clubs and activities.
4. Student from pilot year connected to soccer in high school and received full sports scholarship to play Division I soccer.
5. Received our first Large Donor gift in 2018 and doubled our giving by individual donors in only 2 years.

Distinctiveness: Future Leaders Today is unique in many areas:

1. FLT is a no-cost service offered to high schools. In a time of struggling budgets, where expansion of new programs is difficult, FLT removes that challenge, coming in with no cost to the district because of generous donors such as foundations.
2. FLT’s approach is designed to be a partnership with each school district, collaborating with the school, which allows FLT to provide the foundational start for the student and transitions them to being connected to school clubs and activities by the sophomore year.
3. FLT focuses only on freshmen, reaching and re-directing the youth at that pivotal first year in high school.
4. FLT’s unique Servant Leadership foundational program encourages students to focus on serving others as leaders, not themselves.
5. FLT teaches each student to focus on what they can accomplish today to affect their future, not to focus on the challenges in their past.
2. Funding request

The $1,200 funding request will be used to purchase the fundraising software, Little Green Light. The purpose of FLT is to address the problem of disengaged high school students allowing their past to define their future. A recent Gallup Poll in June 2019 found that school engagement falls from 74% in fifth grade to about 34% by 12th grade. The same pool found more than half (51%) were not engaged in their high school. Many students who come through the FLT program are struggling to connect to school due to a difficult past, failure to connect in middle school, broken home situations (52% of high school students on average come from a broken home situation) or low self-esteem. FLT teaches each student to "focus forward" on what they can accomplish today to positively affect their future, not to focus on the challenges in their past. FLT wants to use the Little Green Light software to increase fundraising in order to expand to more schools, provide scholarship money to students, and send more students to leadership camp.

LGL is a fundraising software in which nonprofits can manage donors and funds raised. LGL is affordable in that they do not charge fixed fees. Pricing starts at 2.2% + $0.30 per transaction and includes a 1% LGL fee (capped at $50/mo). Funding through Chester County Community Foundation will be used to purchase the Little Green Light software for Future Leaders Today in order to easily collect donations and connect with donors.

The mission of FLT is to encourage our students to be engaged members of their school and communities. Through this software, we will be able collect funds in an easier fashion and distribute them to the students and FLT programs that are most in need. The more funds we are able to collect through this software, the more students we are able to reach to encourage to become engaged members of their schools and communities.

Key Metrics:

One key outcome to be measured by Future Leaders Today is an increase in communication with our donors. Currently, we do not have any type of a software that assists with easily collecting donations. Therefore, it is much more difficult to keep track of who is giving and how much. This program will provide us a means to have better communication with our generous donors.

Another key outcome is an increase in fundraising from a variety of foundations, large and small. With a fundraising software, we will be able to collect more and increase the number of students we can reach through FLT.

Timeline:

FLT is aiming to begin using the Little Green Light software in early 2020 to start collecting donations in a more orderly and efficient fashion.