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: August 28, 2019

Contact Information
Organization Name: Domestic Violence Center of Chester County  Executive Director Name: Dr. Dolly Wideman-Scott, Ed.D.
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Phone: 610 431-3546  Board of Directors Chair Name: Matthew Holliday
Website: www.dvccpa.org  Primary Contact Name: Terry Moody
Year Incorporated: 1987  Primary Contact E-mail: tmoody@dvccpa.org

Has your nonprofit ever applied to the Community Foundation? Yes  X  No  Not Sure
Has your nonprofit ever received funding from the Community Foundation? Yes  X  No  Not Sure
  X 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  X  Human Services  __ Religion

Geographic Area Served: All of Chester County, PA.

Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served:
The primary population served by the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County (DVCCC) is victims of domestic violence and their dependent children. Annually DVCCC reaches over 4000 individuals through all of its programs. Due to the fact that domestic violence affects people of all culture, economic levels, religions, ages, sexual orientations and educational backgrounds—the victims served by DVCCC are extremely diverse.

Mission:
The mission of the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County is to provide intervention, education, outreach, advocacy and programs to prevent, reduce and remedy domestic violence in Chester County.

Proposal Summary: This proposal is to support the general operations of the organization.

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:
__ Mission, Vision & Strategy  __ Governance & Leadership  __ Strategic Relationships
__ Fundraising & Development  Other: ________________

Annual Budget $ 2,533,681  30  # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
80% of budget for program expenses  17  # of Board Volunteers
10.5% of budget for administrative expenses  50  # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
9.5% of budget for fundraising expenses  3500  # of Volunteer Hours
100% total

Top 3-5 funding sources:
PA Coalition Against Domestic Violence; PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Office of Violence Against Women, Pew Charitable Trusts, Philadelphia Foundation, United Way Agencies

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: $ 25,000

Rev. 08/2016
II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
   GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

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

**History:** The Domestic Violence Center of Chester County (DVCCC), founded in 1976, is the only organization in Chester County that has the contract with the PA Department of Human Services and the PA Coalition Against Domestic Violence to provide services to victims and their dependent children that present their primary victimization as domestic violence, which includes family and/or relationship violence such as intimate partner violence, dating violence, human trafficking, elderly family and/or intimate partner violence. DVCCC provides equal program services and employment without regard to race, gender, color, creed, age, national origin, sexual identity sexual orientation, disability, economic, social or marital status or political or religious belief.

DVCCC began as the YWCA Women’s Resource Center (WRC), to serve as an information and referral service for Chester County women. Once this service became known, it started receiving a flood of calls from women in situations of violence. The directors of WRC, finding no organization in the area to which the victims could be referred, reorganized the organization as the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County, focusing on domestic violence intervention and prevention. Services are provided at confidential sites and at outreach offices in Kennett Square, Coatesville, Oxford, Jennersville, Phoenixville, and the Chester County Justice Center.

**Goals:** Our vision is to eliminate domestic violence in Chester County. We believe we can achieve this bold goal by providing comprehensive services, at no cost, to survivors and by educating professionals, adults and youth of Chester County about domestic violence and the availability of our services. The objectives of our organization are reflected in the programs we offer:

- **Adult Counseling**—Designed to empower victims and strengthen families affected by the trauma of domestic violence. Services are provided via 24 crisis hour hotline, individual and group trauma-informed counseling.
- **Housing**—Designed to meet basic needs. DVCCC has four housing programs: Emergency Shelter/Safe House; Bridge Transitional Housing; Garfield Commons Apartments (4 one bedroom units); Phase IV Independent Living (13 three bedroom townhomes). These programs are designed to give the clients a foundation so they can strengthen their ability to be financially independent and safe, with the goal of steady employment and permanent housing.
- **Legal Services**—Designed to strengthen families. Services include legal options counseling, advice and representation in Protection from Abuse cases, custody, support, bankruptcy, immigration and other civil matters.
- **Children’s Programs**—Designed to empower victims and strengthen families. The program seeks to mediate the effects of domestic violence on children of survivors by providing age appropriate and bilingual safety plans; individual and group counseling, parenting skills and workshops, and school liaison services to assist children who have to leave or enroll in a school due to their situation of domestic violence.
- **Lethality Assessment Program (LAP)**—Designed to improve the way local law enforcement personnel communicate with victims on a domestic violence call which indicates a high lethality risk, by having the police call DVCCC on scene and suggest the victim talk to the Crisis/Counselor.
Public Education and Training—Designed to promote social responsibility by developing a coordinated community response to domestic violence. DVCCC proactively seeks out opportunities to provide information on recognizing abusive relationships and the wide range of services available to victims. A strong focus of our education is creating violence awareness presentations to high schools and colleges.

Key Achievements and Distinctiveness: Major achievements include the building of "Phase IV," a transitional housing program that consists of thirteen, three bedroom town homes for homeless victims of domestic violence and their dependent children. In 2018 construction was completed on Garfield Commons which consists of four, one bedroom apartments in that same complex.

DVCCC has been accredited with the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organization (PANO) Seal of Excellence since 2009 for our successful compliance with the Standards for Excellence program. This accreditation is bestowed only to the most well-managed and responsibly governed nonprofit organizations that have demonstrated compliance with 6 guiding principles covering 27 topic areas based on nonprofit best practices, honesty, integrity, fairness, respect, trust, responsibility, and accountability.

Another achievement is the implementation of the evidenced-based Lethality Assessment Program (LAP). The program helps to identify victims of domestic violence who are at the greatest risk of being killed, for the purpose of getting them out of harm’s way, if necessary, and encouraging them to contact DVCCC while the police are on scene. To date the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County has trained and partnered with 42 county police departments, two university security departments, and the Chester County Sheriff’s staff to implement the LAP program.

The Coaching Boys Into Men (CBIM) program is a new addition to our outreach and in 2018 we received funding to hire a full-time coordinator. This program uses the power of sports to promote an environment of respect, integrity, and non-violence to high school athletes. DVCCC trains local high school coaches on how to implement the Coaching Boys Into Men curriculum. The 12-week program fits into the sports season and provides each coach with a guide for addressing several important social issues through weekly conversations with their athletes. Topics covered incluclue disrespectful behavior toward women and girls, technology and respect, understanding consent, relationship abuse, modeling respect and equality, among many more. The concept of CBIM is based on the fact that since athletes are in a unique position in their high schools as leaders who can influence a change in the culture of their school and even their community, the program can provide a framework for these young men to become positive role models. Going forward our goal is to provide this program to female athletes as well.

2. Funding request

Key Initiatives: The initiatives for this request for general operating support are reflected in our mission to provide intervention, education, outreach, advocacy and programs to prevent, reduce and remedy domestic violence in Chester County.

Specific needs and issues addressed:
"Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, psychological violence, and emotional abuse. The frequency and severity of domestic violence can vary
dramatically; however, the one constant component of domestic violence is one partner’s consistent efforts to maintain power and control over the other. Domestic violence is an epidemic affecting individuals in every community regardless of age, economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality. It is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior that is only a fraction of a systematic pattern of dominance and control. Domestic violence can result in physical injury, psychological trauma, and in severe cases, even death. The devastating physical, emotional, and psychological consequences of domestic violence can cross generations and last a lifetime.” (National Coalition Against Domestic Violence)

Approximately one in three women and one in four men experience some form of domestic violence in their lifetimes (ncadv.org), and one in three teenagers experience dating violence each year (www.nomore.org). With a population of over 500,000, there are thousands of current and potential victims in Chester County. Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women, more than car accidents, muggings and rapes combined. In medical costs and productivity loss, domestic violence costs our country at least $5.8 billion dollars a year.

At DVCCC over the past few years we have seen an increase in victims of elder abuse, human trafficking, and those suffering from opioid addiction. The stark reality is that families are being destroyed and lives are lost due to domestic violence. There have been several examples of that happening in Chester County. In 2018, seven individuals lost their lives in murder/suicides linked to domestic violence in Chester County.

A common fear among victims of domestic violence is becoming homeless. The barriers to victims securing affordable housing for themselves and their children can include finding the employment necessary to pay for housing and establishing a good credit rating to obtain a mortgage or lease. These difficulties are compounded by Chester County’s well-documented lack of moderately priced housing in good condition that is accessible by public transportation.

**Organizational Impact:** General operating funds are essential for continuation of the DVCCC’s services which are designed to help victims of domestic violence and their children in Chester County become safe and financially self-sufficient; to help them process their trauma and learn to have healthy relationships, and to educate the community about the issue of domestic violence and availability of help for victims.

**Why it is important to fund this now.** With the exception of small, income based fees and rent for transitional and independent housing programs, the services provided by DVCCC to victims of domestic violence and their dependent children are free of charge. This includes legal representation. Funding will help us to continue to provide the direct services necessary to help these victims become safe and self-reliant. It will also help support our indirect services. Public education on domestic violence and the availability of our services is a major part of our mission. Domestic violence is a complex issue in part because it is not always evident who the victims are in the community, which leads to a lack of recognition that it is a major problem. There is also a considerable lack of understanding about what constitutes abuse and what the warning signs are. We address this by providing education to community groups, churches, businesses, medical and law enforcement personnel. As previously mentioned, we also stress education to youths through dating violence awareness programs and Coaching Boys Into Men.
3. **How impact and results will be demonstrated.**

While the value of saving a life is truly immeasurable, all Domestic Violence Center of Chester County services are measured through the utilization of qualitative and quantitative tools that track the duration, intensity and frequency of services, collection times and responsible staff. In addition to the evidenced-based forms developed by our state-wide organization, the PA Coalition Against Domestic Violence, we utilize a client data tracking system called Efforts to Outcomes (ETO). These tools help us determine the victim/survivors' level of satisfaction/success with the support and services we provide (qualitative), along with the type of services and number of clients (quantitative.) This aids us in identifying any changes we must make in order to provide coordinated services to victims of domestic violence.

The following is a statement from a former participant that demonstrates the positive impact of our services.

"I am a survivor of domestic violence. When I came to DVCCC I thought I had finally hit rock bottom, being a single mother of two children and eight months pregnant with my third child. I left my home with nothing more than I could carry. I did not realize at that time, that this was not the end, but only the beginning. DVCCC welcomed me and my children with open arms. They provided a safe place for us. Without the worry of being abused, I was able to focus on having a healthy baby. I have since gone back to school, graduated with a 3.9% GPA, and passed the state exam. I am now a Certified Nursing Assistant. My children were able to complete school without being transferred in the middle of the school year. They are now getting the education they need to be successful in life. The program has allowed me to put my life and decisions into perspective. I now realize how the choices I make affect not only my life, but the life of my children, family and friends. The Emergency and Bridge experience has been not only a learning experience, but a humbling one as well. I am thankful for everyone who has made this possible. DVCCC has given me a second chance not only to have a life, but to actually live."