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.
- 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. Receipt will be confirmed by e-mail.
- Please contact Grants Administrator Kevin Baffa at (610) 696-8211 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

Date 9/27/19

Contact Information
Organization Name: Good Samaritan Services Executive Director/CEO Name: Nate Hoffer
Address: P.O. Box 551 Phoenixville PA 19460 Executive Director/CEO E-mail: nate@goodsamservices.org
Phone: 610-933-9305 Board of Directors Chair Name: John Torres
Website: www.goodsamservices.org Primary Contact Name: Kathryn Maleney
Year Incorporated: 2001 Primary Contact E-mail: kathryn.maleney@gmail.com
FEIN: 23-3011817

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

Organization Information:
Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served):
Housing Services for men experiencing homelessness: Phoenixville
Permanent Housing Services for families and individuals: County-wide

Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served: Phoenixville Housing Services serves homeless men ages 18 – 65+. 87 men to be served (41 Emergency Shelter; 46 Transitional Housing). GSS Permanent Housing Program serves families & individuals (32 families (32 women & 54 children), & 3 individual males moving on from emergency shelter/transitional housing.

Mission: Good Samaritan Services gives immediate help to people who are experiencing homelessness, and helps those at risk of becoming homeless, by restoring their lives to stability. We engage the community to support these efforts.

Proposal Summary: We are requesting general operating support for our work across the continuum of housing need in Chester County. (The annual budget #’s below would be cut in half to see Chester Co. amounts)

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

Annual Budget $1,754,177 _____________ 16 ___ # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
80 % of budget for program expenses 17 ___ # of Board Volunteers
7 ___ % of budget for administrative expenses 500+ ___ # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
13 ___ % of budget for fundraising expenses 2,000 ___ # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: $7,500___________
I. Nonprofit’s history, goals, key achievements and distinctiveness
2-2019
Our History: GSS began as project of a small church congregation in Phoenixville in the mid 1990’s. While shelter space was available for women and families elsewhere in town, there was nowhere men could turn for shelter. Working with a coalition of churches, a board was formed, and in 2001 the organization received its status as a 501c3. At that time, and still today, Good Samaritan is the only shelter for men in northern Chester County. From the first, our focus has been consistent: we provide food and shelter, and we help people to repair their lives, to reweave healthy connections to family and community.

Our first emergency shelter was a two bedroom row house. Other adjoining houses were purchased to keep pace with the need for shelter, and by 2005, transitional housing.

In March 2009, Nate Hoffer was hired as executive director; through his leadership we have developed an effective program strategy to help homeless men quickly resolve issues which led to their homelessness and move from crisis to stability. Since 2009, we have expanded our mission to bring aid to those suffering from homelessness in several important ways:

- Keeping pace with the County’s strategic plan to end homelessness, we increased our transitional housing program by adding in an additional property, 104 E. High Street to house 14 residents.

- In 2011 we acquired, as a whole, a shelter for women and children in Ephrata, Lancaster County that houses 14 mothers and children, (approx. 28 people on any given day).

- In 2015 we were given two major gifts of property in Phoenixville:
  - A large boarding house at 318 Main Street, which now serves as a home to 11 men, and is our first venture into long-term affordable housing.
  - A vacant lot located beside our transitional house at 104-106 High Street, and we are in process of getting licenses to commence building a community meeting space on this and office building on this lot with the help of Gorski Engineering.

- In December 2017, Good Samaritan Shelter took over operations and so merged with Bridge of Hope of Chester and Lancaster Counties to become Good Samaritan Services. Through this merger we significantly increased both the number of individuals we can serve and the types of services we can offer. GSS now provides emergency shelter and transitional program for men in Phoenixville, and women and children in Ephrata, and Permanent Housing Services county-wide in both Chester and Lancaster Counties.

- In March 2019 we launched the Good Samaritan Job Training Program, a 10 week program paying $100/wk stipends to accepted participants. Run by qualified job trainers, the program teaches skills to help participants recognize their strengths, conduct a job search, practice mock interviews & meet potential employers through visits to job sites. The program will be offered at all four GSS locations each year.

- In August our board decided to end its relationship with the Bridge of Hope program on September 20, 2019. As a result our Permanent Housing Services will be able to offer a full continuum of services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The decision to break with BoH National reflects our desire to be flexible, adaptive and to take a customized approach to every client that we serve. We plan to expand our services and serve more individuals and families, not simply women with children, although they will certainly be a large part of the people served in our PHS.

Key Achievements & Distinctiveness:
We are working to address the full spectrum of housing needs: helping people who are at risk of losing their home, facing eviction, or living insecurely, eg couch surfing and living doubled up; people who are currently experiencing homelessness; and people who are recovering from an episode of homelessness but who need help in sustaining their independence.
The work we do is based on a concept of investing in people, meeting them where they are and helping them to develop the skills and resources to make good on that investment through their own efforts and desire along with support of the community.

We also are firmly committed to the understanding that accessing the strength, resources and opportunities available in the communities where we serve are the keys to success for our clients. This is demonstrated in our new Job Program where the students, our clients, are given access to highly trained job placement counselors, human resource professionals from a number of local businesses, field trips to a variety of places of employment, and ultimately the opportunity to apply and work at these businesses. 33% of the men from our first class have already been hired as a result of this process.

Finally, it is unique to have an organization offering comparable programs and services to people who are homeless and people who are working to remain housed. The reason we do this is because we know that our programs work. Matched savings, micro loans, the job training program, the Wheels of Hope car donation program and housing support are all available to all program participants because we know that these programs create bridges out of poverty and stabilizing support on the pathway to independence.

**Funding request**

**Key Initiatives:** Looking exclusively at our Chester county programs we provide emergency shelter and transitional program for men in Phoenixville. The goals of the program are 1. To provide shelter and housing that is appropriate for the level of need, from Emergency Shelter to Transitional Housing, to Long-Term Affordable Housing. 2. To offer case management to help residents develop and work through their success plan. 3. Offer a multi-faceted Job Development Program with clear steps to help participants find and maintain employment. 4. Work in partnership with multiple county and city agencies to help participants access the 5. To help people develop skills and financial stability to make it possible to successfully return to independent living.

**Permanent Housing Service (PHS)** As mentioned above, our PHS is making a break with the Bridge of Hope program that it was originally associate with. The program works with families that are living doubled up, at risk of being evicted, in the eviction process, or already homeless. Some of these families receive support through the Bridge of Hope at Good Samaritan Services, The program provides case management, graduated rental support with optional mentoring, financial stability programs, the GSS 10 week job-training program and educational support. This summer we launched the PHS program for individuals moving on from the GSS shelter and transitional housing programs. In both programs, by working on multiple fronts at once, we are working to make lasting and effective change that will break the cycle of poverty, crisis and homelessness in the lives of families and individuals.

**Specific needs and issues to be addressed:** There is a housing crisis in Chester County, a crisis that impacts low income workers, people facing eviction and people who have become homeless. People who work and make a living cannot afford to live in the communities where they work, and people who have fall

The goal of all our programs is to increase the number of people making a lasting recovery from an episode of homelessness by providing appropriate levels of support and critical resources, thus helping individuals and families develop life skills and experiences that will help them to prepare and better weather the storms of life.

To achieve this, we provide a continuum of support to individuals and families who are at risk of becoming homeless, who are experiencing an episode of homelessness, and/or who are recovering from an episode of homelessness. We have strong evidence of the positive impact of offering shelter, transitional housing, affordable housing in our Phoenixville housing program; and again, in providing rental assistance, case management, mentoring and additional support to families (mothers and children) through our Permanent Housing Services.

**Needs to be addressed –**

**Emergency Shelter & Transitional Housing:** in the year ahead in Phoenixville we will provide emergency shelter & transitional housing to 95 men from across the 5 County area, with the majority of housing going to men who are from Chester County. Within a framework of 45 days, each man works through his success plan. Ideally if he is able, he then moves on to permanent housing (we are developing a permanent housing program for men coming from our Phoenixville program,
but it is still in the development stages, and so not addressed here). More frequently, men who have been successful in the emergency shelter move on to the longer Transitional Housing Program where they can stay for up 12 months (though most move on within a 3 month period).

Further we provide an affordable stable long lasting home to individuals whose personal history could mean that a traditional renting situation could lead to a risk of relapse into homelessness at Breitegam House which has 13 single room apartments and a shared kitchen. Being long-term affordable housing, the turn-over of these rooms is not frequent. As with our other programs, Breitegam House residents receive case management, and have the opportunity to participate in our financial stability programs.

Programs: Beyond the essentials of providing shelter, food and clothing, our case manager and resident advocates works with each resident to help them develop their own individual success plan that will address the various issues that caused them to become homeless. Working in collaboration with a broad range of community service providers, the case management team makes referrals to agencies to help residents address needs for health, mental health, substance dependence, SSI & other entitlements, job training and employment.

We find that the majority of men coming to us have become homeless because of financial instability and the loss of a social safety net. We work to address these issues by offering mentors and financial stability programs.

Mentoring: Working with volunteer mentors we help our residents to develop a strong social safety net. The mentors commit to participating in monthly training and support sessions with our resident advocate, and then meet one on one, or occasionally in small groups, with their mentee. The impact of this mentoring program is remarkable. Mentors come from all walks of life and bring a range of expertise, but by engaging in monthly meetings, they share insight and develop a greater understanding of the challenges that their mentees experience. As a result, we have had mentors help residents find jobs, deal with grief and loss around divorce and family break-up, and provide a caring listening ear and whole-hearted presence when a man is in trouble or needs to “let off steam.”

Financial Stability Programs: We have three programs that all have the pragmatic intent of helping our residents establish a sound financial foundation to help them build a better future.

- Matched Savings: Working with volunteers from BB & T bank, we teach strategies for saving; residents are invited to open a bank account, make regular deposits. If they save $600, we match it dollar for dollar.

- Wheels of Hope: We know that for an individual to move along the path to stable independence, they need reliable transportation. When public transportation is available it is ideal, but in Chester County where workers often need to travel long distances and at odd hours to reach work, a car can make the difference between keeping a job and losing it. Making use of donated automobiles, our staff get an evaluation by a certified auto mechanic for safety and performance issues before transferring the car to a program participant. We also handle the title and tag transfer fees.

- Micro loans: We offer two size micro loans: a $500-$1000 no interest loan through from GSS or up to $2,000 at a very low interest rate through the Ephrata National Bank. The loan allows individuals to take a step like purchasing a car or paying a 1st month's rent on, while also building a credit score.

Permanent Housing Activities:

Rent Support: The 1st step in Permanent Housing is to assist families to secure and maintain permanent housing in the community by helping them find an affordable house or apartment, paying the security deposit or back rent & then providing a gradually decreasing level of rent support over six months to a year.

Case Management: Families begin in the program by participating in the Family Stability Survey to assess their needs and see what areas across a variety of concerns they need to address. The participants’ responses to questions around Financial Stability, Housing and Family Stability guide the plan of work that the participant does with her case manager.

Resource Management: We receive a broad range of gifts in kind which we distribute to families according to their needs and availability. Many items are staple products such as diapers, toiletries, and cleaning supplies. Others are seasonal such as back to school backpacks, winter coats, and summer clothes. Other items are announced on our website wish list, such as household furniture, kitchen items, hand tools etc. Because the families in this program are setting up permanent living
situations, the items they can make use of are far more extensive (and expensive!) than those needed for our shelter residents.

Support in working their plan: The other activities in participants’ program goals all relate to working through their needs as identified in the Stability Survey. There is considerable overlap in the programs we offer here, and so the description of these can be found above. These activities are tailored for each family’s needs, but fall into particular categories:

- Mentoring- Here again we put a lot of time into training mentors who work with families one on one, or sometimes in mentoring teams.
- Financial Stability- Matched Savings, Micro Loan & Wheels of Hope
- Education & job training- We have a small pool of money that we can award to help parents who want to develop new job skills or pursue a degree.
- Family Building Services: Classes which help parents improve their understanding of age appropriate expectations for their children, learning to set reasonable limits, general child development guidelines and positive behavior management strategies work with our staff FBS counsellor.
- Graduation- Families can participate in the program for two years, and are expected to complete their goals and success plan in that time. (They can also complete the program before two years). When they have completed, a graduation ceremony is held with the staff, mentoring team, and participants’ friends and family. This graduation ceremony is reported to be a significant and meaningful milestone to families who have been in the program.

Why is it important to fund this now? This year especially, as we transition away from the Bridge of Hope name and model to stand firmly as simply Good Samaritan Services, we need to reach far and wide to secure funding. Individuals who supported the BoH name and program are not necessarily going to support us without that name. As a result, now more than ever, we need the help of the Chester County Community Foundation.

How impact and results will be demonstrated: Working across the spectrum of homelessness and potential homelessness, the key question is simply are people who would be living on the streets, or couch-surfing now housed in safe secure conditions? That is our starting-place and while easily over-looked, the way a crisis of homelessness is experienced is a major factor in determining an individual or family’s future health and well-being. (Myriad studies demonstrate the real health, mental health and financial benefits for individuals, families and the community as a whole in steering clear from an episode of homelessness.)

To assess the impact that our programs have on the lives of our residents and the community, we track a range of different metrics which vary based on the type of program.

- For our emergency shelter and our long term affordable housing programs we track the number of people housed.
- For our transitional housing we track the number of people housed as well as the percentage of individuals who have achieve enough financial stability to pay their program fees.
- For our job training and financial literacy classes we track the number of hours of classes offered as well as the number of individuals attending classes.
- For our matched savings we measure how many people are able to get the $600 match.
- In our permanent housing, families take a quarterly Family Stability Survey to measure their progress. This is a tailored plan created by each individual family with their case manager which sets goals for income, housing stability, and another goal which is their own personal choice.
- We track increase in household income and anticipate that households will see an average 30% increase in the year ahead.

Above all, we are working to see people in our programs progressing to the achievement of sustainable permanent housing.