

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.
- 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 1/12/2020

Contact Information

Organization Name: Kennett Area Park Authority
Address: P. O. Box 1121, Kennett Square, PA 19348
Kennett Square, PA 19348
Phone: 610-444-1416
Website: ansonbnixonpark.org
Year Incorporated: 1988
FEIN: 23-2548063

Chair: Richard Lyon
Exec. Director-mail: ansonbnixonpark@gmail.com
Board of Directors Chair Name: Richard Lyon
Primary Contact Name: Richard Lyon
Primary E-mail: ansonbnixonpark@gmail.com

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):

Borough of Kennett Square, Kennett Township, southeastern Chester County, all surrounding townships, northern New Castle County

Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served: Anson B. Nixon Park is open 365 days a year to all residents of the area. Approximately 160,000 people visit the park each year.

Mission: Preservation of Anson B. Nixon Park with free access to general public; promotion of recreation interaction among community's diverse population; collaboration with other recreation organizations.

Proposal Summary: *To create a special woodland glade designated for peaceful rest and relaxation.*

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

Mission, Vision & Strategy Governance & Leadership Strategic Relationships
 Fundraising & Development Technology Other: _____

Annual Budget \$ <u>234,200</u>	<u>2</u>	# of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
<u>53</u> % of budget for program expenses	<u>11</u>	# of Board Volunteers
<u>44</u> % of budget for administrative expenses	<u>190</u>	# of Active Non-Board Volunteers
<u>3</u> % of budget for fundraising expenses	<u>2,500</u>	# of Volunteer Hours
<small>100 % total</small>		

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Municipal donations, income from cell tower rental, donations from local business and the public.

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$ 5,000

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

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

The Kennett Area Park Authority (KAPA) was incorporated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in December 1988, as a Joint Municipal Authority by Kennett Township and the Borough of Kennett Square. KAPA's stated purpose is to own and maintain the now 106-acre Anson B. Nixon Park which straddles both the Borough and Kennett Township. The nine-eleven member volunteer board is appointed by the respective municipalities to serve as stewards of Nixon Park.

Nixon Park is unique in that it is one of only two municipal parks in the state of Pennsylvania (to the best of our research) not under the full jurisdiction and tax based financial support of a county, town, or borough. The volunteer board is responsible for the day to day as well as long-term operation of the Park.

The Park consists of rich natural habitats, including a beech grove containing a specimen estimated to be over 250 years old. Adjacent to the beech grove is a natural area abounding with native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers; included are specimens of umbrella magnolia, a rare plant for this area. Outstanding features include two ponds, totaling 6 acres, and the Red Clay Creek and its tributaries. Of historical significance are the remnants of the Borough's waterworks facility (early 1900s) and site of the Chamber's family homestead (Bloomfield, circa 1794-early 1900s), where many native species of trees were planted and a now-overgrown meadow established.

The Park is open to the public every day of the year, dawn to dusk, with no admittance fee. It features over 2.5 miles of walking trails, six picnic pavilions, an entertainment stage, a top-rated 18 hole disc golf course, tennis and volley ball courts, and athletic fields. The Oreste "Tino" Leto athletic fields are leased to the Southern Chester County Soccer Association. Since the Park's opening in 1993, visitation to Nixon Park has grown to over 160,000 annual users from diverse cultural backgrounds and representing the Borough of Kennett Square, all nearby townships, as well as people from the broader region who enjoy the Park's facilities and events. Seasonal events offered to the public at no charge include an eight week concert series organized and presented by a volunteer corps. After the initial state and county funding to develop the park between 1988 and 1993, KAPA successfully raised the funds to build the entertainment pavilion, athletic fields, preparation of a master plan, and most recently, a new, safer entrance road, and a dog park. A stream restoration project is expected to be underway in the first half of 2020 with state funding.

The park is maintained by two part-time seasonal staff assisted by an equipment maintenance person, one part-time administrative assistant (2 FTE), and is supported by volunteers and generous donations from Kennett Township, Kennett Square Borough, individuals and corporations.

2. Funding request

- **Description of key initiatives**

Anson B. Nixon Park was established by Chester County for the purpose of providing recreation to area residents. Over the years the park has been improved with expanded active outdoor

experiences, including disc golf, tennis, basketball and volleyball courts, athletic fields for soccer, community gardens, and most recently a large dog park. KAPA has been charged to provide more passive outdoor experiences as well, including the walking trails, picnic facilities, ponds for fishing. With the construction of a safer entrance road and closure of the former entrance, the opening of a woodland glade near the old entrance has been revealed as an opportunity for a peaceful, natural area for any park visitor seeking such a restful spot isolated from more active areas. This location is near the tributary to the Red Clay Creek and is a hidden oasis within the woodland. Large boulders designed to serve as seats will be supplemented by other benches. Planted plots will attract wildlife. Signage will be kept to a minimum.

- **Specific needs to be address:**

The goal of this project is to create a place of beauty for individual private contemplation or for larger group community gatherings by developing a natural stone outcropping within the existing woodland. The rocks while appearing totally natural would create a naturalistic amphitheater. Once the rocks are in place, volunteers will remove existing exotic invasive plants and install native plantings. Boulders would be collected, transported and placed with great care to avoid damage or scarring. The new glade will be natural, self-sustaining, and accessible from within the park as well as individuals wishing to walk from North Walnut Street over the now abandoned vehicular entrance road. The total area of the glade is approximately ½ acre.

- **How will this impact be measured?**

The use of this new glade will be measured over the ensuing years. We anticipate that residents or groups who wish to reserve the spot may do so at no cost through the park's traditional reservation system. Community activists such Kacie's Cause have expressed strong interest in the glade and emphasize the need for such an oasis for individuals and families recovering from the loss of a loved one due to addiction or any other disease or traumatic death. While this garden is not exclusively designated to any particular community cause, KAPA will maintain communication with any group expressing interest in how this location might facilitate healing.

Include a description of the expected activities; timeline and costs to implement the initiative. If external consulting services are required, include the anticipated costs and expertise of the consultants to be hired. Include external consultant proposals if applicable.

Initial work will be to remove a few small trees of no ecological significance to clear the area and then to remove the exotic vegetation, exposing some very attractive native plant species. Much of this work can be carried out by volunteers. Purchase, delivery and excavation/placement of approximately 85 tons of boulders is estimated to be \$26,000, including labor.

- **Why is it important to fund this now?**

Kacie's Cause, a nonprofit organization seeking to educate our communities of the widespread use of opioids, substance use disorders, and promote availability of prevention, recovery and support program, has offered both volunteer labor as well as some funding for this project. We wish to take advantage of that commitment to spearhead the creation of this garden for the whole community.

3. How impact and results will be demonstrated.

This new area will be self-sustaining and natural; maintenance will be minimum. It will be considered a special, quiet locale in the park to contrast with the other more active recreation area. Use will be casually monitored by park staff.