



28 W. Market Street, Lincoln Biography Building
West Chester, PA 19382
610.696.8211 www.chescocf.org

CCCF COVID-19 Rapid Response Mini-Grants

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

Background/Eligibility

The Community Foundation's COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund provides flexible resources to **Chester County nonprofits** that are disproportionately impacted by coronavirus and the economic consequences of this outbreak. This is designed as a flexible short-term response fund to provide relief for a variety of unexpected costs. We envision three funding priority levels:

- **Front Line Grants** fund community-based nonprofits that have increased demand for services due to COVID-19. These nonprofits have deep roots in community and a strong track-record serving people who are immediately and disproportionately suffering from this crisis. This includes services to financially vulnerable people who work in industries without sick leave &/or health care; homeless people; and health-challenged vulnerable people. Grants are intended to complement the work of public health officials and expand local capacity to address acute needs of the outbreak as efficiently as possible. These grants are NOT of the scale to support larger public institutions that are strained by increased demand for services. Examples of the types of nonprofits in most need of Front Line Grant Support, as service numbers rise: community-based health clinics; food bank & food pantries; meal delivery programs; homelessness programs.
- **Service-Challenged Grants** fund nonprofits that are modifying their in-person service delivery modes extremely rapidly due to COVID-19, and need assistance to do so. These nonprofits likely need additional assistance to upgrade sanitation protocols and obtain cleaning supplies & service personnel. This includes: youth centers, recreation centers, child care, senior services, adult day care, community-based education programs.
- **Collateral Damage Grants** fund nonprofits facing extreme difficulty because of lost revenue due to closures and cancellations, as well as other challenges.





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COVID-19 Rapid Response Mini-Grant Letter of Request

Date: 3/19/20

Contact Information

Organization Name: A Haven
Address: 623 North Pottstown Pike Exton, PA 19341
Phone: 610 930 8907
Website: www.ahaven.org
FEIN: 81-3342825

ED/CEO Name: Michelle Noble
ED/CEO E-mail: michelle@ahaven.org
Board Chair Name: Mary Ann Hughes
Primary Contact Name: Michelle Noble
Primary Contact E-mail: michelle@ahaven.org

In a few brief paragraphs, please explain:

1. **What geographic area is served?** (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served)

We serve all of Chester County, as well as families outside of Chester County. We are the only children and family grief center located in Chester County.

2. **What population is served, what has been the impact of COVID-19, and how has your nonprofit responded?**

We serve grieving children (3-18 years old) and their families by providing grief support, coping and education. COVID-19 has had a huge impact on our families and how we serve them. For grieving families, these unprecedented times present additional challenges. The national health scare may trigger fear and anxiety in our children who have lost a loved one to illness. Walking through grief together is difficult under normal circumstances, and the sustained time at home may create additional stressors. So much of what we do is preventative work—coping with anxiety, learning to cope with anger and expressing grief in healthy ways. Our families have already walked through the worst. A Haven is a safe space for those families, but unfortunately, we are unable to gather together at this time.

In an effort to continue serving our families during this difficult time, we have implemented the following:

- *Sent a survey to our families asking about their greatest challenges and biggest needs*
- *Scheduled the first teen night via zoom – 8 teens have registered*
- *Planned the first week of a grief curriculum that will be emailed to families*
- *Educating families on signs of depression in children and teens, with steps to take if these signs occur*
- *Initiated a Facebook live grief education, including grief activities, family activities and more.*

We plan to also implement the following as time allows:

- *Support groups for parents and caregivers via Zoom*

- *Grief education for teachers and community leaders*
- *Education for teachers on support grieving students remotely*

3. **How much funding is sought? How does this compare to your annual operating budget? What will the funding be used for? What is the expected timeframe for use of funds?**

We are seeking \$5,000 in funding to help sustain our ongoing programming during April and May. Due to the coronavirus closures, we have not been able to proceed with planned school groups—which provides revenue from the school—and we’ve had to postpone our annual marquee fundraising event in April. Our normal operating budget is therefore impacted, and the \$5,000 would go toward general operating costs. Our annual budget is \$198,000.

We have a great responsibility to the community as the only family grief center in Chester County. Our work is vital to the community—and will prove to be an essential support to our grieving community after the Covid19 pandemic has passed.

Please email grants@chescocf.org

- _____ This Brief COVID-19 Rapid Response Mini-Grant Letter of Request
- _____ Copy of annual operating budget or most recent audit
- _____ 501c3 determination letter

Request letters will be posted on the Community Foundation’s website, in order to share with fund advisors, donors, grant panelists, and other funding sources.

Grants will be processed a few times monthly.

We estimate mini-grants will range from \$500 to \$5000.

Please direct general questions & inquiries about the Rapid Response Mini-Grants to grants@chescocf.org.
Beth, Steph, Cierra or Kevin will answer you.