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.
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)**
   - Phoenixville Area

2. **What population is served, what has been the impact of COVID-19, and how has your nonprofit responded?**
   - Alianzas serves the diverse immigrant communities within our area. The Latino population is the largest group served among 26 other countries represented other than Latin America. We are the only organization of this kind, serving now for 10 years. As COVID-19 hit, this community was immediately impacted as most work in the restaurant, hospitality, and housekeeping industries. Many of the immigrants affected are not eligible for the Stimulus monies, unemployment, or any federal benefits at all. Alianzas was on the ground since the start of this crisis with food delivery, diapers and essentials gathered from appeals to our community donors. We are now entering the Emergency Rental Assistance phase of this crisis. Despite the federal order to suspend evictions due to employment loss and inability to pay, our clients’ debt is mounting and will be a crushing effect when the order is lifted. Our plan is to alleviate some of this financial burden in order to avoid homelessness in the near future. We are in current mediations with many landlords in our community. Alianzas is part of the Borough’s Critical Response Team comprised of key stakeholders where we have joined forces more intently to combat this crisis together. [https://www.inthistogetherpxv.com/](https://www.inthistogetherpxv.com/)

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?**
   - Alianzas is seeking $5,000 for operational support. Our current fundraising is almost all restricted funds for those impacted by COVID-19. We need to continue our overhead costs as we carry on this Critical Response. The funds will be used within this calendar year.

   Thank you for considering Alianzas in this critical time. We are encouraged that there are folks like you who have sent a message to the non-profit community that we are not alone in this fight!

   Sincerely,
   Nina M. Guzman, Executive Director

Please email grants@chescofoundation.org

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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@chescofc.org. Beth, Steph, Cierra or Kevin will answer you.