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.
COVID-19 Rapid Response
Mini-Grant Letter of Request

Date: 4/4/2020

ED/CEO Name: Mark Hopkins
ED/CEO E-mail: chief@gpsar.org
Board Chair Name: Holly Clouse
Primary Contact Name: Danya Rubin
Primary Contact E-mail: outreach@gpsar.org

Contact Information
Organization Name: Greater Philadelphia Search and Rescue
Address: PO Box 1163, Glenside PA 19038
Phone: 877-255-5678
Website: http://www.gpsar.org/who.html
FEIN:

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

Greater Philadelphia Search and Rescue (GPSAR) searches for missing and lost individuals in the greater Philadelphia area, including the counties of Philadelphia, Delaware, Montgomery, Chester, Berks, and Bucks, among others. We work alongside law enforcement to locate members of the community when they go missing. We are entirely volunteer-based and never charge for our services, thus we work to locate individuals no matter their socio-economic status. We often end up working to search for vulnerable community members, such as those with substance abuse or mental health issues and elderly individuals with dementia.

The spring season is one of the busiest in search and rescue as individuals flock to parks and wilderness in the warming weather. We anticipate that the changes occurring due to COVID-19 will lead to this season being busier than others, as more individuals are venturing out into the wilderness in an effort to get out of their houses while practicing social distancing. In addition, the stresses of job losses and illness may lead to an increase in psychological problems that can lead to people going missing, thus requiring our services. We have also been impacted monetarily as we have had to cancel multiple important outreach and fundraising events that typically occur in the spring. We count on these events to gain donations to support our efforts. Finally COVID-19 has lead to us losing access to our training facilities, on the grounds of Norristown State Hospital, until further notice as the hospital is under lockdown. We have had to adapt to continue training remotely, away from our facilities and equipment so that we are ready to respond to emergencies. Though we do not currently have access to our training/storage location, we are still required to pay rent and utilities for these facilities during this crisis.

Due to our circumstances as outlined above, we request funding in the amount of $5000, which is ~20% of our annual operating budget of $24,780. This percent approximately reflects the portion of the fiscal year that we will be unable to fundraiser or train due to the COVID-19 emergency. We anticipate using this funding starting immediately for our continuous charges (insurance, rent, utilities) and through the next 2-3 months after training commences as we find out what maintenance is needed on our equipment and vehicles after the lapse in our regular usage. Thank you for your consideration.

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.