



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

COVID-19 Rapid Response Mini-Grant Letter of Request

Date: March 26, 2020

Contact Information

Organization Name: Decade to Doorways
Address: 601 Westtown Road, Suite 365, West Chester
Phone: 610-344-6900
Website: <http://decadetodoorways.org/>
FEIN: 23-6003040

ED/CEO Name: Patrick Bokovitz
ED/CEO E-mail: pbokovitz@chesco.org
Board Chair Name: Kelly Raggazino
Primary Contact Name: Robert Henry
Primary Contact E-mail: rhenry@chesco.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)**
This will be available to all Chester County residents.
- 2. What population is served, what has been the impact of COVID-19, and how has your nonprofit responded?**
Decade to Doorways staff has engaged in daily communication with the Chester County Departments of Emergency Services and Health Department, as well as with the shelters and housing providers to assess their needs and challenges regarding supplies, food, staffing, and other essential items and services. Decade to Doorway's efforts related to the COVID-19 pandemic also include assisting Chester County's dedicated Street Outreach team and emergency shelters to develop response plans and relocation efforts. Part of this response has included housing additional people in hotels for a longer period than usual, due to delays in permanent housing placements.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Decade to Doorways has relied heavily on data driven decisions by using the information contained within the Chester County Client Information Management System (CCCIMS) to monitor the street homeless population, as well as homeless individuals and families in shelter. The CCCIMS database has been instrumental in tracking client level information that has assisted in facilitating placements into permanent housing with the Housing Authority of Chester County and Human Services Inc., the housing crisis system rapid rehousing providers.

- 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?**
Decade to Doorways is requesting \$5,000 to offset the cost of placing homeless households in hotels. During this time of isolation, it is imperative to ensure a safe location for vulnerable residents. With the emergence of COVID-19, many homeless shelters and their partners are unable to provide stable housing for everyone in need. The use of these funds will provide 20 to 25 households a secure place to stay during the self-isolation phase of this pandemic. Case managers will continue to work with clients to ensure individuals' and families' needs are met during this crisis.

The two to three hotels that have agreements with the County are charging \$45 a night for a double queen size room. Individuals are doubled up as individual health conditions allow. At an average rate of \$45 per night, it would cost \$6,300 to safely house 20 households in these hotels for a week. With the pandemic having no known end date, the funding request will alleviate the financial burden on the homeless crisis response system for hotel stays until placements can be made to appropriate permanent housing and rapid rehousing programs.

Please email grants@chescof.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@chescof.org.
Beth, Steph, Cierra or Kevin will answer you.