



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: April 17, 2020

Contact Information

Organization Name: HIAS and Council Migration Service of Phila., Inc. DBA HIAS PA ED/CEO Name: Cathryn Miller-Wilson
Address: 2100 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 ED/CEO E-mail: cmillerwilson@hiaspa.org
Phone: 267-235-0977 (cell phone) Board Chair Name: Carol Gantman
Website: https://hiaspa.org/ Primary Contact Name: Cathryn Miller-Wilson
FEIN: 23-1405597 Primary Contact E-mail: cmillerwilson@hiaspa.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)
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?

HIAS Pennsylvania serves low income, vulnerable immigrants and refugees in Southeastern, PA. Last year, HIAS PA served 136 clients from Chester County, most of whom are immigrant victims of domestic violence served through our partnerships with the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County (DVCCC) and the Crime Victims Services Program (CVSP) of Chester County. As families are told to stay home to enact social distancing, we are seeing a world-wide rise in domestic violence. It is essential that HIAS PA continue to be able to offer language-appropriate, informed legal services to immigrant victims of domestic violence throughout this pandemic. Access to these legal services could be the difference between a vulnerable immigrant pursuing relief from an abusive situation or returning to the household of their abuser.

In addition, many of our clients, though eligible for immigration legal remedies, are not eligible for any of the federal or state relief packages that have been passed. Many have lost work as a result of the pandemic, and undocumented immigrants will not even be able to apply for unemployment relief to help them survive through this international crisis. We seek funding to be able to meet urgent needs for our Chester County clients from food and medicine to lap-tops, wi-fi payments, smart phones and digital literacy instruction all of which are desperately needed by our clients who are isolated by language and culture as well as legal status. Our staff is working and we can serve our clients more effectively if they have access to things they need during this crisis. Our clients have all suffered the trauma of their migration in the first instance. Along with our legal services for immigrant victims of domestic violence, we have special initiatives serving immigrant youth, immigrant victims of torture, immigrant victims of crime, and detained immigrants who have done nothing more than cross our borders to seek asylum from persecution by their own governments. All of these people need our help to survive this crisis and emerge ready to contribute to American society when the crisis is over.

We seek \$5,000 to support our Chester County domestic violence legal services, and provide emergency assistance to those clients as described above. We expect to be able to spend these funds within two months of receipt.

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.