Date: April 3, 2020

Contact Information

Organization Name: Upland Country Day School
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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)
   Upland is located in Southern Chester County, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. The majority of our students come from eight school districts in Southern Chester County: Kennett, Unionville, West Chester, Oxford, Avondale, Downingtown, Coatesville, and typically reside within a 15-mile radius of campus.

2. What population is served, what has been the impact of COVID-19, and how has your nonprofit responded?
   Founded in 1948, Upland Country Day serves boys and girls, pre-k through the 9th grade. In the fall of 2018, we opened the BeeSchool Preschool for 3 and 4 year olds. Upland has 165 students and 42 faculty and staff. A vibrant part of the community, in a beautiful country setting, we offer enrichment programs, after school care, and summer camps.

   The impact of COVID-19:
   Need for iPads and laptops for our New Distance Learning Program: In response to the closing of all schools, the school launched "Upland Online" on March 30, the day after our Spring Break. Our students are “in school” in a structured, fun and creative online program, Monday through Friday. We have learned that many of our students are sharing devices with siblings and working parents to maintain their studies. This has resulted in a greater need for iPads and laptops for our students, especially for lower school students, PreK – 5th grade, who previously have not been required to have their own devices.

   Change in Investment and Auxiliary Revenue: Financial repercussions from COVID-19 affected the market, and like most independent schools, Upland relies on a healthy return on endowment investments to support operations. Closing our campus resulted in the loss of Auxiliary revenue that would have been generated from a robust after school care program, now - June 30. The pandemic has evaporated these revenue streams.

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?
   Request: Upland respectfully requests consideration of a mini-grant to be put toward the purchase of iPads for immediate student use. Once the crisis subsides, these devices can still be greatly utilized in school for daily learning. We could purchase approximately 15 devices for $5,000 to help meet student needs in this school year. School year ends in June 2020.

   Operating budget: One component of the school’s operating budget is revenue generated from auxiliary programs and the return on the school’s investments. Both have evaporated due to the repercussions of the coronavirus. We are looking to our friends in the community to help support Upland during this unsettling time. We thank the fund advisors, donors, grant panelists, and other funding sources of the CCCF for their consideration of our request for a mini grant, all sizes are appreciated, for our beloved school.
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.