

# I. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

**One page only.** This page will be shared electronically with Grant Committee Members & Fund Advisors.  
Note: If Philanthropy Network of Greater Philadelphia's Common Grant Application is used, the Community Foundation's **Summary Sheet MUST accomp any application.**

To obtain an electronic version of this application, visit [www.chescocf.org](http://www.chescocf.org)

**Date** Sept 22, 2019

## Contact Information

Organization Name: DeafCAN! Executive Director/CEO Name: Rev. Beth Lockard  
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Phone: 484-319-4256 Board of Directors Chair Name:  
Website: DEAFCANPA.ORG Primary Contact Name: William H. Lockard  
Year Incorporated: 2002 Primary Contact E-mail: BillLockard@deafcanpa.org  
FEIN: 23-2732797

Has your nonprofit ever applied to the Community Foundation? Yes \_\_\_ No xx Not Sure \_\_\_  
Has your nonprofit ever received funding from the Community Foundation? Yes \_\_\_ No xx Not Sure \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Donor Advised Fund(s) \_\_\_ Fund for Chester County \_\_\_ Don't know/Not sure

## Field/s of Interest:

\_\_\_ Arts, Culture & Humanities \_\_\_ Environment/Animal Welfare \_\_\_ Education  
\_\_\_ Health \_\_\_ Human Services \_\_\_ Religion

## Organization Information:

**Geographic Area Served** (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served): We are based in Chester County and also serve Phila, Montgomery, Delaware, Bucks and Lancaster Counties.

**Describe Population Served and Annual Number of People Served:** We serve Deaf and hard of hearing individuals and their families, many isolated/vulnerable with additional challenges. In 2018, we served 231 people, 120 from Chester County.

**Mission:** The mission of CTK's social services program, DeafCAN!, "is to provide a range of community supports to Deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind and late-deafened people in need, especially the most vulnerable, who are often very reluctant to go to others for help because of communication barriers."

**Proposal Summary:** We are requesting \$7,000 to support our services to vulnerable, isolated Deaf & hard of hearing individuals/families in Chester County who are Deaf and Blind, immigrants or refugees, struggling with the legal system, and all with physical or mental health, housing, financial, family, employment or other challenges.

## **If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:**

\_\_\_ Mission, Vision & Strategy \_\_\_ Governance & Leadership \_\_\_ Strategic Relationships  
\_\_\_ Fundraising & Development \_\_\_ Technology Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Budget** \$ 292,825\_(DeafCAN! 234,675) \_\_\_ 3.5 \_\_\_ # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff  
\_\_\_ 94 \_\_\_ % of budget for program expenses \_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_ # of Board Volunteers  
\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_ % of budget for administrative expenses \_\_\_ 40 \_\_\_ # of Active Non-Board Volunteers  
\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_ % of budget for fundraising expenses \_\_\_ 500 \_\_\_ # of Volunteer Hours  
100 % total

**Top 3-5 funding sources:** Individuals, Corporations, Organizations and Foundations

**Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation:** \$ \_\_\_ 7,000 \_\_\_



## **Deaf Community Action Network**

A Human Service Program of Christ the King Deaf Church  
730 South New Street, West Chester, PA 19382

Office 484-319-4256 \* Cell 484-477-6489 \* VP 484-319-4245 \* [www.DeafCANpa.org](http://www.DeafCANpa.org)

# **2018 Narrative Proposal to Chester County Community Foundation**

## **1. Nonprofit's history, goals, key achievements and distinctiveness**

In 1991, key members of a budding Deaf/Hard of Hearing (HOH) congregation, formed Christ The King Deaf Lutheran Church ("CTK") in West Chester, PA. This small group was the catalyst for starting multiple other social/support groups to address lives full of opportunities: Chester Co. Assoc of the Deaf, Self Help for Hard of Hearing, West Chester Deaf Seniors, the Deaf Women Connection and a social service agency CHAD (Center on Hearing & Deafness).

All of the organizing meetings for these groups occurred at CTK Deaf Church and with their birth, the spiritual, social and service needs of this population were finally being addressed. This previously isolated population now had opportunities to worship, receive education, counseling and be empowered through their own social organizations. CHAD would take the next 16 years to build a range of literacy, mental health, criminal justice, assistive technology, interpreting, homeless prevention and other services until hard times resulted in its closure in 2011. With the encouragement of the SE PA Synod and Calvary Lutheran Church, where CTK is housed, DeafCAN! (Deaf Community Action Network) was established to address the growing, unmet human service needs.

In 2018 our organization served 231 individuals (demographics attached). The impacted audiences are these individuals and their families/friends/communities.

- Twenty five deaf-blind individuals assisted through Support Service Provider (SSP) services at their homes and within their communities.
- Ten Deaf employees with developmental disabilities weekly literacy and socialization classes at a local workplace, Handi-Crafters.
- Twelve Deaf individuals in the criminal justice system provided weekly literacy and decision making sessions.
- Thirty Deaf refugees/immigrants from Mexico, Syria, Bhutan, Cambodia, Nepal, Philippines, Puerto Rico, and the Democratic Republic of Congo provided orientation, support and Sign Language instruction.
- Several victims of domestic violence and one homeless family counseled and sheltered.
- Fifty three people with case management through contracts with Chester County and Delaware County working across departments to support D/HOH individuals.
- One hundred and sixty seven people were provided Sign Language and Interpreting services.
- Many individuals and families provided general information, referral and advocacy.

Our services, unfortunately, are minimal compared to the needs presented. DeafCAN! is often the only dependable, communication accessible 'place' D/HOH people and their families can go.

In January of 2016, St. Philips Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Philadelphia merged with our Christ the King Deaf Church. Pastor Beth Lockard had also been their Interim Pastor for nine years and has been assisting with that ministry since 1982. Christ the King and DeafCAN! are now providing spiritual and human services at both sites. The merger adds significant assets to Christ the King and we are using them to reach more people and families.

## 2. Funding request

### Description of key initiatives

In addition to our case management contract and program with Chester County, we have other programs that serve Chester County residents; Deaf and Blind, Immigrants/Refugees and Inmates or those otherwise involved in the criminal justice system. These three programs are supported entirely by contributions and grants. We provide the only services in the entire state of PA dedicated to Deaf immigrants/refugees, and inmates, and were the first to provide Support Service Providers for those who are Deaf and Blind. Two other services, sign language interpreting and ASL (American Sign Language) predominantly service this County and are supported primarily with service fees.

### Specific needs and issues to be addressed

Communication is the key component to all our relationships with family, friends, work, education, health, even attaining the basic needs of food and shelter. Communication is THE basic need of those we serve. We work with individuals and families in various ways so they receive and understand information, then to effectively communicate to others, more fully participate in and contribute to their communities. This work is complex and varied as communication includes first acquiring and being able to use a language, so we have a wide variety of classes, from ESL to ASL (American Sign Language). People need to know what is happening in their environment to be safe, independent and productive, so we work with landlords, hospitals, prisons, and group homes/families to learn about specialty devices that give visual and/or tactile cues for fire alarms, baby light monitors, phones and doorbells, things most of us take for granted.

Most importantly, communication means helping others to feel comfortable, understood, 'normal' and valued, and that Deaf/HH people CAN! do and be whatever they want. So, our entire Council is Deaf, our Pastor/Executive Director is Deaf, our DeafBlind Coordinator is DeafBlind, our development specialist is Deaf, and most of our teachers and SSPs are Deaf. Modeling is critical not only for those D/HH people we serve directly, it is also crucial for families, employers, health care providers, police, and everyone in our community to see D/HH people doing what they often never realized was possible. This 'can-do' communication helps those others to think more positively, more hopefully, which 'translates into more effective, human, and just plain MORE inter-action with people who otherwise would be left hidden, ignored, or on the fringes.

### Activities/Objectives to implement the initiative:

- In June we participated with and presented at the First National US Deaf Refugee Conference held in Rochester, NY. (Newsletter attached)
- In July we attended and provided SSPs (Support Service Providers) for Philadelphia's 1st International Ushers Syndrome conference for those who are Deaf and Blind. The conference was an excellent outreach & education event for all those who also believe that DeafBlindCAN! (Newsletter attached)
- Saturday, October 19, 2019 "Deaf International Fest" event (attached) intended to expand the reach and support of our services to a broader range of people.
- Continue weekly immigrant/refugee classes and supports in West Chester and NE Phila, establish classes by the end of 2019 Harrisburg and 2020 Upper Darby.
- Continue weekly classes of three levels of sign language instruction in West Chester.
- Continue weekly decision making/literacy classes at the new Phoenix State Prison in Skippack.
- Implement a Model of Accommodations with the PA Dept of Corrections and local county prisons to build more equitable conditions for Deaf inmates.
- Continue weekly classes for Deaf workers at Handi-Crafters.
- Maintain contracted case management services in both Chester and Delaware counties.
- Grow our SSP Support Service Provider - communication and navigation services for DeafBlind people throughout the six-county region we serve.

## **Why it is important to fund this now**

DeafCAN! has a \$20,000 contract with the Chester County Dept of Human Services. In 2018, the County restricted the contract to serve individuals who are on Medicaid or have annual incomes of 125% of poverty - only \$12,060 for a single person. This leaves more than 75% of those we had served without support, including

- Two Deaf, 80+ elderly couples who had regular home visits to help them understand and cope with their many health, financial, housing, and family concerns.
- A 40 year-old Deaf female immigrant who we helped survive a horrendous domestic violence situation after a long distance marriage 'arrangement,' found her housing and work, but who still needs support for serious ongoing health concerns, while still adapting to U.S. culture.
- A Deaf, 50 year-old man whose vision deteriorated in last 4 years so that he is now Deaf and Blind, lost his job and became dependent on already overwhelmed family members. We had been visiting him weekly and bringing him to social events with Deaf and DeafBlind peers.

We need to make up the difference by securing funds from other sources, including your Foundation, Brandywine, Phoenixville, and others who focus on Chester County.

## **How impact and results will be demonstrated**

We set annual project/program objectives with target dates and adjust those parameters as necessary. We track each individual that we serve along with demographics (attached) so we are able to evaluate which individuals and programs are successful as well as those that need attention. By the end of one year we will have tracked the quarterly objectives of all we have served and assisted them in achieving at least 50% of their objectives. Our experience tells us all, with few exceptions will achieve or surpass this result. The expected benefit of these services is D/HH individuals able to communicate with others and provide basic needs for themselves and their families.

The ultimate successful outcome is when we see individuals turn the corner and assist another. They are now 'giving back', inspiring others who are struggling, and the ripples extend to more individuals, families, and their community. We are humbled to report that this is not uncommon at all.