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.
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?

1. Minquas Fire Co. #2 - EMS provides basic and advanced life support EMS coverage to 41 square miles in central Chester County including Downingtown Borough, East Caln Twp., Caln Twp., East Brandywine Twp., East Bradford Twp., West Bradford Twp., Upper Uwchlan Twp., and West Whiteland Twp. In 2019 we responded to 2926 calls for emergency medical care.

2. Current population is around 55,000 and is on the increase dramatically. We have numerous large developments being built in our territory. We have seen a dramatic decrease in 911 emergency medical calls for service, coupled with the cancellation of all of our public events in Downingtown. This has negatively impacted our community and our interaction with the community. We invested a substantial amount of time and resources into providing coverage for the public events. Additionally, we have lost revenue from providing services at these events. We have begun to scale back on expenses and capital purchases to ensure that we can remain financially sustainable.

3. Our current need is $6980.26 for the purchase of personal protective equipment for our personnel who are cross-trained as firefighters. We had intended on purchasing this protective fire-fighting gear to allow our personnel to better serve our community in the event of a fire-related emergency. This amount asked will provide 2 complete sets of gear. We will use the fund immediately upon being awarded, as we currently do not have gear to outfit the personnel. Our annual operating budget is primarily used to cover payroll and employee expenses.