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 the 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 banks & 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?** *french-speaking immigrant children ages 2-18 in Chester County (Wayne, Paoli, Chesterbrook, Exton, Malvern, Phoenixville,...) and surrounding areas.*

2. **What population is served, what has been the impact of COVID-19, and how has your nonprofit responded?**

PhilaFLAM provides affordable, innovative, academic, and cultural programs for French-speaking immigrant children from 2-18 in the Greater Philadelphia region. We help them maintain their high level of fluency in French and increase their chances to graduate from high-school, and attend post-secondary education institutions.

Our organization contributes not only to maintaining the maternal language, but also their cultural heritage. We offer weekly academic lessons to students, and a few times in the year, extra-curricular activities. We organize an international College fair to expose them to French post-secondary education organizations as well as to enhance their knowledge of francophone culture and history.

We firmly believe that education can dramatically improve the social and economic outcomes for all children and that access to a high quality and rigorous education is a right for all children, regardless of background and financial situation. This is why we have always been proud of creating the highest possible levels of francophone education in French at a very affordable cost.

Since March, all our classes and our summer camp went online. We offered financial relief, academic and family support, for all families affected by COVID19. Many have seen a decrease in their salary, some parents lost their employment. We try to support all our families in need, and especially mothers who struggle to take care of their children, so they can continue to work, through a platform of solidarity (help with groceries shopping, caring for younger children while working,...). Families are in contact via social media, phone calls, and/or text message to alert about their needs. We match them with volunteers who registered to help on our website entraide-ameriques.com, or make referrals to other community-based and social service organizations to address needs outside of our scope.

We also had to invest in new online tools, which increased the amount of training necessary for our teachers who spend many hours already to be sure that their teaching will continue to be efficient online with asynchronous and synchronous activities. As many schools will be closed to us, even when they will reopen themselves, not accepting outside groups, we will need to buy some laptops (chromebooks) for our teachers to stay connected and continue to teach online.

Some of our teachers have asked to be able - even if it’s outside- to meet their groups once or twice, and we have found a playground with access to a bathroom to organize it. It will require the installation of sanitation protocols and obtain cleaning supplies & service personnel.
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?**

*PhilaFLAM requests $5,000 in order to provide for the needs of the families and teachers we work with. Our annual operating budget is $199,253.57 for this fiscal year due to a decrease in registration, tuition income, and due to the cancellation of many events we can’t pursue online. The funds will be used for financial relief, academic and family support:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training/Subscription</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>trainings to teach online and use new online tools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoom subscriptions for teachers</td>
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<tr>
<td>storyplayr subscriptions for reading online support and library in French</td>
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<td>savio subscriptions for grammar support</td>
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<td>chromebooks for the teachers</td>
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<tr>
<td>upgrade sanitation protocols and obtain cleaning supplies &amp; service personnel</td>
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<tr>
<td>financial hardship support for low income families</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please email grants@chescocf.org

_x___ This Brief COVID-19 Rapid Response Mini-Grant Letter of Request

_xx__ Copy of annual operating budget or most recent audit

_xx__ 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.