CCCFC 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, and 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.
COVID-19 Rapid Response
Mini-Grant Letter of Request

Date: July 2020 – UPDATE ON COVID-19 REQUEST

Contact Information
Organization Name: Arc of Chester County
Address: 900 Lawrence Drive, West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: 610-696-8090

Name: Karen DiVincenzo
FEIN: 23-1604737
divincenzo@arcofchestercounty.org

ED/CEO Name: Jeanne Meikrantz
ED/CEO E-mail: jmeikrantz@arcofchestercounty.org
Board Chair Name: Matt Holliday
Website: arcofchestercounty.org

Primary Contact
Primary Contact E-mail:

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. Geographic area served: The Arc serves individuals of all ages with disabilities and their families throughout all of Chester County.

2. Population and Impact of COVID-19: More than 3,000 children and adults with developmental, intellectual, and other disabilities and their families receive vital direct services, supports and advocacy programming from The Arc each year. Our programs are designed to carry out our mission to advocate, educate, and provide services to empower individuals with disabilities and their families to enhance the quality of their lives. While we remain totally committed to our mission, Covid-19 restrictions on our programs, activities and supports significantly halted our ability to provide some vital services at the level or frequency needed. And now as restrictions are being lifted, we are faced with the costs of renovations and equipment necessary to provide our services safely and with the health of all participants and staff as a top priority.

During the Covid-19 pandemic some of our services were curtailed, or modified to ensure safety, while many have been able to continue in alternative formats, mostly through teleintervention. This required quick action to modify practices, develop and implement risk screening protocols and revise policies and procedures all geared to protect the health and safety of all involved and to comply with the CDC, Health Department guidelines and the Governor's order.

Among the most vulnerable of those that we serve are the 50 children who attend our onsite pre-school annually. The Arc is one of the only classroom-based inclusive early intervention private programs in Chester County serving both children with and without disabilities that goes beyond offering an extended day and learning opportunities by also providing on-site nursing care and therapies so that children with complex medical conditions as well as multiple disabilities can participate, progress and thrive. We are most excited that our county is beginning to re-open and we will once again be able to welcome our children, parents, teachers, medical professionals and other staff back into our facility after more than a 2.5 months of providing services virtually. However, The Arc is now faced with the need to significantly renovate and modify our facility to address new health guidance and ensure the safety and health of all involved. The total cost of our renovations will be $150,000 and will include health and safety modifications to our lobby to protect arriving participants and reception staff;
significant renovations to our pre-school classroom and therapy areas to ensure social distancing, provide new storage for PPE’s and modifications to flooring and walls to accommodate new cleaning methods and renovations to restrooms.

We are fortunate to have received private funding to support PPE’s and cleaning supplies and a grant from The Philadelphia Foundation to help us jump start our renovations to our classrooms and lobby areas. However, we continue to have a shortfall of more than $100,000 necessary to complete all renovations and modifications in order to meet all health and safety requirements

Funding Details: The Arc is grateful for the opportunity to seek a **$5,000 Collateral Damage Grant** from Chester County Community Foundation to help ensure that when schools are ready to re-open, The Arc’s inclusive pre-school can safely and successfully resume normal (or the new normal) operations. Thank you for your consideration.

And, thank you again for responding to this crisis and for all the work that you do for our communities and our fellow non-profit organizations.

Please email grants@chescocf.org

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

_X___ Copy of annual operating budget or most recent audit

_X___ 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.