

The Chester County Nonprofit Innovation & Resiliency Fund

Administered by the Chester County Community Foundation

In cooperation with regional funders, donors, united funds and County government departments

Recognizing the importance of the nonprofit sector to the high quality of life throughout Chester County, the Chester County Commissioners have allocated \$3.5M to help nonprofits recover with innovation and resiliency. This funding is from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Per the CARES Act, grants must cover unforeseen financial needs and risks created by the COVID-19 public health emergency. **This includes grants to implement and publicize the safe resumption of programs and services.** The Community Foundation seeks proposals to support innovative, resilient COVID recovery needs, such as:

- Program and service redesign, in light of social distancing and public safety requirements
- Innovative technology to support virtual, mobile and/or pop-up programs and services
- Redesigned and reconceived marketing, fundraising and special events
- Strategic planning pivoting, refinement and revisions in light of COVID-19
- Partnership, merger, consolidation and/or acquisition activities due to COVID-19 impacts
- Infrastructure improvements due to COVID, including plexiglass dividers, technology upgrades, etc.
- Higher operating costs related to cleaning and social distancing requirements
- Other one-time or increased expenses incurred related to COVID-19.

This is a competitive, time-sensitive grants process. Grant decisions will be made weekly, on an ongoing basis. Electronic grant applications are only accepted by e-mail. No paper applications are accepted.

Eligibility

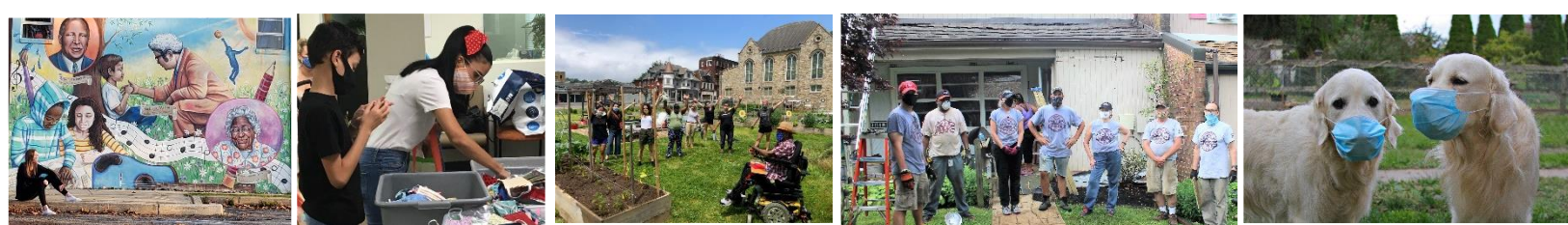
- Nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization formed and active in 2017 or earlier
- Nonprofit must be headquartered and providing services in Chester County, as evidenced by legal address in Box C of IRS 990

Priority Preference for Grant Funding

- Nonprofits that provide clear evidence of how they aim to/are reshaping their programs, services, administration, marketing and fundraising, to safely provide services and thrive in light of COVID impacts
- Nonprofits with substantial costs to comply with COVID public health requirements
- Nonprofits that serve a diverse constituency, and are governed and managed by diverse leadership

Ineligible Entities

- Nonprofits NOT headquartered in Chester County, PA, as evidenced by the legal address in Box C of the IRS 990
- Nonprofits NOT delivering services in Chester County
- Nonprofits that did NOT experience revenue loss due to the coronavirus pandemic and/or nonprofits that have no additional costs associated with the coronavirus pandemic
- Nonprofits that were NOT operational as of December 30, 2017
- Government or government-owned or controlled entities
- Churches or religious organizations with respect to their primarily religious activities and/or their activities which limit participation to members of the church or religious organization
- For-profit businesses
- Private clubs/organizations that limit membership for reasons other than capacity
- Nonprofits primarily engaged in lobbying or political activities
- Nonprofits NOT compliant with all federal, state, & local laws, including taxation
- Nonprofits NOT compliant with current public health guidelines, including coronavirus pandemic phased reopening restrictions ###





**Chester County Nonprofit
Innovation & Resiliency Fund
Grant Request Form**

Contact Information

Nonprofit Org Name: Cerebral Palsy Association Chester County Inc.	ED/CEO Name: Margaret Rybinski
Address: 749 Springdale Drive	ED/CEO E-mail: Margaret@ccdissability.org
City, State Zip: Exton, PA 19341	Board Chair Name: Patrick Mintzer Esq.
Phone: 610-524-5850	Grant Proposal Contact Name: Margaret Rybinski
Website: www.ccdissability.org	Grant Proposal Contact E-mail: Margaret@ccdissability.org
EIN: 23-2233854	Grant \$ Amount Requested: \$29,500.00
Year Founded: 1983	

In filing this application, the nonprofit certifies that it complies with all federal, state & local laws, including taxation; complies with current public health guidelines; and complies with coronavirus pandemic phased reopening restrictions.

Agreed by: Margaret Rybinski	Date: October 14, 2020
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Nonprofit Field/s of Interest

Arts, Culture & Historic Preservation	Education	X	Health
Community Development	Environment & Animal Welfare	X	Human Services

Figures	Current	PRE-COVID (as of 1/1/20)
Annual Operating Budget	\$1,483,000.00	\$1,968,000.00
Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff	#17	#21
# Board Volunteers	#9	#9
# Committee Volunteers	#3	#3
# Active Direct Service Volunteers	#14	#65
Annual Volunteer Hours	#165	#975

Funding: Please indicate if your nonprofit has received funding from any of these regional sources over the past few years. We will invite them to review this funding request.

ChesCo Comm Fdn		Brandywine Health Fdtn	X	United Way ChesCo	ChesCo Dept Comm Devel
ChesCo Fund/W&Girls	X	Phoenixville Comm Health Fdtn		United Way S ChesCo	ChesCo Dept Health
Other significant funders: Barra Foundation					X ChesCo Dept Human Svcs

Narrative: In a few concise paragraphs, please explain:

1. Mission

Enhance the abilities and support the independence of people with Cerebral Palsy and other disabilities throughout their lives. Our vision is an accessible community where every child has educational success, developmental growth and where adults with disabilities participate in and live as independently as possible.

2. What geographic area is served? (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served)

We provide services to all geographic areas of Chester County.

3. What population is served? How have your service numbers been impacted by COVID?

The agency provides a number of programs, the Children's Early Intervention program and the Adult and Community Social Services (CSS). Our Children's program provides services to children age's birth through 3 years of age who are developmentally delayed and their families. The Adult and CSS program serves adults with disabilities ages 18 and up. We focus on individuals who primarily have brain injuries or physical disabilities (and who do not have intellectual disabilities). The Children's program has been highly impacted by COVID, referrals are down and as children naturally age out our numbers have decreased by 25 to 30%. We continue to provide support to some families who are in need but are no longer receiving funded services. Our Adult and CSS program has grown by 20% due to increased needs around safety, isolation and nursing facility residency; however funding has decreased by 10%.

4. What has been the impact of COVID-19, and how has your nonprofit responded?

The core of both programs has not changed and we continue to provide all services. Both programs during the pandemic have switched from home visits to tele-intervention and tele-social work using cell phones, Zoom and/or Skype. Since August, home visits have restarted in both programs, based on need and safety. Through various efforts, we have provided over 30 computers/tablets to families and adults who prior had no access to them, so they could participate in telehealth services with us, receive social support and hold telemedicine appointments with their doctors.

Both programs have instituted new services (in addition to our regular services) during the pandemic. The Children's Early Intervention program is providing virtual supportive sessions for parents of children with special needs. The focus is on that the pandemic is a traumatic event and finding emotional support and strategies is important. As trauma informed-certified staff members we have been able to assist with these approaches. The Adult and Community Social Services program has increased its advocacy by 30% and expanded their reach to include pandemic responses for keeping adults with disabilities safe. The Adult and CSS program reshaped their strategies for supporting the emotional health of the people we serve by doing pop up programs such as "Remotely Social" and "Storytellers" to fight isolation and loneliness. Through various supports we have given our participants technology devices, household items such as diapers, cleaning supplies, batteries and PPE. We have purchased clear face masks for our staff to be able to better communicate with our population during home visits; a smile is an important tool!

We have continued to provide Nursing Home Transition (NHT) services, by moving individuals out of facilities since the pandemic. This is carefully executed with a high level of safety assurances and is now more important than ever. There is an increase in referrals for individuals with disabilities wanting to leave nursing facilities. We focus on individual's ages 21 to 60 where often an accident, illness or surgery results in short term stay that becomes long term and all community resources disappear during that time. Our NHT Social Worker/Coordinator provides all services including finding accessible housing, moving services, counseling on options, medical needs and social service referrals and supports for the transition to occur back into the community. COVID has increased our services in Nursing Home Transition program.

5. What would this funding be used for? How does this demonstrate innovation and resiliency in dealing with COVID impacts? What would be the community impact of this anticipated funding? Why is it important to fund this now?

We have consistently demonstrated our innovation in pivoting to support the people we serve. Our responses have been quick and robust including providing technology to assist with our new virtual world and ongoing new ways to deal with safety and emotional support. Up to 10 to 20% of the funding will be used to continue to provide direct technology devices (computers, tablets, smart home devices) based on needs. The rest of the funding will cover the salaries of staff for COVID related services discussed above. Funding is crucial for

our ability to provide these services now when other income sources are decreasing. Fundraising events are on hold with new ones being planned; and program income had decreased due to no fault of our own. We have added services to help over 500 people with disabilities in Chester County so they can be resilient, safe and as emotionally healthy as possible during this pandemic.

Additionally, we have supported our own staff and others in Chester County by providing leadership in communities of practice that share sound strategies. We want our staff to be supported in their emotional health, both personal and professional.

6. How much funding is sought? How does this compare to your annual operating budget and this years' projected deficit? What is the expected timeframe for use of funds?

We are requesting \$29,500.00 which is approximately 2% of our budget. We expect that some of our income will be less than projected (due to COVID issues) and are looking possibly at a deficit of \$100,000 this fiscal year. We expect to use the funds by the end of June 2020.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Please e-mail all materials as a word.doc and/or pdf to grants@chescocf.org:

This Innovation & Resiliency Fund Grant Request cover sheet & brief narrative
Current annual operating budget & most recent audit
501c3 determination letter
Current strategic plan. If none, explain why your nonprofit doesn't have a plan.
Support materials that strengthen the urgency of this funding request + indicate that your nonprofit is innovative and resilient (ie: COVID best practice research findings, consultant proposal/s, bids for COVID-related materials & equipment, etc.)

- Proposals will only be accepted by e-mail, on this grant form available at <https://chescocf.org/covidgrant/>
 - Receipt of grant proposals will be confirmed by e-mail.
- Grant proposals will be posted on the Community Foundation's website, in order to share with fund advisors, donors, grant panelists, and other funding sources.
 - Grant proposals will be reviewed weekly.
- We estimate grants awards will range from \$5,000 to \$50,000.
- For awarded grants, a written report on use and impact of this funding will be due within 6 months.

Please direct questions about **ChesCo Nonprofit Innovation & Resiliency Grants** to

Chester County Community Foundation
28 W. Market Street, The Lincoln Building
West Chester, PA 19382

www.chescocf.org

grants@chescocf.org 610.696.8211