

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.** **Only electronic grant applications** are 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 located and providing services in Chester County

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 located in Chester County, PA
- 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. Religious entities with social & human service outreach programs must provide 501 (c) (3).
- 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 ###





28 W. Market Street, Lincoln Biography Building
West Chester, PA 19382
610.696.8211 www.chescocf.org



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

Contact Information

Nonprofit Org Name: BUCK Cancer Foundation	ED/CEO Name: Lori Nonnemaker
Address: 1604 Barbara Drive	ED/CEO E-mail: Inonemaker@buckcancerfoundation.org
City, State Zip: Downingtown, PA 19335	Board Chair Name: Lori Nonnemaker
Phone: 610-761-7472	Grant Proposal Contact Name: Lori Nonnemaker
Website: www.buckcancerfoundation.org	Grant Proposal Contact E-mail: Inonemaker@buckcancerfoundation.org
EIN: 47-1671076	Grant Amount Requested: \$13,500
Year Founded: 2015	

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:	Date:
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Nonprofit Field/s of Interest

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

Figures	Current	PRE-COVID (as of 1/1/20)
Annual Operating Budget	\$ 9,868	\$ 21,500
Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff	0.5	0
# Board Volunteers	11	11
# Committee Volunteers	7	15
# Active Direct Service Volunteers	3	7
Annual Volunteer Hours	1,090	2,340

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

Narrative: In a few concise paragraphs, please explain:

1. Mission

The BUCK Cancer Foundation (“Bridging & Uniting Cancer Knowledge”) funds research projects and educational grants to develop integrative therapies to provide comfort to cancer patients. Since our start in 2015, we have funded over \$25,000 in research and educational grants and our community outreach program called “Warm Hugs from BUCK”, has donated supplies such as socks and blankets and water bottles to bring comfort to 350 cancer patients in Chester County.

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

Our main focus is Chester County, which is home to the vast majority of our supporters. Most of our educational and fundraising events take place in the greater West Chester area. This is in tribute to Buck Nonnemaker, who worked at QVC

and lived in Downingtown for 24 years. We expect to expand our footprint to cover more areas of Chester County in the near future.

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

We serve cancer patients and their caregivers that are interested in learning about the full array of integrative treatment options. Natural and holistic therapies that complement conventional cancer care include (but are not limited to) nutrition, exercise, supplements, acupuncture, reiki, tai chi, massage, and meditation. Even though our grants and Warm Hugs are focused on local and regional hospitals, including Penn Medicine and Jefferson Health practitioners in Chester County, our reach is national based on our website and social media presence.

In Chester County, there were over 5,500 new cancer cases in 2017; invasive and late-stage cancers make up over 65% of these cases. These treatments create more debilitating side effects for patients and our work is crucial to educating patients about the value of integrative therapies. While the cancer community has a continued need for our services, our programming has been significantly limited by COVID-19. We have not been able to participate in any health fairs during 2020 and have not been able to meet with cancer patients to educate them about integrative therapies.

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

The pandemic greatly reduced our fundraising efforts from three sources this year. We have raised only 50% of our planned event revenue of \$13,000. Contributions from individuals and foundations have also been significantly reduced, due to donor's personal financial stress and competing priorities for contributions. Those two sources were projected to contribute \$9,000 this year, however, we have only been able to raise \$3,800. We have lost almost \$12,000 in revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic which was slated to help fund educational grants and purchase supplies for the Warm Hugs program. We are proud that less than 5% of every buck contributed goes to administrative and overhead costs so there is more bang for each buck donated. In response to the pandemic, we pivoted our efforts to obtain hand sanitizer donated by Eight Oaks Farm Distillery in New Tripoli, PA who converted their operation to the production of desperately needed hand sanitizer. BUCK Cancer Foundation board members delivered over 120 bottles of hand sanitizer in May to local cancer centers. This effort was so well-received by patients and hospitals, that our Fall 2020 Warm Hugs from Buck initiative will consist of COVID-19 Care Packages containing a face mask with a filter slot, hand sanitizer and bacterial wipes. We plan to "hug" 250 cancer patients (total cost of \$2,500) as part of our #GivingTuesday initiative on December 1, 2020.

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 will use the funding to supplement our lost fundraising revenue in 2020 due to COVID-19 and provide COVID-19 Care Packages to 250 cancer patients in the Chester County area. We have received and are currently soliciting grant applications for our educational grants program, which gets paid out in February but may be deferred if funding cannot be secured to supplement our lost revenue.

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 seeking \$13,500 to supplement our lost FUNDRAISING revenue in 2020 due to COVID-19, so we can continue our grant programs and provide COVID-19 Care Packages. Our annual operating budget for 2020 was \$21,500 with a projected surplus of about \$9,000. **We are now expecting less than \$10,000 in revenue with a projected deficit of about \$2,500.** We will use these funds within the next 6 months to provide a \$5,000 educational grant and spend \$2,500 on our Warm Hugs program to "hug" the cancer community to let them know they are not alone.

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

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grants@chescocf.org 610.696.8211