



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: New London Counseling Center | ED/CEO Name: Dr. Katie Bowman |
| Address: 125 Saginaw Rd | ED/CEO E-mail: executivedirector@newlondoncounselingcenter.com |
| City, State Zip: Lincoln University, PA 19352 | Board Chair Name: Dr. Katie Bowman |
| Phone: 484-746-3112 | Grant Proposal Contact Name: Dr. Katie Bowman |
| Website: newlondoncounselingcenter.com | Grant Proposal Contact E-mail: executivedirector@newlondoncounselingcenter.com |
| EIN: 83-2796221 | Grant \$ Amount Requested: \$26.656.13 |
| Year Founded: 2018 | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Nonprofit Org Name: The Garage Community and Youth Center | ED/CEO Name: Kristin Proto |
| Address: 115 S. Union Street | ED/CEO E-mail: Kristin.proto@garageyouthcenter.org |
| City, State Zip: Kennett Square, PA 19348 | Board Chair Name: Scott Walker |
| Phone: 610-444-6464 | |
| Website: www.garageyouthcenter.org | |
| EIN: 10-0007967 | |
| Year Founded: 2001 | |

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.

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|-----------------------------|-------|
| Agreed by: Dr. Katie Bowman | Date: |
|-----------------------------|-------|

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|--------------------------|-------|
| Agreed by: Kristin Proto | Date: |
|--------------------------|-------|

Nonprofit Field/s of Interest

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts, Culture & Historic Preservation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment & Animal Welfare | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Services |

Garage Community and Youth Center

| Figures | Current | PRE-COVID (as of 1/1/20) |
|------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Annual Operating Budget | \$722,934 | \$722,934 |
| Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff | #5 | #5 |
| # Board Volunteers | #10 | #10 |
| # Committee Volunteers | #4 | #4 |
| # Active Direct Service Volunteers | #129 | #318 |
| Annual Volunteer Hours | #1,380 | #2,769 |

New London Counseling Center

| Figures | Current | PRE-COVID (as of 1/1/20) |
|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Annual Operating Budget | \$270,000 | \$270,000 |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------|------|
| Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff | #1.5 | #1.5 |
| # Board Volunteers | #6 | #4 |
| # Committee Volunteers | #4 | #3 |
| # Active Direct Service Volunteers | #9 | #7 |
| Annual Volunteer Hours | #300 | #300 |

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.

Garage Community and Youth Center

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------|---|---------------------|---|------------------------|
| X | ChesCo Comm Fdn | Brandywine Health Fdtn | X | United Way ChesCo | X | ChesCo Dept Comm Devel |
| X | ChesCo Fund/W&Girls | Phoenixville Comm Health Fdtn | X | United Way S ChesCo | | ChesCo Dept Health |
| | Other significant funders: PEW Charitable Trust, Phl Foundation | | | | | ChesCo Dept Human Svcs |

New London Counseling Center

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|------------------------|
| | ChesCo Comm Fdn | Brandywine Health Fdtn | X | 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: The Walmart Community Foundation, The Dansko Foundation | | | | | ChesCo Dept Human Svcs |

| No | Yes | Federal Single Audit |
|----|-----|--|
| X | | <i>Is your nonprofit subject to a federal single audit (formerly known as the OMB Circular A-133 audit)?</i> |
| X | | <i>If yes, did your nonprofit's most recent federal single audit disclose any issues?</i> |
| X | | <i>If yes, have these issues been adequately addressed?</i> |

Narrative: In a few **concise** paragraphs, please explain:

1. Mission

Garage Community and Youth Center:

The mission of The Garage is to empower youth to pursue their potential academically, relationally, and spiritually. Our desired impact is to help youth make wise decisions about themselves, their core convictions, their relationships, their educational pursuits, and interactions with their communities. We assist students to begin a cycle of hopefulness by acknowledging and taking steps to overcome life challenges, engage in Garage programs, trusting The Garage as a second home, taking part in shaping activities, and enjoying Garage experiences.

New London Counseling Center:

The mission of New London Counseling Center is to provide access to mental health care and education for every individual, family, and child in Southern Chester County regardless of background or financial situation. In making high-quality care and educational resources accessible and affordable, we help to make the emotional, relational and spiritual well-being of individuals and families possible, and thus improve communication within families and neighborhoods, reduce instances of substance abuse and negative coping behaviors, bolster school and work performance, and increase overall individual and community wellness.

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

Garage Community and Youth Center:

The Garage is proud to serve the Southern Chester County region for nearly two decades. In 2001, a local pastor and businessman saw the opportunity for a reclaimed car garage to serve a greater purpose than service vehicles. The Garage Community & Youth Center was born from his passion to serve the community and almost two decades later, we continue

to thrive in Kennett Square. This success launched the desire to open a second location to serve more youth in the surrounding communities. In 2011, The West Grove location opened its doors to local youth.

New London Counseling Center:

New London Counseling Center is honored to provide mental health care and education for individuals, children, and families in Southern Chester County. In response to a community needs assessment, New London Counseling Center was formed to bridge the gaps to wellness in our community by providing locally available, high-quality mental health services and educational workshops to all the members of our community, regardless of ability to pay. 88% of NLCC patients reside in Southern Chester County.

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

Garage Community and Youth Center:

The Garage serves a diverse group of 6th-12th grade students comprising 82% Latino, 3% African American, 7% Mixed race, and 8% Caucasian. Our target population is from economically depressed households with parents who work long hours in the mushroom industry and face numerous language and cultural challenges; these students lacked the home academic support needed to overcome these challenges because the majority of their parents do not speak English and have not completed their own secondary education. Many students come from single parent and economically disadvantaged households, of which neither the mother nor the father is the primary caretaker. The students who come to The Garage face substantial struggles and are looking for support to navigate through complex issues such as domestic violence, dysfunctional homes, addiction, desire to drop out of school, self-mutilation, teen pregnancy, peer pressure related to drugs/alcohol/sex, language barriers, and peer/familial discouragement regarding academic achievement.

Like many other organizations, on March 13, 2020, our in-person programs came to an unexpected stop. Within a week, on March 20, The Garage pivoted to Virtual Garage Youth Programs via social media and zoom, as well as began collecting and distributing emergency food and household supply boxes to families in our community. From March 20th through August 31, The Garage served 119 students through Virtual Garage, less than half of our normal youth enrollment during similar time periods. However, The Garage's Supply Drive served 2,875 individuals in a completely new service stream.

New London Counseling Center:

New London Counseling Center serves the mental health needs of our entire community through educational workshops, support groups, and outpatient treatment for children, individuals, groups, couples, and families regardless of background or financial situation. Our clinical and education services are designed to meet a wide array of mental health questions and concerns for all ages and backgrounds, and the extensive experience and varied approaches of our clinical team allow us to serve the varied needs of our clients. Most commonly, we help our clients to address concerns around Depression, Grief & Loss, Trauma, Anxiety, OCD, ADHD, Eating Disorders, Stress, Marital Struggles, PTSD, Parenting Challenges, and Child & Adolescent Issues. To date, nearly half of all outpatient clients are age 25 or younger, and half of all patients seen each month are financially assisted due to economic disadvantage.

Though COVID-19 certainly changed the landscape of our services, we are proud to say that services rendered by New London Counseling Center were never halted, and no patients were denied care in the face of the public health crisis. Instead, in the course of 24 hours from March 12th to the 13th, our entire team transitioned therapy services to a digital, HIPAA-compliant telehealth platform to ensure continuity of care.

Since March 13 of this year, we have provided clinical services to over 100 children, adults, and families and have expanded our clinical team to continue to serve the growing needs of our community. In October, we began offering limited in-person therapy in adherence with CDC guidelines.

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

Garage Community and Youth Center:

To comply with health and safety regulations, The Garage closed its doors for in-person programming in March 2020. Prior to closures, The Garage served up to 500 community youth annually and provided essential services including academic support, nutritious meals, enrichment, and post-secondary counseling.

While our doors were closed, community youth were displaced from academic support and economic opportunities while Garage families were overwhelmed with unemployment, child care, attempting to provide education, nutritious meals, and daily basic needs. The Garage responded to the needs of the community through the provision of essential supplies through implementation of a COVID-19 Supply Drive which supported the requests for basic household items including paper products, cleaning supplies, soaps, hygiene products, laundry detergent, diapers and other baby supplies.

Further, The Garage has developed a stronger partnership with the Chester County Food Bank to offer weekly boxes of 20lbs of produce, up to 10lbs of non-perishable canned goods, and pre-packaged lunch and dinner meals, and other food as available. The Supply Drive operated from March through August, serving 575 families, comprised of 2,875 individuals of whom 77% lost work due to COVID-19.

Currently, The Garage is currently providing the emergency food and household supplies to the 68 students who attend our community classrooms as a way to continue to combat food insecurity for our families. All of these supply services are new to The Garage as of March 2020.

Since reopening our doors for students on August 31, The Garage prioritizes the health and safety of students during in-person programming by providing socially distanced work spaces equipped with plexiglass dividers and implementing a mandatory mask policy. Work stations are sanitized daily along with all flatware and glasses in our commercial grade dishwasher. Items that are able to be single use including paper products and cutlery are utilized to further promote cleanliness.

The Garage is proud to be open for the 2020-2021 school year, but in a manner that complies with the health and safety of the students, staff, and community. The Garage's programs operate in a hybrid style format with the combination of in-person Community Classroom programming and continuation of Virtual Garage broadcasting. The Garage harnesses the power of social media platforms to broadcast Virtual Garage programming including Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok.

New London Counseling Center:

New London Counseling Center is working diligently to support the mental health care needs of both individuals and the entire community. Recent mental health surveys conducted by the American Psychological Association suggest that almost half of Americans report significant mental health challenges as a result of this pandemic. New London Counseling Center responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by focusing on supporting the broader community in addition to continuing to provide outpatient therapy via telehealth. We created weekly educational videos for the community to learn about mental health concerns and receive support. For instance, Dr. Katie Bowman created an 8-week long Stress Reduction series in which she made 10-20 minute videos that focused on different aspects of managing stress or challenges faced by our community during the pandemic. Topics ranged from healthy relationships, self-compassion, guilt, anxiety, meditation, and restoring hope for the future. These videos are available to the entire community, free of charge. Another therapist, Joanna, Ross, also created self-help videos that taught therapeutic tools people can do at home.

In addition to the educational videos, Dr. Katie Bowman also collaborated with other local non-profits by contributing original articles and videos for them to distribute to their followers. She wrote weekly articles for two months sharing her expert knowledge of mental health specifically for SILO and created a video for Garage Community and Youth Center students. Our goal is to provide as much psychoeducational content and support to the community as possible, even if they never step foot in our doors. All of this content is free to the community and is financially supported by NLCC.

In addition to creating and distributing free, educational content to the community, NLCC also initiated a new program called Positivity Rocks because we recognized the need in our community for some positive thinking. The goal of this program was to spread some cheer and awareness about the power of positive thinking. NLCC purchased the supplies needed to make approximately 300 packages for families that include rocks, paint pens, marketing materials, and educational information about how positive thinking leads to more positive thinking and, ultimately, happiness. Positivity

is contagious and can rewire the brain from focusing on negative things in our environment to more positive thoughts. We then distributed these packets to the community through local nonprofits including the Garage Community and Youth Center, the Lighthouse Youth Center, New London Christian Preschool, and The Oxford Arts Alliance. The message painted on the rock should be inspirational, positive, or motivating. Or it can be a reminder of a quality the person is striving for like gratitude, kindness, or self-compassion. Every time they see the rock, it is to remind them to think positively. The goal was to create a movement for people to think about positivity and gratitude as well as to create awareness of local, affordable mental health services.

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?

New London Counseling Center seeks to collaborate with and support the Garage Community and Youth Center, who works closely with vulnerable youth. This program seeks to promote awareness of common mental health concerns among teen and immigrant populations in an effort to make mental health a more approachable topic, reduce the stigma associated with seeking mental health care, and improve understanding of common mental health conditions. This is important NOW because COVID is having a tremendous impact on the mental health of our youth. The Coronavirus pandemic is having a significant impact on the nation's youth including their social, emotional, and mental wellbeing. Some of these consequences, like trauma, may even stay with youth across their lifespan (CDC, 2020). According to the Center for Disease Control, youth are impacted by changes in routines, breaks in continuity of learning, breaks in continuity of healthcare, missed significant life events, and loss of security and safety. Trauma, anxiety, excessive stress, and emotional dysregulation may be consequences for many of today's youth. Even before COVID, suicide was the 2nd leading cause of death among youth (NAMI.org). There is an urgent need to help youth self-identify mental health concerns and feel comfortable asking for help so that we can prevent serious, long-term mental illness or even death!

In order to promote mental wellbeing and prevent serious, long-term mental illness, licensed mental health professionals at New London Counseling Center will create educational videos discussing mental health topics for Garage Students. Topics have been chosen that are relevant to youth and staff will encourage students to anonymously ask questions related to the topic. After showing the educational video, NLCC will respond to any student questions and Garage staff will then coordinate an experiential and interactive activity based on that month's topic.

Through engaging, educational videos and experiential activities, this program ensures Garage students feel comfortable communicating mental health needs and identifying mental health concerns in others.

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

The Mental Health Education Program is an innovative collaboration between two local, non-profit organizations. The funds requested would support staff and program costs at both of these agencies. A detailed description of funds requested can be found on the Mental Health Education Program Description. The total amount requested is \$26,656.13. This amount requested reflects approximately 2.6% of the total operating budgets for 2020. The timeframe for completing this Mental Health Education Program is February 2021 through June 2021.

Please e-mail all materials as a word.doc and/or pdf to grants@chescofc.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. This grant form is available at <https://chescofc.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.chescofc.org
grants@chescofc.org 610.696.8211