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

**Contact Information**

Nonprofit Org Name: The Timothy School	ED/CEO Name: Sara Greim
Address: 973 Old Lancaster Rd.	ED/CEO E-mail: sgreim@timothyschool.com
City, State Zip: Berwyn, PA 19312	Board Chair Name: Brian C. Dalton
Phone: 610-715-7581	Grant Proposal Contact Name: Nicholas Voight
Website: www.timothyschool.com	Grant Proposal Contact E-mail: nvoight@timothyschool.com
EIN: 23-1690371	Grant \$ Amount Requested: \$20,000
Year Founded: 1966	

*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: Nicholas Voight	Date: 10/4/2020
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**Nonprofit Field/s of Interest**

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

Figures	Current	PRE-COVID (as of 1/1/20)
Annual Operating Budget	\$5,699,616	\$5,699,616.
Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff	78	78
# Board Volunteers	11	11
# Committee Volunteers		12
# Active Direct Service Volunteers		50
Annual Volunteer Hours		1100

**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.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ChesCo Comm Fdn	Brandywine Health Fdtn	United Way ChesCo	ChesCo Dept Comm Devel
<input type="checkbox"/>	ChesCo Fund/W&Girls	Phoenixville Comm Health Fdtn	United Way S ChesCo	ChesCo Dept Health
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other significant funders: The Connelly Foundation, Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust, Genuardi Family Foundation., Malvern Federal Foundation			ChesCo Dept Human Svcs

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

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

**Mission**

To provide students with the communication, social, cognitive and life skills necessary to enable them to function effectively and as independently as possible in the least restrictive environment.

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

The Timothy School serves students from 23 school districts in five counties in Southeast Pennsylvania (Chester, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Delaware and Berks). In Chester County specifically, The Timothy School serves students from West Chester, Coatesville, Oxford, Phoenixville and Tredyffrin/Easttown School Districts.

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

The Timothy School serves students age 5 to 21, diagnosed with autism and pervasive developmental disorders (PDD-NOS). Due to COVID-19 and the prolonged virtual program, we have been unable to accept new students into the program despite having three openings for students in the school.

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

The difficult decision to close schools and transition to distance learning was made in mid-March as a result of the governor's statewide shutdown order. Due to safety concerns for the students and staff members, The Timothy School has remained in a virtual format since that time. Our teachers, therapists and specialists have provided a full instructional program virtually since September. On November 9, 2020, we are scheduled to reopen The Timothy School on a hybrid basis.

Since March, parents have become physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists and teachers. In addition to abruptly losing the in-person support that parents had been receiving, parents are faced with the challenge of just getting their children online for school. Our students are "in school" in a structured, fun and creative online programing, Monday through Friday. We have learned that many of our students were sharing devices with siblings and working parents to maintain their studies. The school has been able to loan out some devices from the its shared iPad cart and some home school districts were able to provide devices to students; however, the immediate need to supply each student with his/her own instructional device has become evident. There is a significantly greater need for technology for all of our students, but especially for students in our elementary program, who previously have not been required to have their own electronic devices for instructional purposes.

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

Since transitioning to virtual learning, we realized that we were in desperate need of devices for each of our 67 students. However, these devices alone do not necessarily accommodate all of our students' learning needs. At times, it is challenging for our students to turn the device on or launch applications by themselves, so in addition to devices, we also need specialized software and hardware to assist student's with specific educational needs such as visual supports and auditory processing difficulties.

The funding would be used to purchase the following to support digital education both in the classroom and for virtual learning:

- iPads, Chromebooks, laptops and/or tablets
- Audiology supports for students with auditory processing difficulties and/or hearing impairment.
- Equipment to assist children with visual supports and structure needed to support virtual learning
- For students with severe communication deficits, tablets/communication devices with associated modified software, applications, joysticks, keyboards, touch pads, etc.
- Smartboard maintenance and extensions/enhancements for each classroom
- Text-to-speech software for students who are not reading on grade level and speech-to-text software programs for students who struggle with fine motor skills.

The pandemic has exposed the challenges of shifting abruptly to remote education for students with autism. There is no question that changing schools and learning environments was very daunting for our students. Technology can eliminate barriers, thereby helping our students to become more independent.

With regard to community impact, many students with autism need extra support with social skills, so it is important that these skills continue to be taught regardless of classroom setting. Focused instruction on flexible

thinking, understanding body language and facial expressions, expected vs. unexpected behavior, thinking about others vs. thinking about yourself and how to cope with problems when they arise are still needed in a virtual classroom. It is often easier for an individual with autism to socialize via social networking than through the more traditional methods. Making friends or communicating with others online can help students work on the skills that might translate at school, work or out in the community.

It is important to fund this now since the funding would ensure access to learning for every student at The Timothy School. Today, there are more technologies than ever before to help students with interaction, participation, and communication, making for more integrated virtual and in-person classrooms, and innovative therapies that help our students learn.

**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 Timothy Schools is requesting \$20,000.00 to purchase technology in the form of iPads, Chromebooks, laptops, and other specialized equipment as noted above. The annual operating budget is \$5,699,616. After operating expenditures of \$5,675,098, we project an excess of \$24,518.

The funds would be used immediately.

Please e-mail all materials as a word.doc and/or pdf to [grants@chescofc.org](mailto:grants@chescofc.org):

X	This <b>Innovation &amp; Resiliency Fund Grant Request</b> cover sheet & brief narrative
X	Current annual operating budget & most recent audit
X	501c3 determination letter
X	<b>Current strategic plan.</b> The strategic plan is currently being worked on and will be completed under the direction of our new executive director who joins The Timothy School on November 2, 2020.
X	Support materials that strengthen the urgency of this funding request + indicate that your nonprofit is innovative and resilient. See attached Timothy School Virtual/Remote Learning Education Plan, Fall 2020.

- 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](http://www.chescofc.org)  
[grants@chescofc.org](mailto:grants@chescofc.org) 610.696.8211