CCCF 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, 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.
Date: 2/8/2021

Contact Information

Organization Name: Chenoa Manor Animal Sanctuary
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In a few brief paragraphs, please explain:

1. **What geographic area is served?**
   We are located in Avondale, PA, and offer long-term care for about 250 animal residents on-site - including horses, cows, pigs, goats, sheep, pigeons, ducks, chickens, parrots, tortoises and more. We also offer educational programs and learning opportunities for youth from the wider Chester County and Philadelphia areas.

2. **What population is served, what has been the impact of COVID-19, and how has your nonprofit responded?**
   Chenoa Manor serves as a safe home for farm and exotic animals with nowhere left to turn. Our residents include animals who have been neglected, abused, abandoned or en route to slaughter prior to being given a second chance. All animals accepted at Chenoa become permanent residents of the sanctuary and are provided with a lifetime of care and compassion.

   COVID-19 has put an immense strain on our fundraising over the past year. In 2019, in-person events and workshops accounted for 9.5% of our revenue, a total of $10,976. As we were unable to host any programs in Q1 and Q2 of 2020, and attendance for the socially distanced programs we were able to offer in the second half of the year were significantly less than projected, our revenue from events and workshops in 2020 totaled only $3,745, a 65% decrease year over year. Furthermore, because the primary populations we serve are animals, it was increasingly difficult to compete for funding with charities and causes focused on providing human services that were also sorely needed during the pandemic. While we were already struggling financially, in early August 2020 we also experienced severe flooding due to Tropical Storm Isaias. The flooding caused extensive damage to the fencing in the majority of our pastures, and cost us about $12,000 in repairs.

   Despite these many challenges, we’ve continued to serve our community by offering sanctuary and providing holistic care for as many animals as possible. The need for animal placement is even greater in challenging times like these - when people struggle, so do animals. As communities face loss of income due to the economic fallout of COVID-19, providing for pets or community animals has become difficult and sometimes impossible. We welcomed approximately 50 new animal residents in 2020, and are planning to accept an additional 75 residents in 2021.

   As a 100% volunteer-run organization, our budget has already been extremely lean. In reaction to COVID-19 funding difficulties, we have done our best to cut any expenses possible, partnering with local businesses for produce donations and growing supplemental food for our residents on-site. We have gotten creative with online and socially-distanced programming, increased our monthly marketing outreach and introducing new digital fundraising efforts that included a Giving Tuesday #NourishmentNovember campaign on Instagram, Facebook and GoFundMe centered around raising funds for winter hay costs. We also committed to grant outreach, with a goal of researching and applying to 1-2 grants per month in 2021.

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?**

   We are seeking $5000, 4.5% of our 2021 annual operating budget of $112,000. This funding will not only help relieve the budgetary deficit we expect to see due to the continued drop in workshop and event sales, but will also fund the construction of a much-needed new avian enclosure on site.
Domesticated birds, including chickens, ducks, geese, pigeons, peafowl and turkeys, make up a huge portion of homeless animals in need. These numbers increase during the winter months, with plummeting temperatures and reduced access to food sources endangering birds that are unable to fend for themselves after being released into the wild. Shelters and rescue organizations, already stretched thin from the effects of COVID-19, are at max capacity. Construction of a 12ft x 50ft enclosure, subdivided into six 8.5ft x 12ft stalls, will cost approximately $5,600 in raw materials. It will enable us to place 50+ additional birds in need, as well as give us extra space in case any of our existing bird enclosures are damaged due to unforeseen circumstances. We plan to complete this structure by early March or late April 2021.

Please email grants@chescocf.org
___ This Brief COVID-19 Rapid Response Mini-Grant Letter of Request
___ Copy of annual operating budget or most recent audit
___ 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.