



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

Mini-Grant Letter of Request

CCCF is seeking grant applications for a fund whose mission is “to provide funds for educational computer hardware or software, and other tools for children of economically marginalized communities who are underrepresented and have been denied the full complement of educational equipment needed to successfully compete in the 21st Century.” We estimate that each mini-grant will range from \$2000 to \$3000.

Date:

Contact Information

Organization Name: Young Men and Women In Charge, Inc (YMWIC) Foundation, Inc.

ED/CEO Name: Richard Roberts, III

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Board Chair Name: Richard Roberts, III

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Primary Contact Name: Richard Roberts, III

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In a few brief paragraphs, please explain:

What geographic area is served? *(If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served)* Sixty percent of our participants reside in Chester County, served by our chapters in Coatesville, Phoenixville and West Chester, and the remainder are served by our chapters in neighboring Greater Philadelphia communities.

What population is served? YMWIC’s K-16 programs currently serve an almost exclusively African-American and Latino population of roughly 200 students in grades 3rd-12th in our After School STEM and Leadership Program, an additional 250 K-5th elementary students through our Summer STEAM Enrichment Programs, 40 who are 6-8th grade in our middle school science retreat, 35 in our Coatesville Upward Bound Summer program and 40 alumni in college as of 2021, internships, and careers. Fifty-four percent of our program participants qualify for free/reduced price lunch, 68% are first generation college going, and 36% are female.

- I. **How has your nonprofit responded to address the question of the “digital divide” and access for the population that you serve to computer hardware, software and other technology needs?** YMWIC recognizes that many of the Scholars we serve frequently experience challenges with their home internet, and obtaining suitable computing to support their academic progress. YMWIC encounters similar challenges when we try to provide our services to our families during the pandemic as they have faced the same barriers. As a result YMWIC commits to our families by ensuring that they don’t have this digital divide related barriers. We have been working with an agency that provides us with hot spots in case our families are without internet. As YMWIC’s serves have increased, we are forecasting the need for additional hot spots and chrome books.

2. **How much funding is sought?** YMWIC is seeking \$3,000 to offset the cost of 30 hot spots, services and maintenance included. These funds will also be used to purchase 20 additional chrome book/laptops for Families that experience digital divide barriers when receiving our services.
3. **How does this compare to your annual operating budget?** The funding will be used to purchase 30 hot spots and 20 additional laptops/chrome books. Our annual budget is approximately \$700,000
4. **What will the funding be used for?** The funding will be used to purchase hot spots and computers. YMWIC administers our after school and summer programming digitally due to the pandemic. While during the pandemic, YMWIC realizes that some of our processes have improved due to a virtual platform. Therefore, we intend to continue to offer virtual tutoring, job shadowing and college access projects using the technology. However, many of the families we serve experience digital divide challenges.
What is the expected timeframe for use of funds? The licenses are annual. However, we intend to continue our virtual and digital platform to seek more ways to bring our services to our families and meet them where they are.

Please email grants@chescof.org

- _____ This Brief 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. Please direct general questions & inquiries about this grant application to grants@chescof.org. Beth, Steph, or Kevin will answer you.