

AIP GRANT APPLICATION COVER SHEET

For an electronic version of this application, visit www.chescocf.org

Date: 5/5/21

Contact Information

Organization Name: Good Neighbors Home Repair Executive Director/CEO Name: Harold Naylor

Address: 224 E. Street Rd., Suite 2, Kennett Square PA 19348 Executive Director/CEO E-mail:
harold.naylor@goodneighborshsr.org

Phone: 610-444-1844 Board of Directors Chair Name: David Tideman

Website: goodneighborshomerepair.org Primary Contact Name: Nina Taylor
Year Incorporated: 2008 Primary Contact E-mail:
nina.taylor@goodneighborshsr.org

FEIN: 11-3839742

Have you received grant money from the Chester County Community Foundation in the past?
Yes X__ No__ Not Sure__

Please indicate which of these AIP Fund priorities are embedded in your program:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Alleviate hunger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alleviate homelessness	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alleviate poverty
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Physical well being	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emotional & mental well being	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social well being
<input type="checkbox"/>	Educate for social intelligence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Educate for academic success	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mindfulness	<input type="checkbox"/>	Creativity & problem solving	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Mission: Good Neighbors’ mission is to restore hope and dignity to qualified, low-income homeowners by repairing their homes as an expression of our love for Jesus Christ. Services are provided without regard to age, race, creed, religion, or ethnic origin.

Geographic Area Served: Southern Chester County, PA, and New Castle County, DE

Describe the number & type of children/youth to be served by this program annually: Last year we served 80 children, 18 and under; 54 percent of our homeowners were white, 25 percent Black, and 21 percent Hispanic.

Resources:

\$__ \$7,500 How much grant funding do you seek from the AIP Fund?

\$__ \$723,770 What is your overall budget for this program?

\$__ \$723,770 What is your overall budget for this year?

__4__ # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff

__9__ # of Board Volunteers

__178__ # of Active Non-Board Volunteers (Note: Down from 518 in 2019, due to Covid.)

__2,188__ # of Volunteer Hours (Note: Down from over 8,000 volunteer hours in 2019, due to Covid.)

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Chester County Dept of Community Development; Wyss Foundation; Pia Family Foundation; WW Smith

Grant Amount Requested from the AIP Fund @ Community Foundation \$7500 _____

Proposal Summary (3-5 sentences):

Our vision is for all people in our community to have a warm, safe, dry, and healthy home. Typical home repairs that fall within these criteria are roof repairs or replacements, window replacement, plumbing and electrical repairs, heater repair and replacement, installation of wheelchair ramps, siding replacement, and water damage repair. We provide these critical home repairs at no cost to low-income homeowners. We have seen that when a homeowner spends a significant percentage of their monthly income on housing costs, they must often decide between making a critical home repair and purchasing necessities, such as groceries or medicine; understandably homeowners usually opt to purchase those basic necessities and what was once a small repair need blossoms into a major repair expense. We are seeking \$7,500 to help fund repairs for two or three homes on our waiting list in southern Chester County.

AIP GRANT APPLICATION NARRATIVE

Please describe briefly, 2 pages maximum.

1-What are you trying to achieve with this program, and how does this resonate with your nonprofit's mission, other programs and track record?

The primary goal for this program is the same for all of our work and for every project we undertake: to make homes warmer, safer, drier, and/or healthier. In so doing, our goal is to restore hope and human dignity to those we serve by removing a huge source of stress in their lives and supporting their emotional, spiritual, and physical health. This work is our mission.

Homeowners with significant housing challenges are often faced with deciding between paying for basic necessities such as food/medicine and the expense of making repairs to their homes. Leaky roofs, broken steps, and broken heaters create substandard living conditions that can have a negative impact on residents' health and safety. In addition, substandard housing often impacts real estate values, and, in some instances, homeowners are forced to foreclose. When Good Neighbors alleviates the burden of repair costs, these housing challenges are reduced and residents can benefit from healthier homes. In addition, **neighborhoods are improved and foreclosures and homelessness are reduced**. Realtor groups estimate that home values increase 7 percent on average once significant repairs have been made.

Our repairs also impact the emotional well-being of homeowners and their families. As one volunteer who worked on several projects noted, "Just to see how grateful [the families] were to have that help, you could actually feel their spirits being lifted. Not only are you fixing something physically, but you're fixing something that may have been a burden to them." In alleviating parents' burdens (often single mothers), we also impact the emotional and social well-being of the children in the home, as well as their health and safety.

Our strategy for achieving these outcomes begins when we receive an application for assistance. We receive referrals directly from past clients and indirectly from friends, family, and neighbors who are aware of families in need. Other referral sources include churches, county caseworkers, public health nurses, and other caregivers who personally see these needy families within their home environments.

Our Operations Director assesses the home repair needs to determine scope and cost. Our Applications Coordinator then visits the home and spends time with the family to understand their financial situation to see if they qualify as low-income. If the homeowner qualifies and is up to date on their mortgage payments and taxes, they will then receive a visit from our Project Manager so that he can begin to plan the repair process.

A Project Manager pulls together the needed materials and volunteers to complete the repairs. Currently Good Neighbors partners with more than 40 local churches, more than 30 service and social agencies, and over 70 local businesses and contractors that provide free and/or discounted services and supplies.

Usually the qualification process only takes a week or two. Repair time depends on the size and specific scope of the job. For the average repair project, we need 30–40 hours of work from both our volunteers and a lead Project Manager.

Our extensive use of volunteers, donated supplies, and discounted labor enables us to deliver \$2000 to \$3000 worth of improvements for every \$1000 donated.

2-How you will discern the impact and results of this program?

Good Neighbors evaluates its programs through conversations with homeowners, volunteers, and partner organizations. For each project we develop a scope of work with specific tasks to be completed. At the end of the project, we compare completed tasks with homeowner expectations by utilizing a check list. Throughout each project, staff seeks homeowner feedback on progress and/or concerns. We then share feedback with the project team and make appropriate adjustments. An analysis of homeowner feedback shows that, out of a top score of 5.0, Good Neighbors has received a score of 4.9 for all questions including homeowner satisfaction and neighborhood impact. We also use a questionnaire to measure improved quality of life. Our community impact (measured by the number of people we serve and the homes we repair) has continued to rise year after year over the last five years.

3-Why is it important to fund this now?

Demand for our services continues to grow, and we always have a backlog of homes in need of repair. Since 1992, we have consistently increased the number of homes we repair every single year. In 2016, we expanded our efforts into New Castle County, and demand there continues to grow.

We are seeing an uptick in requests due to Covid, and we expect this to continue as the economic fallout expands. Unfortunately, according to the Washington Post, 4 million adult workers without college degrees have not found work again after losing their jobs in the pandemic. It looks as if the recovery will be a long road for them. People have already come to us after layoffs and job losses due to Covid. Low-income homeowners often defer home maintenance because they are making choices between spending money on essentials, such as food and medicine, and making critical home repairs. As their financial situation worsens and their delayed maintenance becomes more problematic, we expect more homeowners to come to us seeking help.

III. ATTACHMENTS

E-mail or mail this support information

1. Copy of 501 (c) (3) federal tax-exempt letter
2. List of Board of Directors, with their affiliations
3. Most recent annual report and financial statement, audited if available
4. Organizational operating budget, with actual results for prior FY and current FYTD
5. If multi-year funding is requested, detailed project budget for full program
6. Current strategic plan. If your nonprofit does not have a current strategic plan, explain why.