



AIP GRANT APPLICATION FORM

The AIP Fund, c/o Chester County Community Foundation
28 W. Market Street
West Chester PA 19382
(610) 696-8211 www.chescocf.org grants@chescocf.org

Chester County
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

All Children Deserve a Good Life

Our grants focus on nonprofit programs that help children & youth deal with any/all of these issues:

1. alleviate homelessness, hunger & poverty
2. instill holistic health & well-being: physical, cognitive, emotional & social
3. educate for academic and social excellence

- Our aim is to develop resilient, self-sufficient children empowered with strong coping skills, so we help build families, groups, communities and a world where loving kindness towards all prevails.
- We fund nonprofit projects in and near Chester County, PA.
- 1, 2 and 3-year project requests are considered, with a plan of self-sufficiency after 3 years of funding.
- Proposals are welcome anytime throughout the year. Decisions are made monthly.
- Per IRS regulations, applicants must be charitable, tax exempt organizations with 501(c)(3) certification. Applicants cannot be individuals.
- E-mail proposals are strongly encouraged to grants@chescocf.org
- Receipt will be confirmed by e-mail.
- Questions? Please contact Kevin Baffa at (610) 696-8211 or grants@chescocf.org

Thank you.

AIP GRANT APPLICATION COVER SHEET

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

Date: June 15, 2021

Contact Information

Organization Name: Parkesburg POINT	Executive Director/CEO Name: Dwayne Walton
Address: PO Box 731	Executive Director/CEO E-mail: Dwayne@parkesburgpoint.com
700 Main St. Parkesburg, PA 19365	Board of Directors Chair Name: Larry Beaver
Phone: 610-857-3393	Primary Contact Name: Sarah Daniels
Website: www.parkesburgpoint.com	Primary Contact E-mail: sdaniels@parkesburgpoint.com
Year Incorporated: 2003	
FEIN: 03-0399261	

Have you received grant money from the Chester County Community Foundation in the past?

Yes No Not Sure

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alleviate hunger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alleviate homelessness	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educate for social intelligence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educate for academic success	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mindfulness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Creativity & problem solving	

Mission: To empower youth and families to live victoriously by offering a safe, engaging and Spirit-filled environment.

Geographic Area Served: The greater Parkesburg and Coatesville Communities

Describe the number & type of children/youth to be served by this program annually: The POINT serves over 300 youth, ages 8-18 annually (210 in 2020 due to COVID-19) through our Youth Development Program. Most students come from single-parent households and 90% live below the poverty level for Chester County. Approximately 40% are African American, 30% Caucasian, 20% Mixed-Race and 10% Latino. Additionally, 80% of students attend Octorara School District, 20% Coatesville School District and many have experienced homelessness, transient housing conditions, abuse, hunger, parents addicted to drugs/alcohol and/or are struggling academically.

Resources:

\$ \$10,000 How much grant funding do you seek from the AIP Fund?

\$ 643,000 What is your overall budget for this program?

\$ 1,178,232 What is your overall budget for this year?

4 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff

13 # of Board Volunteers

175 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers

7,500 # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Iron Mountain LLC, Connelly Foundation & The Nelson Foundation

Grant Amount Requested from the AIP Fund @ Community Foundation \$10,000

Proposal Summary (3-5 sentences): The POINT respectfully requests \$10,000 to help fund our Youth Development Program for at-risk youth. Due to COVID-19, the program has needed to make significant expense increases in the areas of food, art, counseling and academic support as we help students recover from the detrimental impacts of the pandemic.

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 POINT is a grassroots, collaborative effort of churches, community leaders, businesses, police, school districts, and the judicial system which address the needs of our community's most at-risk and vulnerable youth. The POINT's highly committed staff and volunteers facilitate innovative programs that address the physical, emotional, Spiritual and academic needs of at-risk youth. It is our hope that every student who walks through our doors is equipped with the support and resources necessary to break generational cycles of poverty and reach their full potential.

Through our Youth Development Program, The POINT positions youth to live victoriously by offering a key prevention benefit to the community; helping to break generational cycles of poverty and reduce debilitating patterns of drug/alcohol addiction, abuse and school drop-out. When students are involved in The Youth Development Program at The POINT, they are not causing trouble elsewhere. Parents have the comfort of knowing their children are safe, supported and fed each evening and children who are neglected at home have a safe, supportive environment they can come to where they feel valued, filled with hope, and empowered to reach their full potential.

During the school year, The POINT's Youth Development Program runs Monday – Thursday from 3-6:30PM in addition to several Friday night and weekend activities. Due to capacity restrictions for COVID-19, The POINT has shifted to serving 7th - 12th graders on M/W and 3rd-6th graders on T/Th. Programs and activities continue Monday-Thursday in a modified format during the summer. In the summer, The POINT will serve 3rd – 6th graders from 1-3:30PM (providing lunch daily) and 7th-12th graders from 4:00 – 6:30PM (providing dinner daily). The Program provides meals, recreation, academic support, enrichment activities, social interaction, leadership development, counseling, and other resources and supports to help achieve the following goals:

- 1) Provide access to a safe and supportive environment.
- 2) Empower students to develop healthy relationships, leadership skills, confidence and a positive identity.
- 3) Encourage students to stay in school & set goals for post-secondary education/employment.
- 4) Create access to activities, education and resources that promote a healthy lifestyle.
- 5) Foster Spiritual Exploration and Development.

Students who participate in the program are expected to achieve the following outcomes:

- Students will report feeling safe and supported at The POINT.
- Students will indicate resistance to risky behaviors including gangs, sex, drugs, and alcohol.
- Students will not skip or drop out of school.
- Students will set goals for post-secondary education and/or employment.
- Students will improve literacy.
- Students will increase grades and/or maintain positive grades.
- Students will report an increase in self-esteem and confidence.
- Students will experience an increased sense of hope.

We are pleased to report that in our most recent survey of core students, 98% of students said they feel safe, supported and cared for at The POINT, 74% said they feel more motivated academically, 59% improved literacy skills and 80% plan to enroll in college or a tech school post-high school. Additionally, 89% feel more confident, 86% improved self-esteem, and 63% made new friends. And finally, 55% of students are getting in trouble less, over 91% said The POINT helps them avoid alcohol and drugs and 83% said it helps them avoid skipping/dropping out of school.

In addition to our Youth Development Program, The POINT implements programs that benefit our student's families in an effort to reduce repetitive trauma. These Programs include our Crisis and Compassion Fund (financial assistance for food, rental/utility assistance, rehab admissions, funerals etc.) and Young Mom's Club (Bible Study and Enrichment for young mothers). And finally, our Scholarship Program provides financial assistance for eligible students and/or interns pursuing post-secondary education. Like our Youth Development Program, all POINT programs alleviate barriers to success, empower, instill hope and equip individuals and families to live victoriously.

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

The POINT administers post program surveys and works with the schools to track student's academic performance and graduation rates. Information collected is used to measure the program's success and to continuously refine and improve our services. The POINT also utilizes a software program (Ministry Tracker) to evaluate attendance, retention, program growth and student/volunteer demographics.

The relationships we develop with students are also one of our greatest indicators of success as we observe transformation in students like "J". "J" lives at Lincoln Crest, an impoverished mobile home community in Coatesville. Over the past 2 years, The POINT targeted this community, providing transportation to and from The POINT and delivering food and resources during the COVID-19 shutdown. Our poorest students come from this community. Their poverty is visible the moment they walk in our door. "J" is 10 years old and we recently discovered that she cannot read. She lives with her parents and 2 brothers but mom is consumed by a drug addiction and rarely home. "J" and her brothers lack accountability and support at home. Like many students, when school restarted virtually this Fall, they never logged in. In January 2021, Coatesville began welcoming kids back for in-person classes. Unfortunately, when the bus arrived at Lincoln Crest, "J" and her siblings were not allowed on, their parents had never registered them and they were left humiliated in front of their peers. Students like "J" come to The POINT in desperate need of social and emotional healing. Our student's past year was spent in impoverished, crowded and chaotic homes. Many of our students barely left their bedrooms. "J" has fallen further behind academically, gained weight, lost confidence and like many of our students, is experiencing heightened anxiety around reunification with her peers. The POINT continues to support "J's" family with food when needed and was able to get her enrolled in school and set up with a reading tutor at The POINT.

3-Why is it important to fund this now?

Our request comes at a heightened time of need as COVID-19 has widened academic gaps and had detrimental impacts on our students physical, emotional, social and spiritual health. Now more than ever, POINT students need the safety and stability of our facility and programs, the caring support of our staff and most importantly, they need to be reminded that even in the hardest of times, there is still hope.

There are 196 students currently being served by The POINT's Youth Development Program and we will reach an estimated 300 by the end of the year. The majority of students bring complex issues of homelessness, poverty, abuse, hunger and/or illiteracy. Financial support of The POINT is critical to ensure we can continue to meet the preventative and interventional needs of our community; ensuring every child who walks through our door has access to the support and resources needed to reach his/her potential.

Research supports that children from poor households, "experienced the greatest financial and education loss..." (Save the Children, 2021). Additionally, the CDC states that, "many young adults social, emotional and mental well-being has been impacted by the pandemic." Additionally, a recent study by McKinsey & Company states, "The pandemic has widened existing racial and socioeconomic disparities in education. While all students are suffering, those who came into the pandemic with the fewest academic opportunities are on track to exit with the greatest learning loss" (Time, 2021). We have seen this to be true for students returning to The POINT. When it came time for classes to resume this Fall, many students never logged in and others, even with their best efforts failed to succeed due to overcrowded homes, increased childcare responsibilities, WIFI limitations, etc.

Academic gaps have widened and food insecurity and mental health issues have exponentially increased. Our students are discouraged, hungry and hurting. The POINT is respectfully requesting a \$10,000 grant because we have needed to make critical increases to our 2021 Youth Development Program Budget in order to more effectively address the community's needs. More specifically, we have increased our investment in counseling for students (providing an onsite counselor at The POINT), increased our food expense from \$10,000 to \$52,000, hired 6 college interns to our staff to enable us to provide more individualized support for students (\$15,000+) and hired a FT bilingual Academic Coordinator (\$35,000/yr) to restructure and expand our academic supports to more effectively help students recover from over a year of learning loss.

As we move forward in 2021, much uncertainty remains for how COVID-19 will impact our funding streams. We have reduced our in-person fundraising events and some corporate foundations have shifted their funding priorities to national issues or decreased funding due to loss of revenue. Amidst a year of uncertainty, your support would play a pivotal role in helping to continue moving our mission forward and meeting the urgent needs of students in our community.

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.

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