

I. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

One page only. This page will be shared electronically with Grant Panel Members & Fund Advisors.

Note: If Philanthropy Network's Common Grant Application is used, CCCF's Summary Sheet **MUST** accompany application.

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

Date 9/10/21

Contact Information

Organization Name: **Meals on Wheels of Chester County (MOWCC)** ED/CEO Name: **Jeani D. Purcell**
Address: **404 Willowbrook Lane, West Chester, PA 19382** ED/CEO E-mail: **meals@mowcc.org**
Phone: **610-430-8500** Board Chair Name: **Dave Glass**
Website: **www.mowcc.org** Board Chair Approval (check here): **X**
Year Incorporated: **1991** Primary Contact Name: **Jeani Purcell**
FEIN: **23-2636379** Primary Contact E-mail: **meals@mowcc.org**

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

Arts, Culture & Humanities Environment/Animal Welfare Education
 Health Human Services Religion

Mission:

To provide nutritious meals and personal interaction to homebound adults to help them live independently in their own homes.

Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served):

MOWCC serves 85% of Chester County. The main line areas of the county (Devon, Paoli, Berwyn) are served by the Main Line Meals on Wheels organization.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:

MOWCC serves residents of Chester County who are homebound due to advanced age, illness, or disability and unable to physically or mentally prepare meals for themselves. 91% of our clients are over the age of 60. We served 750 people last year. Our typical client is alone during the day, struggles financially, has little to no family support and is advanced in age.

Annual Budget \$ 517,220.00 4 # of Part-Time Paid Staff
87 % of budget for program expenses 15 # of Board Volunteers
11 % of budget for administrative expenses 588 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
2 % of budget for fundraising expenses 13,886 # of Volunteer Hours
100 % total

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Government Contracts (Dept of Aging and PA State Waiver Program), Foundations and grants, Contributions from clients, individuals and businesses.

Is this grant proposal for: Capacity Building or General Operating

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

Mission, Vision & Strategy Governance & Leadership Partnerships & Collaborations
 Fundraising, Development & Marketing Technology Other: _____

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$ 5,000.00

Proposal Summary: Seeking your assistance to purchase hot, nutritious meals for homebound, low-income residents of West Chester borough. It costs approximately \$1,000 to feed one individual meals for an entire year.

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

1. Nonprofit's history, goals, key achievements & distinctiveness

History

The first Meals on Wheels program in the U.S. began in Philadelphia in 1954. The Chester County program delivered its first meal in 1971 in the Borough of West Chester. Volunteers from area churches organized the program and delivered meals provided by the Chester County Hospital.

The program spread throughout the county and Meals on Wheels of Chester County (MOWCC) was incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 1991. Although West Chester was our first chapter, we have grown to include 21 chapters stretching across the county. The chapters serve every area of the county with the exception of the towns along the main line. They are served by a separate organization called Main Line Meals on Wheels. Meals are purchased from 13 different local food providers and delivered to the homes of our clients by 588 compassionate, dedicated MOWCC volunteers at lunchtime Monday through Friday.

Key Achievements

Last year, we delivered 89,573 meals to 750 people who were homebound. The total cost of meals for the year was \$361,202. Client donations totaled \$147,189 which only covered 41% of the food cost so we needed to raise over \$150,000 in grants and through other means of fundraising to pay our food providers. Chester County Hospital serves the residents in the West Chester borough.

Distinctiveness

MOWCC is more than just a meal. Our compassionate, dedicated volunteers offer friendship, care, and a well-ness check to the most vulnerable residents in the county. For some, the volunteers are the only people they see on a given day. MOWCC helps our seniors remain living in their own homes, where they prefer to be, for as long as possible. Having food delivered right to their door helps prevent having to prematurely move to assisted care facilities. A full year of MOWCC costs less than one day in a hospital or several days in a nursing home.

2. Funding request

• Description of key initiatives

Our vision is to operate as a sustainable organization providing meal delivery to homebound seniors or adults with disabilities in support of their personal independence. This grant request seeks assistance in funding meal costs for our West Chester borough chapter. All funds received from the Chester County Foundation will be used to pay for the hot meals that are delivered to our clients in the West Chester borough who do not have the financial means to make a donation to help pay for their meals. For the fiscal year that ended 6/30/21, our volunteers delivered 4,455 meals to homebound clients in the West Chester borough. Client donations were approximately 55% of food cost leaving the chapter with a deficit of -\$6,865 which was covered by MOWCC emergency reserve fund. We are actively seeking additional funding from the community to cover future costs.

• **Specific needs & issues to be addressed**

The overall goal of our organization is to improve or maintain the health of homebound individuals by providing nutritious meals, a daily check and social contact to enable these individuals to remain in their homes as long as possible. Studies show that seniors want to remain in their own homes, and in-home services, such as Meals on Wheels, help them remain there with the assurance they are receiving healthy meals. The meals that we provide contain 1/3 of the Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) of nutrients established by the Institute of Medicine and monitored by the Pennsylvania Department of Aging (PDA). The benefits of healthy eating include increased mental acuteness, resistance to illness and disease, higher energy levels, faster recuperation times, and better management of chronic health problems.

• **Why it is important to fund this now**

Life expectancy for individuals is at an all-time high. Living longer can mean more years spent in struggles that accompany old age. Many seniors and other homebound individuals wish to remain living in their own homes, but have limited family support and limited financial means. Something as basic as a daily meal is a challenge for many; these are the individuals that we strive to help. Good nutrition is an important component of the healthy aging process. Meals that are delivered by our volunteers ensure that this basic need is met for some of Chester County's most vulnerable residents.

• **How impact & results will be demonstrated**

The MOWCC main office collects statistics from each of our 21 chapters monthly regarding the number of clients served, number of meals, cost of meals, donations collected and determines which chapters need to actively seek help from the community to pay for the meals purchased.

Our membership with Meals on Wheels America gives us access to national studies on the benefits of home-delivered meals, including how nutrition impacts health, saves tax dollars, and provides comfort and security to both clients and family members. It is less expensive to provide a year's worth of lunches Monday through Friday (approximately \$1,000 in Chester County for one person) than it is to pay for a night in the hospital or several days in a nursing home. The health and psychological benefits associated with proper nutrition and home-delivered meals include:

- increased mental acuteness
- resistance to illness and disease
- higher energy levels
- faster recuperation times
- better management of chronic health problems
- diminished feelings of loneliness
- a greater sense of safety
- less worry about remaining in their own homes

For the reasons above, we conclude that the Meals on Wheels program is both effective and needed in our county. Many of the county's subsidized housing complexes depend on MOWCC to help their residents get food.

We sincerely hope you will consider funding or sponsoring meals for our clients in the West Chester Chapter. **Thank you!**

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 & financial statement, audited if available
 4. Itemized organizational operating budget with actual results for prior fiscal year & current fiscal year to date
 5. If capacity building initiative, itemized budget (including external consultant's proposal, if applicable)
 6. Current strategic plan. If your nonprofit does not have a current strategic plan, explain why.
- Use this form @ www.chescof.org to apply online for grants from all Community Foundation Funds.
 - **Email proposals to grants@chescof.org**
 - Proposals are considered "complete" when CCCF has **confirmed** receipt of the **Grant Proposal Summary Sheet, Narrative & Attachments**.
 - Proposals are shared electronically and online with Fund Advisors, Donors & Grant Panels.
 - Per IRS Regulations, applicants must be charitable, tax exempt organizations with 501(c)(3) certification & cannot be individuals.

Please contact Grants Administrator Kevin Baffa at
(610) 696-8211 grants@chescof.org with questions.



*Connecting people who care with causes that matter,
so their legacies make a difference.*