

GRANT PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

- We **connect people who care with causes that matter, so their philanthropy makes a difference now & forever.**
- We are a **collection of Field of Interest & Donor Advised Funds** with **@\$3.5M granted annually** to nonprofits in Chester County & beyond.
- **99%** of our grants are made by our generous Fund Advisors, who make grant decisions all year.

Proposals submitted by nonprofits are considered for 2 types of grants:

Field of Interest & Donor Advised Funds (No Deadline)

- ◇ Grants **focus on Chester County** causes & issues, but are not limited to Chester County.
- ◇ Charitable nonprofits working **in all fields of interest** are considered for grant awards. (I.e. arts, culture, & humanities; education; community improvement; environment; religion; health; & human services)
- ◇ **General operating** grants are encouraged. Nonprofits should be specific about their mission, goals, & measurable outcomes.
- ◇ Proposals can be submitted **anytime all year.**
- ◇ Grant decisions are made **intermittently** all year, as Fund Advisors desire.
- ◇ Grant **awards** typically range from **\$500-\$7,500.**

Fund for Chester County Capacity Building Grants (Due 9/15)

- ◇ For eligibility in this grant program, nonprofits must be **located in & serve Chester County.** NPO's with budgets of \$500,000 or less are given preference.
- ◇ The goal of capacity building grantmaking is to **strengthen the effectiveness of NPO's serving the Chester County region,** in areas including:
 - Mission, Vision & Strategy
 - Governance & Leadership
 - Partnerships & Collaborations
 - Operations & Technology
 - Fundraising, Development & Marketing
- ◇ Proposals must be submitted by **September 15** to be eligible for consideration.
- ◇ Grant **awards** typically range from **\$500-\$5,000,** with monies distributed by **February.**

- Use this form @ www.chescocf.org to apply online for grants from all Community Foundation Funds.
- **Email proposals to grants@chescocf.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)-698-8211** or grants@chescocf.org with any questions.

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 : Nov. 1, 2021

Contact Information

Organization Name: The Peacemaker Center
Address: 103 Garris Rd, Downingtown, PA 19335

Phone: 610-269-2661

Website: www.thepeacemakercenter.org

Year Incorporated: 2000

FEIN: 23-3023837

ED/CEO Name: Judy A. Reid, LCSW, LMFT

ED/CEO E-mail:

judy@thepeacemakercenter.org

Board Chair Name: John Clark

Board Chair Approval (check here):

Primary Contact Name:

Scott Edwards, MDiv, MA, LPC

Primary Contact E-mail:

scott@thepeacemakercenter.org

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

Arts, Culture & Humanities

Environment/Animal Welfare

Education

Health

Human Services

Religion

Mission: The Peacemaker Center is dedicated to helping people find peace with God, themselves, and others. We are a faith-based, non-profit 501c3 organization.

Vision: Our vision is to provide Clinical Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy and Social Work to anyone in need of our services, regardless of their ability to pay. Our diverse program sees participants come from a variety of ethnicities, religious backgrounds and gender preferences.

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

Chester County, Montgomery County

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:

We serve couples, families, and individuals of all ages and diversity for a variety of relationship and mental health issues.

In fiscal year 2020:

*1,339 clients were serviced. 44% of these clients were low income.

*11,597 hours of client services were provided. 22% of these sessions were for low income individuals.

*Donated sessions: 575 Sessions were donated free of charge to beneficiaries, which was an increase of 44% from 2019.

*Scholarship Assisted Sessions: 130 beneficiaries were provided with 1,402 sessions, averaging over 116 per month.

Annual Budget \$992,776.08

<u>67</u> % of budget for program expenses	<u>7</u> # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
<u>31</u> % of budget for administrative expenses	<u>5</u> # of Board Volunteers
<u>2</u> % of budget for fundraising expenses	<u>6</u> # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
<small>100 % total</small>	<u>250</u> # of Volunteer Hours (as of 10/29/21)

Top 3-5 funding sources: Individual Donors, United Way of Chester County, Fundraising Events

Is this grant proposal for: General Operating

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$7,500

Proposal Summary:

The Peacemaker Center is seeking financial support to provide individual, group, marriage and family therapy, and financial services, addressing a variety of relational and mental health issues including: separation and divorce recovery, abuse, addictions, depression, domestic violence, eating disorders, post abortion recovery, self-esteem, sexual trauma, suicide prevention, youth-at-risk behaviors, money management concerns, and premarital assessment counseling. These services are provided to those in need regardless of their ability to pay.

Due to the pandemic, we have seen a dramatic increase in the need for mental health services, including increase in depression, anxiety, financial strain, suicidal ideation, marital stress, and family conflict. The isolation and stay at home orders from 2020 and the continuing existence of Covid-19 in 2021 have not only exacerbated problems that may have previously existed but surfaced quickly and with unwanted results but have also resulted in new stress related issues. As a result of the increased need for our services, we have added more staff and are in the process of relocating to new, larger facility in Downingtown to better accommodate those who are reaching out to us.

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

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

The Peacemaker Center began in 2000 when Carl Green, Senior Pastor of Calvary Fellowship Church in Downingtown, asked Rob and Judy Reid to develop an organization that would serve children, adults, couples, and families in the local church community through Biblically based therapy and conflict resolution. Since then, The Peacemaker Center has grown from one therapist working from a home office to a staff of 41 clinicians working from six office locations. Our staff includes clinicians who have advanced training including trauma treatment, dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), cognitive behavior therapy (CBT), drug and alcohol counseling, play therapy, group and family therapy.

Our mission is to provide excellence in clinical care to anyone in need. One of our primary goals in meeting this mission is to raise money to subsidize our budget for care of any client regardless of their ability to pay.

The Peacemaker Center has served the community for the past 21 years and has grown primarily by word of mouth regarding our services. Our achievements include the fact that we have been able to build solid relationships with other care organizations, police departments, and community leaders. We also partner with many area churches. We have a Spanish speaking social worker who is working with the Hispanic population. We have also been working with two after school youth care centers. Our therapists work in collaboration with numerous psychiatrists and physicians. We have strengthened and increased our internship program with now having 6 interns and have successfully transitioned to telehealth during the pandemic and will continue with this hybrid model as necessary.

The Peacemaker Center is unique in that we see clients regardless of their ability to pay. We do not have a waiting list. We have an online immediate intake process. We offer services in both English and Spanish. We see all clients regardless of their faith, sexual identity or economic status.

2. Funding request

- **Description of key initiatives**

The Peacemaker Center provides mental health services to those in need regardless of their ability to pay. Of the clients we serve, 40% have an annual income of \$40,000.00 or less. Program participants come from a variety of ethnicity, religious background and gender preferences. We are a unique organization with a highly trained staff who provide clinical services in Chester County to those in the community who would not be able to afford services or would otherwise be placed on a waiting list. These services include individual, group, marriage and family therapy, and financial services, addressing a variety of relational and mental health issues. These issues may include separation and divorce recovery, abuse, addictions, depression, domestic violence, eating disorders, post abortion recovery, self-esteem, sexual trauma, suicide prevention, youth-at-risk behaviors, money management concerns, and premarital assessment counseling. The Peacemaker Center staff is comprised of Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Licensed Clinical Social Workers, and Certified Financial Planners.

Professional services provided by The Peacemaker Center include Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing Therapy (EMDR), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT),

the Neurosequential Model of Therapy (NMT), Drug and Alcohol Counseling, Trauma Treatment, Emotion-Focused Therapy, Family Systems Therapy, Bible Based Mentoring/Counseling, Gestalt Individual, Marriage, & Family Counseling.

Services are provided at the main office in Downingtown, and at satellite offices in Kennett Square, West Chester, Coatesville, Audubon, Fort Washington, and King of Prussia. Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, we have also incorporated video counseling. We are in the process of moving to a new larger main office facility in Downingtown.

- **Specific needs & issues to be addressed.**

Due to the pandemic, we have seen a dramatic increase in the need for mental health services, including increase in depression, anxiety, financial strain, suicidal ideation, marital stress, and family conflict. The isolation and stay at home orders from 2020 and the continuing existence of Covid-19 in 2021 have not only exacerbated problems that may have previously existed but surfaced quickly and with unwanted results but have also resulted in new stress related issues.

As reported by Mental Health America, the need for mental health treatment and accessible resources has been prevalent for many years. Even before the pandemic, in 2017-2018 19% of adults experienced a mental illness. Since the onset of the pandemic however there has been a monumental jump in the amount of people looking for help with anxiety and depression. There has been around 93 percent increase over the 2019 total number of anxiety screens taken, and 62% increase in the amount of depression screens taken. Along with that about 70% of people in this increase reported strong feelings of isolation and loneliness, which can easily be attributed to the nature of the pandemic. To further this point, 60% of youth who are experiencing depression do not receive mental health treatment and within states of the greatest care accessible one in three go without proper treatment. ([The State of Mental Health in America | Mental Health America \(mhanational.org\)](#))

The benefits of group therapy are known to be support systems, social skills, healthy relationships, safe place, unity, trust, and learning from others. Group sessions have been a part of The Peacemaker Center for some time now. Many therapists have worked with groups as the need for them arises; they have run groups such as anger management, and stress and anxiety control groups. With the pandemic creating feelings of loneliness and isolation, it is even more clear the need for groups, which would allow for mental health resources for clients as well as a place to meet and interact with others struggling from the same sources. Our new office will allow the space to increase our group therapy sessions.

An article posted on [verywellfamily.com](#) illustrates the effect of the pandemic on children's mental health: *"People's mental and emotional health have taken a devastating blow during the COVID-19 pandemic. Not only has isolation affected adults, but children were also faced with increased feelings of loneliness, sadness, and grief... The pandemic is not over, and the full scope and scale of the consequences of it have yet to be fully understood. However, within the first year, studies regarding the mental health fallout of COVID-19 have revealed an ominous picture of the psychological effects on children.*

Because children are still developing, their worldview and perception of themselves are still unformed. Part of how children come to an understanding of themselves is through their environment. A child will perceive themselves as good when an adult smiles at them when they walk into the room or rewards them. For children, the world is a mirror and their identity is shaped, in part, by what is reflected back at them. Now imagine that the mirror has been shattered. What happens then?

Children who quarantined during the pandemic are significantly more likely to suffer from:

- Acute stress disorder
- Adjustment disorder
- Grief

Furthermore, up to 30% of children in areas with social distancing mandates experienced symptoms consistent with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). These children were also more likely to experience depression, anxiety, and sleep and appetite disturbances.” [How the Pandemic Affects the Mental Health of Children and Teens \(verywellfamily.com\)](https://www.verywellfamily.com/how-the-pandemic-affects-the-mental-health-of-children-and-teens/)

Our new facility will have two rooms dedicated to children where our therapists can work with them to address the issues described above, as well as other mental health counseling they may require

- **Why it is important to fund this now.**

This past year has seen tremendous growth in in the number of our Counselors, Interns, scholarship requests, our use of technology and most importantly, in the community members who have reached out to us for help. While we have been at physical building capacity for quite some time and been helped by telehealth and flexible staff and clients, we are at the point that a new building has become a necessity due to the increased need for our services. We recently had the opportunity to purchase a new building to support this growth. Less than a half mile from our Garris Road location, it provides room for future growth, ample parking, room for group meetings and great visibility to the community. In almost record time, we also sold our existing building and, now face the challenge of more than doubling our capacity in Downingtown. We are running a capital campaign to finance renovations but need financial support to provide mental services to those who cannot afford them.

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

Impacts and results are demonstrated through direct observation and through a survey provided to clients. In 2020 98% of those returning the survey indicated that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the services provided to them by their therapist.

The following statement from one of our therapists demonstrates an example of increased need as well as the positive impact of our services:

“It won’t be a surprise to learn that one of the populations we’ve seen an increase in as clients at The Peacemaker Center is healthcare workers. I started with one and it has quickly grown over the past six months as the crisis in hospitals began to wane. While the crisis may be picking up again, those on the front lines started to finally be able to attend to themselves and their needs as the peak of the pandemic seemed to be behind us. Helpless is how many describe their feelings. They could not satiate the need of patients nor or families unable to be present with their loved ones. Yes, they were able to do something but spread thin and stretching their own resources, they have been left with feelings of defeat and fatigue. It has been a joy to sit with these caring, compassionate caregivers and offer them a space to rest, reflect on their experiences and identify their needs. Often feeling overwhelmed and burnt out, they can now take a breath and remember what they could do with skill and compassion and release what they couldn’t and can’t do; save everyone, comfort everyone, meet all the needs including their own. This pandemic has been a collective trauma which has affected us all. Caregivers then experience vicarious trauma through their patients alongside their own trauma if they’ve lost someone to covid or suffered relationally in some way at home. I’m so grateful for our mission: The Peacemaker Center is dedicated to helping people find peace with God, themselves, and others. This is something as trained therapists that we can do; supporting and caring for those on the frontline of this pandemic offering them care so they can in turn better care for their patients.”

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.

