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](http://www.chescocf.org) to apply online for grants from all Community Foundation Funds.
- Email proposals to [grants@chescocf.org](mailto: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](mailto: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, CCF’s Summary Sheet MUST accompany application.

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

Date

Contact Information
Organization Name: YMWIC Foundation, Inc.  ED/CEO Name: Richard Roberts III
Address: 1500 W. Woodbank Way; West Chester PA 19380  ED/CEO E-mail: rrobertsiii@ymwicfoundation.org
Phone: 215-680-6519  Board Chair Name: Richard Roberts III
Website: www.ymwicfoundation.org  Board Chair Approval (check here): X
Year Incorporated: 2007  Primary Contact Name: Richard Roberts III
FEIN: 26-0202360  Primary Contact E-mail: rrobertsiii@ymwicfoundation.org

Organization Information:
Field/s of Interest:
__X_ Arts, Culture & Humanities  ___ Environment/Animal Welfare  __X__ Education
___ Health  ___ Human Services  ___ Religion

Mission: YMWIC’s mission is to empower and prepare economically disadvantaged and historically underrepresented youth to excel and become leaders in (STEM) careers through academic tutoring, mentoring and financial assistance programs

Geographic Area Served: Sixty percent of our participants reside in Chester County, served by our chapters in Coatesville, Phoenixville and West Chester, and the remainder are in our Montgomery and Delaware County chapters in neighboring Greater Philadelphia communities.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served: YMWIC targets School districts within neighborhoods that are higher poverty rate and with neighborhoods with African American and LatinX families. The target population supports the mission of YMWIC. YMWIC’s K-16 programs currently serve an almost exclusively African-American and LatinX population of roughly 200 students in grades 3rd-12th in our After School STEM and Leadership Program, an additional 350 K-5th elementary students through our Summer STEAM Enrichment Programs, 50 who are 6-8th grade in our middle school science retreat, 40 in our Coatesville Upward Bound Summer program and 55 alumni in college as of June 2022, 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.

Annual Budget
$720,000 
3 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
70% of budget for program expenses
9 # of Board Volunteers
20% of budget for administrative expenses
130 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
10% of budget for fundraising expenses
700 # of Volunteer Hours
100 % total

Top 3-5 funding sources: YMWIC Top three funders are Chester County Department of Community Development, Department of Education TRIO and CSL Behring.

Is this grant proposal for: Capacity Building ___ or General Operating _x__?

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: $25,000

Proposal Summary:
II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE
Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

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

YMIC began with an idea generated by its founder and President, Mr. Richard Roberts III. As a young engineering student at Widener College, Richard took note that there were not very many young men of color in his program of study. As a professional in the engineering field, he also found that colleagues from minority groups were few and far between. He began to formulate a concept: a program that would support African American and Latino males to develop their academic skills and gain the social supports they would need to be successful in college and in their careers.

Initially, a few programs were provided through volunteer efforts. In 2007, YMIC became incorporated, and in 2010, received its 501 c3 non-profit certification to provide services to youth in fifth through twelfth grades in Philadelphia and suburban communities. The inaugural class of 18 male Scholars began the West Chester chapter in the fall of that year.

During the 2013-2014 program year, YMIC opened its doors to young women and began doing business as Young Men and Women In Charge (YMWIC) Foundation, Inc., to include programs in STEM-related leadership for young men and young women. YMWIC’s mission is to empower and prepare economically disadvantaged and historically underrepresented youth to excel and become leaders in (STEM) careers through academic tutoring, mentoring and financial assistance programs, accomplished by leveraging alliances with K-12 school districts, universities, corporations, and the Foundation’s committed partners. This mission is accomplished by embracing a family model that provides individually targeted services: academic support and tutoring, leadership development, public speaking, junior mentoring, scientific research projects, college readiness and industry experiences in many STEM-related careers.

Once enrolled in the organization, each young Scholar and his or her family become part of the YMWIC family. They make a commitment to stay in the program until high school graduation, to participate fully in program activities and maintain a high-grade point average.

While in college, thanks to the commitment of YMWIC’s donors and partners, each Scholar who maintains the Foundation’s academic requirements and standards will be eligible to earn scholarship support and participate in internships that will prepare them for STEM careers.

YMWIC Foundation, Inc. offers five academic Scholar groups for students in grades three through twelve. Aligned with the Foundation’s mission, Scholar groups and activities aim to bridge the gap between academic study and real life, by providing opportunities, projects, and challenges that simulate real-world activities. Upon acceptance into the program, students are placed into one of the five grade-appropriate Scholar groups:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholar Group Name</th>
<th>Grades as of September</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Future Stars</td>
<td>3rd – 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pluto</td>
<td>5th – 6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neptune</td>
<td>7th – 8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jupiter</td>
<td>9th – 10th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturn</td>
<td>11th – 12th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Future Stars program has a focus on literacy and parent educational services. Additional offering includes exciting and hands-on STEM related workshops.
The Pluto and Neptune Scholar programs increases students’ appreciation for math and science, through hands on projects that demonstrate the fun and challenging side of these subjects. Staff or partners work closely with our Scholars. The Scholars gain insight and exposure to these careers and opportunities during well designed STEM, essential skills and academic readiness workshops.

Jupiter and Saturn Scholars participate in more leadership and career readiness activities, as well as research projects to prepare them for the rigor of the STEM undergraduate curriculum. In addition, Saturn Scholars are involved in mentoring programs to help onboard Scholars with YMWIC. Through the YMWIC Credo memorized by each Scholar, they learn accountability and the importance of giving back. YMWIC has seven chapters in the Philadelphia area: West Chester (WC), William Penn (WP), Coatesville (CV), Upper Darby (UD), Phoenixville (PH), Norristown (NT), and Chester-Upland (CH). Through a U.S. Department of Education TRIO-Upward Bound grant for first-generation, low-income and at-risk students, the Coatesville Chapter will reach even more students. To date, YMWIC is serving over 150 Scholars in the after-school program, over 300 in the summer enrichment programs and, over 500 in special events such as the College Expo and Science Expo. YMWIC is currently providing over 50 alumni with scholarships or career mentoring, as they continue their studies or pursue a career in professional fields such as STEM and business.

The services from YMWIC gives many families hope through knowing that college and these careers are within reach for their children. We implement a community model through partnerships with corporations, universities, and other non-profit and community organizations. These partners participate in all levels of the program. The goal for this community-based model is to implement it in all low-performing school districts in our country. We believe it will make a significant impact on the achievement gap among African American and Latino youth in math and science, increase the number of women in STEM, and improve economic development through these youth as they are in position to secure high-paying jobs in the same communities.

2. Funding request

**Description of key initiatives:** YMWIC’s initiatives address the under representation of African American, LatinX and Women in STEM fields. Further, the economic disadvantage population and many of the underserved lack suitable resources to help them during the pre-high school and pre-college phases of their education. While YMWIC provides services to the targeted groups, we have aligned our programs with our partners and their industries to support their diversity initiatives. YMWIC is able to provide the STEM industry partners with a pipeline of talented employees. The key initiatives include:

a) **Pre-College Program:** Our after school and summer programs provide K-12 scholars with leadership, academic, college readiness, career exposure and experiences to prepare them for the next phase in life. The after-school component supports 3rd-12th grades and involves tutoring, science research projects, community services and special interest groups (SIGs) including a competitive robotics team, jazz ensemble, debate and civics club, biology club and for parents Fathers of YMWIC mentoring program. The summer program supports K-12 in STEM activities to include a six week STEM camp for K-5, a six week STEAM camp for 6-8 at our partnering university and a six week high school leadership program. Each of these programs are administered at our partnering school districts in West Chester, Coatesville and Phoenixville. YMWIC host other chapters outside of Chester County as well. The Scholars commit to YMWIC through secondary school graduation and transitions into a YMWIC Alum to receive continued services.

b) **Talent & Workforce Development (TWD):** YMWIC adjusted its current job shadowing and internship program into a more structured program that involves partner relations, job readiness and exposure, corporate job shadowing, paid and non-paid internships, resume development and interviewing skill practice sessions and more. Scholars who are secondary and post-secondary schools continuously enhance their resume and portfolio during their entire experience. Ultimately, our aim is for the Scholar-Alum to secure employment following their post-secondary education and graduation.

c) **Pre-Apprenticeship:** All high school Scholars receive identical workshops and support. However, the Scholars that are not be ready, or have an interest in a four-year college experience will receive further readiness support for employment after high school, apprenticeships, technical school or community college.

d) **Scholarship and Endowment:** All Scholars can earn a college scholarship to attend the college of their choice. Additional scholarships are available from our partnering universities based on full-time
matriculation. Each Scholar commits to YMWIC and their academics studies through our Leadership Development Unit (LDU) program. Scholars must accrue six LDU’s per program year to maximize their financial award. YMWIC is in search of donors to help build the scholarship fund into an endowment fund.

**Specific needs & issues to be addressed:** YMWIC is in the “Expansion Ready” phase and requires support in all of the initiatives.

a) **Pre-College Program needs and issues:** The YMWIC’s participant growth for the 2021-2022 program year will almost double. As we are excited about serving more Scholars, we want to ensure that we don’t reduce our performance and outcomes. Therefore, we are in need of additional funds to support the a) 2022 College Tour to NY and Boston by providing transportation, and lodging support, b) purchase additional robotics equipment and materials, c) purchase additional music stands, an electric piano and provide a small stipend for our jazz ensemble instructor, and d) purchase chess sets for our chess club, e) purchase 50 blue polo shirts for our scholars, f) purchase 30 navy blue blazers for our new Scholars to support the YMWIC uniform policy and g) purchase science materials and kits needed for the science expo and the summer programs. Finally, YMWIC will be moving to another site by the end of the 4th quarter of 2021 and will be in need of I/T resources to include three smart boards, internet/router set-up and installation and support.

b) **Talent & Workforce Development (TWD) needs and issues:** The YMWIC job shadowing program will return to face to face during the 2022 spring. Therefore, YMWIC will be in-need of additional funding for transportation when our Scholars participate in job shadowing or un-paid internships.

c) **Scholarship and Endowment needs and issues:** YMWIC continues to support our Scholars that are currently in college and we plan to support our upcoming graduates. However, YMWIC would like to increase our financial obligation due to the raising tuition costs by competitive colleges and universities. Although our Scholars are accepted into the colleges, our families are not able to support the increased costs of a good college education.

**Why it is important to fund this now:** YMWIC is on a tight schedule to initiate the 2021-2022 program year without impact to our families while we maintain our planning and preparation for moving into our new headquarters. Therefore, it is important to receive funding today.

**How impact & results will be demonstrated:** Our programs and activities have specific outcomes that are evaluated by assessing each student’s performance relative to: core courses (math, science, english); program attendance; science research project participation; community service, professional development, high school graduation and college graduation.

- **Target grades:** Scholars agree on marking period targets: YMWIC uses a unique methodology to track Scholars work and performance while we provide them with academic support, where needed, to help them meet their target. Outcomes = Greater than 85% in core grades or 15% by 4th marking period.
- **Scholar Attendance:** 75% of all members complete 80% of attendance.
- **Community Services:** 90% of all members complete 50% of attendance.
- **Science Research Projects:** 90% of all members complete 100% performance
- **High School graduation:** 100% of all members graduate from high school
- **College graduation:** 100% of all Scholars graduate from college within 5 years.
- **Employment:** 100% of all YMWIC alum are employed.

Program and employee outcomes are assessed quarterly through data capturing processes to measure performance and to make adjustments accordingly. Assessments are administered semi-annually on quality and outcomes.
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.

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WHAT IS CAPACITY BUILDING?

Capacity building helps bring a nonprofit to the next level of operational, programmatic, financial, or organizational maturity, in order to more effectively & efficiently fulfill its mission.

Capacity building may include (but is not limited to) projects which address:

- **MISSION, VISION & STRATEGY**
  Organizational Assessment - Strategic Planning - Financial Planning

- **GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP**
  Board Development - Executive Transition/Succession Planning - Leadership Development - Staff Training & Professional Development

- **PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS**
  Coalition Building – Collaboration - Mergers & Acquisitions - Strategic Restructuring

- **RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING**
  Major Gift Donor Identification, Cultivation, Development & Stewardship - Development Campaigns (Annual, Capital, Planned Giving) - Earned Income Development - Social Enterprise Feasibility & Development - Marketing, Branding & Communications

- **TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS**