**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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field of Interest &amp; Donor Advised Funds (No Deadline)</th>
<th>Fund for Chester County Capacity Building Grants (Due 9/15)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>◇ Grants focus on Chester County causes &amp; issues, but are not limited to Chester County.</td>
<td>◇ For eligibility in this grant program, nonprofits must be located in &amp; serve Chester County. NPO’s with budgets of $500,000 or less are given preference.</td>
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<tr>
<td>◇ Charitable nonprofits working in all fields of interest are considered for grant awards. (I.e. arts, culture, &amp; humanities; education; community improvement; environment; religion; health; &amp; human services)</td>
<td>◇ The goal of capacity building grantmaking is to strengthen the effectiveness of NPO’s serving the Chester County region, in areas including:</td>
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<tr>
<td>◇ General operating grants are encouraged. Nonprofits should be specific about their mission, goals, &amp; measurable outcomes.</td>
<td>◇ o Mission, Vision &amp; Strategy</td>
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<td>◇ Proposals can be submitted anytime all year.</td>
<td>◇ o Governance &amp; Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>◇ Grant decisions are made intermittently all year, as Fund Advisors desire.</td>
<td>◇ o Partnerships &amp; Collaborations</td>
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<tr>
<td>◇ Grant awards typically range from $500-$7,500.</td>
<td>◇ o Operations &amp; Technology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Use this form @ [www.chescof.org](http://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)-698-8211 or grants@chescof.org with any questions.
I. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

Date: September 17, 2021

Contact Information
Organization Name: Kennett After-School Association
Address: PO Box 1068, Kennett Sq., PA 19348
Phone: 610-268-5889
Website: www.afterthebell.org
Year Incorporated: 1998
FEIN: 23-2984132

Executive Director Name: Dawn Doherty Kohl
Executive Director E-mail: afterthebell@kcsd.org
Board of Directors Chair Name: Dr. Rudy Karkosak
Primary Contact Name: Dawn Doherty Kohl
Primary Contact E-mail: Same

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

Mission: After-The-Bell provides a supervised after-school program of recreational, social, and academic skill-developing activities for Kennett Middle School students. The program is led by community volunteers and provided without charge.

Geographic Area Served: All students attend middle school in the Kennett Consolidated School District, which includes the communities of Kennett Square Borough, Kennett Township, New Garden, and a portion of East Marlborough. While the majority of students attend Kennett Middle School, the program is available to students who reside in the district and are home-schooled or attend charter schools.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served: To provide population and demographic information, we traditionally provide final numbers for the recently concluded fiscal year. Due to the pandemic, we moved to a virtual program and offered Zoom activity sessions for all three cycles in 2020-21. In early spring, the Kennett Consolidated School District approved our request to bring back a limited number of students in Spring 2021. We also offered On-Demand activities on our website and had more than 3,000 visits to the virtual page of our website last year. However, we are unable to provide specific information about those who logged on to participate in on demand activities. Therefore, the student number provided in this section reflect students who attended the Zoom activities throughout last year, as well as those who attended in person in Spring 2021.

Throughout 2020-21, we had a total of 150 unduplicated students in our in-person and Zoom activities. The total number of duplicated students (unduplicated times number of days per week they attended) was 328.

While the program is open to all students, we have a substantial population of students with specific challenges. For example, in 2020-21, 43.4% of ATB students qualified for Free & Reduced Lunch, 19.6% were identified with Special Needs, and 29.4% lived in homes where Spanish was the primary language. In regard to ethnicity, 41.3% of students were Caucasian, 48.9% were Hispanic, 2.8% were African American, 2.1% were Asian, and 4.9% were multietnic.

Annual Budget $ 210,749
73% of budget for program expenses
14.5% of budget for administrative expenses
12.5% of budget for fundraising expenses
100% total

2 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
14 # of Board Volunteers
166 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
~3320 # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources: Top Funding Sources Already Allocated for 2020-21
- The United Way of Southern Chester County - $23,900
- CCRES - $10,000 awarded in August
- Hadley Foundation, part of Chester county Community Foundation – Awarded $3,000 in September.
(Applestone application for $10,000 is pending. A number of additional applications will be submitted in the coming months.)
Is this grant proposal for: Capacity Building ___ or General Operating _ð__? 

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: $ __2,000 – 10,000__

Proposal Summary: After-The-Bell plans to return to traditional in-person activities beginning at the end of September 2021 and continuing through Winter and Spring 2022 cycles. In light of the ongoing pandemic, the program staff is working closely with administrators from the Kennett Consolidated School District and Kennett Middle School to ensure that all safety protocols are in place to protect the health of students and volunteers. While this will create an extra layer of responsibility and cost for the program, we are committed to providing returning students with the same robust and meaningful after-school experience that has been a hallmark of After-The-Bell for more than 20 years.

Gifts from the donor-advised funders of the Chester County Community Foundation would be utilized to ensure the safety of students while guaranteeing a worthwhile after-school experience. A description of new and continuing activities to be offered this year will be provided below.
II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

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

History – The Kennett After-School Association (KASA) was founded in 1998 to address the problem of a growing number of adolescent students who were home alone after school while their parents worked. Adding to this issue, the mushroom industry in the area was really booming and many of these students were the children of low-income immigrant parents who came to work in the mushroom farms and factories.

KASA began its only program, After-The-Bell, in January of 1999 with 80 students staying after school at Kennett Middle School (KMS)) to engage in volunteer-facilitated and well-supervised activities that were both meaningful and fun. Over the years, we have provided after-school activities to more than 6,200 students, with an average population of approximately 350 students per year.

Goals – The goals for the coming year include a commitment to provide a safe and meaningful environment for in-person activities in the coming year while working closely with KMS to follow all mask mandates, sanitizing, and social distance guidelines as the pandemic continues. Other goals include the establishment of a more modern and functional donor database, introduction and enhancement of career-oriented activities, and an effort to assist KMS in providing targeted services to students who may have experienced a gap in their academic progress due to the pandemic.

Key Achievements - The following were among key achievements at KASA/ATB during the last year:

- The staff and volunteers of After-The-Bell worked very hard during the last year to provide an exciting and rewarding experience despite the severe limitations imposed by the pandemic. We created a virtual program of endless possibilities that included approximately 40 On Demand activities available on our website. Over the course of the year, the virtual page of our website had more than 3,000 visits.

- When it became clear that we would not be able to welcome students back in person in the Fall of 2020, we created a series of Live Zoom activities, facilitated by our tech savvy volunteers. The Zoom activities were offered in our Fall 2020, Winter 2021, and Spring 2021 cycles. Over the course of the year, we hosted 228 Zoom sessions, with approximately 12 students attending each session. The following are some of the Zoom activities we offered:
  - **Intro to 3-D Modeling & Manufacturing** – Students learned the basics of 3-D modeling using Tinker CAD. They had the chance to design custom figurines and other 3-D models from their own imaginations. Students receive a printed version of their own 3-D masterpieces.
  - **Nearby Nature** – Thanks to our wonderful partner, the Stroud Water Research Center, students were able to explore and understand nature right in their own neighborhoods. They learned how to find and identify frogs, toads, worms and other creatures living in nearby forests, streams, and fields.
  - **Program Your Own Digital World** – Students learned coding techniques that allowed them to create their own amazing digital worlds with such objects as race cars, robots and dancing animals.
  - **Dance, Dance, Dance** – Taught by a Unionville High School senior and talented dancer, students learned new and creative dance steps, and about the importance of keeping their bodies fit and limber.
  - **Art Club with Kennett Design** – Students learned the basics of painting on canvas from local artists. They created beautiful finished portraits that provided them with a real sense of accomplishment.
  - **Intro to Floral Design** – Our new partners at Four Seasons Floral Design help students to create beautiful bouquets, baskets and other keepsakes. Floral materials were delivered to students’ homes each week.
• In the Spring, we were granted permission from the Kennett Consolidated School District to welcome back a limited number of students for in-person activities. These included **KMS Giving Garden**, an activity in which students plant, nurture and harvest food for local people in need. We worked with the district to ensure that all CDC health and safety guidelines were followed and we successfully offered four outdoor activities in our Spring 2021 Cycle in addition to Live Zoom and On Demand activities.

• Due to the pandemic, our traditional **A Taste of Kennett** in-person fundraiser had to be cancelled in the springs of 2020 and 2021. We then brainstormed about ways to raise funds in a manner that allowed for compliance with social distancing requirements. We created a special event called **Shine On**, a virtual celebration of local talent that aired on our website. The show featured the talents of 48 adults and students who recorded a wide variety of performances that were uploaded to our website and then live streamed in a telethon-like program with a live emcee who encouraged viewer donations. Many of our long-time supporters sponsored the event, and a number of our board members agreed to match donations during the program. **Shine On** raised more than $16,000 for After-The-Bell.

**Distinctiveness** – If the last year has taught us anything, it is about the importance of flexibility, of meeting each challenge as it arises, and working as a team to overcome obstacles while always honoring our mission to provide our students with meaningful experiences at no cost to any family or taxpayer. This was made possible in large part due to our amazing volunteers and community partners who worked with us to provide an incredible array of activities which students could enjoy from the safety of their homes. Our partnership with organizations including the Delaware Nature Center, the Hockessin Athletic Club, Four Seasons Floral Design, the Stroud Water Research Center and Kennett Design, ensured that After-The-Bell would continue to thrive during the pandemic. We look forward to welcoming students back for robust in-person activities in the coming year. However, it is rewarding to know that with the support of so many individuals and organizations, After-The-Bell has the ability to meet the needs of the students we serve despite any challenges we may face.

2. **Funding request**

**Description of key initiatives** – We are more excited than ever to be welcoming our students back in person this fall, and we have some incredible new activities for them to enjoy, including the following:

• **Drones—Team Flight Control** – Participating students, to be known as “Drone Cadets,” learn the basics of drone flight, complete a block coding mission, practice on simulators where they will experience FPV (first person view) flying using a micro racing drone, and engage in mini racing sessions to test their skills against others.

• **Baking—The Most Fun You Will Have All Week** – Students will learn to become pastry chefs and will learn the art of making five different types of pastry to amaze the palates of family and friends.

• **Drumming Groove** – Students are introduced to the exciting world of percussion instruments where they are taught the basics of drumming and how to play rhythm in a group setting.

• **Girls Who Code** – Students learn the basics of coding while creating a computer science impact project.

These new activities will be offered along with many of our popular returning activities, including:

• **International Cooking** – Each week, students take a culinary journey to a different country where they prepare and sample traditional dishes popular in other nations of the world.

• **Brain Base** – In this vital activity, students have a chance to work on their homework and school assignments with the help of dedicated volunteers, including current and retired educators, who offer one-to-one assistance. The majority of students in Brain Base experience an increase in their GPA.

• **Giving Garden at KMS** – Students plant, care for and harvest vegetables and herbs to donate to local community organizations that serve those in need.

• **Hands On, Boots in the Water** – Students travel to the Stroud Water Research Center to explore the White Clay Creek and learn about water-based ecosystems and the importance of caring for our natural resources.

Due to the success of the On Demand activities offered on our website, we have made the decision to keep the Virtual Page of our website operational and to update it with new On Demand activities on a regular basis.
Specific needs and issues to be addressed – Funding from the donor-advised funds of the Chester County Community Foundation would be utilized to offset the costs of transportation to offsite activities and to provide a bus ride home for students at the end of each day. Funding will also be used for supplies and activity fees, and to ensure that students receive a healthy snack when they arrive.

Why it is important to fund this now – As we have learned over the last 18 months, it is important to be prepared for anything and we anticipate that we will face higher costs in the coming year due to the ongoing social distancing requirements of the pandemic. To keep students safe, we may need to offer additional activities to ensure smaller class sizes, and we may need to arrange for additional buses so that students can be properly distances while onboard. We also anticipate costs associated with regular sanitizing requirements.

We also are not certain what to anticipate in terms of funding from organizations that may still be dealing with continued restrictions imposed by the pandemic. This is likely to impact our revenues for the coming year.

How impact and results will be demonstrated – After-The-Bell remains committed to providing students with a rich, rewarding, and safe after-school experience in a nurturing and stimulating environment. Despite the challenges imposed by the pandemic in the last year, we still took steps to gather and report on student and volunteer feedback. The following are some of the key findings from our 2020-21 Program Year:

100% of students had a positive experience, with 72% reporting they had an Excellent experience.
100% of students found ATB to be a place of respect, with 69% rating it as Excellent.
100% of students found the volunteers to be kind and caring, with 69% rating them as Excellent.
98% of students found ATB to be a safe place that is free of bullies, with 72% rating it as Excellent.
78% of students discovered a new skill or interest at ATB.
87.5% of students felt that ATB helped them to be better students.
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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Connecting people who care with causes that matter, so their legacies make a difference.
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**