

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 11.16.21

Contact Information

Organization Name: Horse Power For Life
Address: 21 Gallop Lane, West Chester, PA 19380

ED/CEO Name: Shiree Radie

Phone: (484) 557-9040
Website: www.horsepowerforlife.org
Year Incorporated: 2007
FEIN: 26-0812311

ED/CEO E-mail:
shiree.radie@horsepowerforlife.org
Board Chair Name: Robert Radie
Board Chair Approval (check here):
Primary Contact Name: Shiree Radie
Primary Contact E-mail: (same as above)

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

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

Mission: To provide free professional therapeutic horsemanship instruction for men, women and children of all ages who have been affected by cancer including patients currently undergoing treatment, survivors and those who have lost a loved one to this terrible disease. To help individuals focus on body, mind and soul, rather than the disease while working with horses in an atmosphere of professionalism, teamwork and fun.

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

Chester County, Delaware County, Montgomery County, Philadelphia County

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served: Cancer patients, survivors, and their families, which averages 150 per year. Each individual is provided with 16 free sessions.

Annual Budget \$76,400

75% of budget for program expenses
10% of budget for administrative expenses
15% of budget for fundraising expenses

100 % total

2 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
8 # of Board Volunteers
5 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
700 # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, Kistler Tiffany Foundation, Spring Meadow Foundation, WSFS, Pink Horseshoe Gala fundraising event

Is this grant proposal for: General Operating

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$5,000

Proposal Summary: Horse Power For Life is requesting support to continue to provide free evidenced-based therapeutic horsemanship instruction for children, women and men of all diversities who have been affected by cancer. It is the only organization in Chester County providing services exclusively to cancer patients, survivors and their families.

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

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

Horse Power for Life was founded by Shiree Radie. Upon losing a family member to cancer, Mrs. Radie felt the desire to help individuals and families affected by the diseases in some way. Being an avid horse rider and knowing the benefits of equine therapy, Mrs. Radie formed Horse Power for Life in 2007 with her co-founder, Barbara Rosoff.

The goal of the organization is to help cancer patients and survivors of all ages improve their physical and emotional quality of life by providing an educational and therapeutic horsemanship program, free of charge. Horse Power for Life is distinct in that it is the only nonprofit organization in Chester County providing these services exclusively to cancer patients, survivors and their families. We received the Community Hero Award from the American Cancer Society at the Relay for Life Chester County in 2016. Horse Power for Life also received a recognition from the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, signed by Senator Andrew E. Dinniman dated March 28, 2017 for developing a strong reputation for the highest quality of service throughout its history and having steady adherence to the principles of fairness, reliability and integrity and contributing in a meaningful way toward a better and more productive society.

2. Funding request

• Description of key initiatives

The key initiative of Horse Power for Life is to provide free evidenced based professional therapeutic horsemanship instruction for children, women and men of all ages, who have been affected by cancer. This includes cancer patients and their families, survivors and those who have lost a family member to this terrible disease. In addition, we invite and encourage family members to participate in the program.

While the mailing address of the organization is in West Chester, the physical location is at Stone Crop Farm in Glenmoore. HPL serves an average of 150 individuals per year. The core of the program includes 90 minute sessions and guides students through all aspects of horse care from basic grooming to leading horses to riding. Our program is customized for each individual based on their age, skills, experience, comfort level, health and physical ability. Each family can come for a total of 16 free sessions. Students are encouraged to become Ambassadors to the program at the completion of the course, offering their newly acquired knowledge to new families entering the program. Families can also continue after 16 weeks for an hourly lesson fee. In addition to our normal yearly therapeutic sessions, HPL offers four (one week) Summer Pony Camps to local children affected by cancer. The program is for beginner and intermediate riders, children ages 5-16. The pony camp is Monday-Friday from 9am-3pm and includes horse related activities: grooming, care and riding, swimming with a lifeguard and creating pottery. In line with our mission, these programs are free and are designed to help individuals focus on body, mind and soul, rather than the disease while working with horses in an atmosphere of professionalism, teamwork and fun.

• Specific needs & issues to be addressed

Far too many in our community have been affected by cancer either personally, or with a loved one or friend. According to the most recent Pennsylvania Department of Health Cancer Facts & Figures 2017, published in 2020, the total number of yearly new cancer cases for the four (4) counties that Horse

Power for Life serves was 96,815 (Chester County 14,386, Montgomery County 24,719, Delaware County 16,978 and Philadelphia 40,732). Since over 96,000 people are diagnosed with cancer in our local area each year, we feel that Horse Power for Life is a much needed resource in our community.

Research has shown that, for people with cancer, physical activity, including riding horses, can decrease anxiety, stress, and depression, while improving levels of pain, fatigue and improve cancer survival rate. Furthermore, equine therapy experts have found that, horses are uniquely sensitive, providing a non verbal vehicle for people to access their emotions, which can improve responsiveness to cancer treatment and extend survivorship.

The following is an excerpt from an article on the National Foundation for Cancer Research written July 15, 2020 by Brittany Ciupka: 5 Reasons Cancer Patients Should Try Equine Therapy - NFCR. *“Horses have a longstanding working relationship with humans, from being an early form of transportation to assisting with farm work. In recent years, these strong creatures have undertaken yet another impressive role as assisted therapy animals. Horses have become an important partner for many occupational therapists. Their impressive resume doesn’t stop there, as many health professionals also find horses to be great additions to cancer patient therapy. This practice, referred to as equine therapy, can be carried out in a variety of ways. From walking alongside a horse to riding atop one, equine therapy can have amazing impacts on both cancer patients and their loved ones.”*

• Why it is important to fund this now

As noted above, cancer continues to affect far too many in our community and the need for our services continues to grow. Traditionally, the major source of funding for the free Horse Power for Life services has been our annual fundraising gala. More than 80% of our annual operating expenses are raised at this event each year. It also is a great opportunity for us to thank our supporters and share the mission and vision of Horse Power for Life with the 225+ attendees. Due to Covid-19, we had to cancel the event for 2020, resulting in a huge deficit of operating funds. We held our 2021 event, but the attendance was lower than usual. We had a waiting list for the Summer Pony Camp in 2021, and we want to ensure we have enough funds in 2022 to offer this camp to at least 25 campers, along with our regular therapy sessions. In addition, plans are in place to hire an Executive Director in 2022 which will be a new expense as the current ED has volunteered in that position since the founding of the organization.

• How impact & results will be demonstrated

The impact of our services is demonstrated through the responses to surveys that are completed by our participants. Outcomes of our program according to our 2021 online student survey:

100% strongly agree that our riding instructors are knowledgeable, informative and caring.

100% strongly agree that the barn atmosphere and surrounding property are relaxing and peaceful.

100% strongly agree that they felt less stress after working with the horses.

25% strongly agree that they had a high increase in energy after working with the horses.

75% strongly agree that they had some increase in energy after working with the horses.

25% strongly agree that they had a high increase in confidence after working with the horses.

75% strongly agree that they had some increase in confidence after working with the horses.

100% agree that while at the barn and working with the horses, they briefly forget about cancer.

50% agree that they would not able to participate in professional therapeutic riding lessons if it was not a free program.

The following testimonials also demonstrate the positive impact of our programs:

“Shiree, I just wanted you to know how grateful I am for Horse Power for Life. I never thought that I would ever learn how to ride, yet here I am!! When I get to the barn, I forget about everything! I truly believe that horses have healing powers and I am very grateful the Riding Instructor has been so encouraging! I have told everyone that I met at the hospital infusion room and the insurance company about your program. Just what the Doctor ordered.” Student, Stage IIIC Ovarian Cancer.

“Our entire family has gained strength from the program by being around the horses and by meeting so many wonderful people. We will continue to support Horse Power through your fundraisers and by word of mouth. Horse Power for Life will always hold a special place in our hearts.” -Family of daughter with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL)

“For me, each lesson has built up my endurance—and I think the best therapy for me was when I was here I didn’t worry about if my cancer was going to come back like so many cancer survivors do.” - Student, Hodgkin’s Lymphoma Survivor

“The Summer Pony Camp program made my granddaughter extremely happy. The week at camp was also a dream come true and let her be a kid. After a long battle with cancer she could smile more than she has in years.” -Grandmother of child with Brain Cancer



The photo above left was taken during our yearly family program and the photo on the right was taken at the Summer Pony Camp for children affected by cancer.

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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