

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 12/30/2021

Contact Information

Organization Name: Avon Grove Regional Emergency
Management, Inc.

ED/CEO Name:

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 0082, West Grove, Pa 19390

Physical Address: 902 State Rd, West Grove, PA 19390

ED/CEO E-mail:

Phone:

Board Chair Name: James McLimans

Website: www.agrem.org

Board Chair Approval (check here):

Year Incorporated: 2010

Primary Contact Name: James McLimans

FEIN: 45-0666837

Primary Contact E-mail:

President@agrem.org

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

Arts, Culture & Humanities

Environment/Animal Welfare

Education

Health

Human Services

Religion

Mission:

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

Avondale Borough, Franklin Township, London Britain Township, New London Township, Penn Township, West Grove Borough.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served: Residential Families, 5 schools, 3 Senior Care Facilities and Various Commercial Facilities. Population - Per 2020 Census - 23110

Annual Budget \$ 3500 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff 0

95 % of budget for program expenses 5 # of Board Volunteers

5 % of budget for administrative expenses 10 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers

0 % of budget for fundraising expenses 180 # of Volunteer Hours

100 % total

Volunteer hours varies with the community needs, events.

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Yearly Contribution from each Municipality we provide service too.

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: \$ 10,000

Proposal Summary: To provide funding to upgrade our two way radio equipment to current day digital units replacing outdated analog units that can no longer be maintained. Batteries are no longer available for existing units.



Avon Grove Regional Emergency Management
P.O. Box 0082
West Grove , PA 19390-0082

AGREM, Incorporated is a recognized Federal and PA State non-profit 501(C)(3) organization

Website – www.agrem.org

History –

We were originally established in 1999 as The Avon Grove Regional Emergency Management Task Force, acting as a working group designated to help plan for, and respond to, any emergencies that might be triggered when the calendar year changed from 1999 to the year 2000.

Since those initial beginnings, the relationships established with the local municipalities have remained. AGREM changed from a task force to a regular work group, and our initial focus has shifted beyond the Y2K crisis to reflect more current events and needs. Major events such as terrorism (9/11 attack, Kansas City Federal Building bombing), Hurricane's Katrina and Sandy, the BP Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico, the severe weather events that have impacted the East Coast over the past several years, and the school shootings at Sandy Hook and others across our country have all served to highlight the importance of emergency preparedness and planning.

Goals –

To be able to improve upon our service capabilities to the municipalities we serve while providing each jurisdiction the mandated requirements of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Title 35 for Emergency Management.

Key Achievements –

Converted a FEMA travel trailer into a mobile command post with multiple agency radio communications ability to take to any emergency locations within our local municipal partners as needed to provide support. In 2015 we applied for and were granted a license to operate an AM radio station for the purposes of traveler's information throughout the AGREM municipalities. This station, 1670 am radio, broadcast 24/7, information on local road travel conditions and can broadcast weather emergencies as the national weather service issue's warnings. This station went on air in November of 2015.

Distinctiveness –

Avon Grove Regional Emergency Management (AGREM) was the first such agency in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Title 35 of the Commonwealth dictates that each municipality must provide emergency management services to it's constituents. The first line of defense falls to each municipality, not the County Government and not the Commonwealth. By utilizing a regional approach we provide the required service to each partner thereby eliminating the duplication of services by each partner. AGREM provided an overview of our method of service to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency at one of their yearly conference's and became a model for other groups in the Commonwealth of PA.

Funding Request:

Description of Key Initiatives – Our sole responsibility to our municipalities is to provide emergency management support in times of need. As times change and incident types evolve it remains our priority to be ready and able to handle the situation as it presents itself by maintaining/updating our training and equipment to meet the demands of today's diverse communities and to support them when needed.

Specific Needs:

Upgrade out dated analog two-way radios with new digital technology.

Why it is important to fund this need now:

One of the key elements of managing emergency events is the ability to effectively communicate among leadership and teams in the field. While cell phone technology has come a long way in recent years it is not considered, in emergency events, to be the first line of defense. We have seen many times during events the limitations of cell service. Almost everybody today has a cell phone with many families doing away with home land lines. During an emergency event the first thing many individuals do is get on their cell phone. This can lead to cell towers becoming overloaded and unable to handle the capacity leading to dropped calls, or worse, no connection at all. This possibility is why we function with a private two-way radio system that does not rely on cell service. In an effort to modernize our equipment our goal is to transition away from the analog technology currently in use and move forward to digital two-way radio service. Our present radio equipment, like so many electronic devices are becoming obsolete. For many of our current models, some of which are 8-10 years old, batteries are no longer available. Transitioning to digital service adds capabilities to our communications network. This equipment will provide better radio service and also the ability to send private messages that will be important for sensitive information that may not be appropriate to transmit over the air that all can hear.

How impact & results will be demonstrated:

Impact:

A more reliable and 21st century system to better communicate among emergency management personnel when providing support for first responders and managing resources for area residents.

Results will be demonstrated:

By having an emergency radio infrastructure at the ready to enable better communication and information sharing for and with our municipal members and the Avon Grove School District for times when disasters result in failures with the cellular phone systems as occurred during 9/11/2001 and the 2011 earthquake that hit our local area.

Strategic Plan:

To provide for the emergency management needs of the communities and residents we are tasked to protect and serve in time of need through continuing education and yearly training.

Board of Directors:

Director		Affiliation
President -	James McLimans ,	New London Township Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator
Vice President	Martin Wilson,	Penn Township Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator
Secretary	Lorna Wohl	London Britain Township Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator
Treasurer	Harold Walls	Franklin Township Emergency Management Coordinator
Emergency Management Coordinator	Charles Freese	West Grove Borough Emergency Management Coordinator