

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: August 8, 2022

Contact Information

Organization Name: Child Guidance Resource Centers ED/CEO Name: Colleen McNichol
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Year Incorporated: 1956 Primary Contact Name: Helen Kaplonski
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Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

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

Mission: CGRC's mission is to inspire hope, to empower and to contribute to the well-being of children, families, and adults throughout the five county Philadelphia region by delivering evidence-informed behavioral health services and community-wide wellness programs.

Geographic Area Served: CGRC's programs assist families throughout Chester County, at our office at 28 Chester Avenue in Coatesville and in our community-based programs which assist children and families in schools, in homes and in other community settings.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served: CGRC provides behavioral health assessment and treatment services to 1,000 children, adolescents and families each year, many of whom live in underserved communities and face chronic, multi-generational disadvantages.

Annual Budget \$ 3,690,069 (all Chesco programs) 55 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
85 % of budget for program expenses 11 # of Board Volunteers
13 % of budget for administrative expenses 45 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
2 % of budget for fundraising expenses 1700 # of Volunteer Hours
100 % total

Top 3-5 funding sources: CGRC receives fee reimbursement from the state's managed Medicaid system, and county contracts for services provided to eligible families. Foundation grants and contributions from donors help to supplement the gap for unreimbursed services and programs.

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

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

Proposal Summary: CGRC is respectfully requesting \$5,000 to purchase basic essential items of clothing such as socks, shoes, underwear, pants, tops, and school uniforms to prepare our neediest Chester County clients to return to school in September.

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

As a non-profit community-based provider of behavioral health assessment and treatment services, Child Guidance Resource Centers' mission is to provide healthcare and case management services to families who lack the financial resources to access a therapist or psychiatrist in private practice. CGRC has provided care to thousands of children in Chester County since 2003, and is one of the core providers of services in the county. This means that CGRC provides an entire range of therapeutic programs that address moderate to intense pediatric behavioral health needs. CGRC provides case management services in addition to behavioral healthcare for those families with long term unmet needs that negatively impact their daily functioning and mental health.

When a family experiences severe financial stress and fractured family structures it creates sustained depression and anxiety for everyone involved. Families in this situation are typically extremely discouraged and often hopeless. Case managers develop service plans (instead of treatment plans) with family members to assess and prioritize their needs and steps to address these needs. They are responsible for helping the family identify and access private and public resources to meet their urgent and ongoing needs. This includes helping families find safer housing, furniture and household goods, clothing, food and medical care. CGRC's case managers are knowledgeable about state and county assistance programs and have collaborative relationships with social service providers throughout the county. They assist the family in contacting these providers and articulating their needs.

Although CGRC is considered a provider of children's healthcare, we work with the entire family and any supporting kinship relations, to improve the quality of life and functioning for everyone involved in the child's life.

The objective of case management services is to help stabilize the family's functioning to relieve some of their stress and allow them to begin to actively participate in therapy. Clearly, a parent who is struggling to find a job, afford food and clothing and transportation is prioritizing those issues, which is why case managers work is crucial to helping families make long term positive changes in their lives. Children can only thrive when living in a safe, secure, and loving home, and helping parents achieve these results will permit them to engage in therapy to improve their parenting and communication skills, and their own emotional regulation.

The majority of our 200 case management client families live in medically underserved communities throughout Chester County, and face financial distress from unemployment and lack of skills training, unemployment, community and domestic violence, and fractured family structures due to substance abuse, violence, and incarceration. This problems are common for residents in the City of Coatesville, where 25% of the population lives below the Federal Poverty Level.

2. Funding request:

CGRC is respectfully requesting \$5,000 to purchase basic clothing items for 35 of the neediest children and adolescents in our case management client families, with the majority living in the City of Coatesville. Because our staff works with children and families in their homes, they see the struggles

they face. Staff surveyed parents and kinship relations to compile a specific list of needed items which includes socks, sneakers, pants, tops, underwear, and school uniforms. The goal is to raise funds for our staff to purchase these items in time for children to start school with enthusiasm and knowing that their community cares about them.

Back to school shopping is more expensive than ever due to rising prices and we will ensure that all funds are used in a prudent fashion. The items that our client families are requesting are things that many of us take for granted, and yet staff sees children and adolescents who are wearing sneakers that no longer fit them properly, because parents are unable to afford to replace them.

Our requested amount allots \$140 per client, which will enable us to purchase 2-3 packages of underwear, 2-3 packages of socks and one pair of (regular) sneakers per child/adolescent, based on prices from Target's website. We are hopeful that additional fundraising efforts will permit us to purchase basic clothing items as well.

Why it is important to fund this now

This is the first time that CGRC has implemented a Back-to-School Fundraiser and we are proud to ask for the community's support on behalf of our client families. This initiative is particularly time sensitive because we are trying to raise funds and shop in preparation for the return to school.

Our plan for the funds is to provide each child with new items specifically purchased for them. CGRC's case management supervisor, Nicasia Marinelli will have responsibility for all purchases and for ensuring that all items are delivered promptly to families by her staff.

While this initiative may not have the excitement of a Holiday Wish List fundraiser, we believe that this effort will go a long way toward improving the lives of children in Chester County. Depending on their age, some children may not be overly excited about new underwear and socks, but they will be excited and grateful to receive new sneakers. We know that this effort will relieve a significant amount of stress from mothers, grandmothers and kinship relations who are raising children in Chester County.

How impact and results will be demonstrated

CGRC will account for funds donated and used to purchase items. Because client's identities are protected under HIPAA, we are not able to share individual stories, but will use all of our social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram) our website www.cgrc.org and our email database to acknowledge donors and publicize the results of the initiative.

Certainly, if funding permits us to provide items for additional children, we will make sure to report that as well.