



**MARJORIE L. AND ARTHUR P. MILLER FUND
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FUND FOR OPEN SPACE AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

Across Chester County, local citizen groups are emerging as stewards of their local land resources while other organizations with an environmental focus are forming as issue groups, non-profit agencies, and municipal land trusts. Other non-profits serve as stewards for important parcels of land being used in creative ways for education and demonstration purposes. Each community has valuable resources that are worthy of being preserved—streams, wetlands, green space, areas important to wildlife, scenic vistas, and areas of historic or community significance.

The Chester County Community Foundation is now accepting applications for the Marjorie L. and Arthur P. Miller Fund. ***One challenge grant of up to \$2,500*** is available each year to support a non-profit organization which provides creative solutions to open space preservation and the wise use of environmental resources. The challenge portion of this grant can be met through such diverse means as new forms of in-kind donations and volunteer support and/or new grant dollars. The Miller grant can be used for the following:

- **The creation of a park, trail, or recreation area**
- **A public or school-based environmental education effort**
- **Research and publication about an important environmental issue**
- **Environmental enhancement and preservation of a significant site**
- **Volunteer and leadership development**
- **A demonstration project with wide-use application**

Successful projects will be those that:

- **Involve collaboration with environmental agencies & organizations**
- **Demonstrate high impact relative to the dollars expended**
- **Are of a lasting nature.**

Programs with a significant educational component are encouraged.

Proposals will be accepted until September 15. Upon review of the initial proposals, a site visit may be conducted of the finalists. The grant will be awarded in November.

Please use the attached Grant Proposal Format to apply for the grant. Please explain how you will meet the challenge component in your grant proposal narrative. Grant applications should be submitted no later than 5:00 P.M., **September 15** to: grants@chescocf.org. **Subject: Marjorie L. and Arthur P. Miller Fund Grant Application**

For more information, please contact Stephenie Stevens, Grants and Outreach Manager at the Chester County Community Foundation at 610-696-0501 or steph@chescocf.org Thank you!

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SUMMARY SHEET (One page only) Note: If Philanthropy Network Common Grant Application is used, this Summary Sheet MUST accompany application. Please visit our website at www.chescocf.org to obtain an electronic version of this application.

Date:

Contact Information:

Organization Name: Camphill Village Kimberton Hills
Address: PO Box 1045, Kimberton PA 19442

Contact Name: Virginia Lindak
Contact Title: Development

Contact E-mail: virginia@camphillkimberton.org

Phone: 610-935-0300 x12

Fax:

Web Address: camphillkimberton.org

Year Incorporated: 1983

Have you previously received the Miller Grant Award: Yes in 2000_ No _

If "Yes", please indicate date and amount of each grant, if any, received from the Foundation:

(1) Year: __2000__ Amt Rec'd: \$ __2500__

Organizational Information:

Geographic Area Served (*If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County municipalities served*): **Kimberton/Phoenixville, East Pikeland Township**

Annual # of Clients & Description of Population Served:

110+ people including adults with special needs

Mission Statement:

Our Mission is to create and maintain a land-based community together with adults with special needs. Inspired by Anthroposophy, members of the community support one another to contribute to the wider society through biodynamic agriculture, social, cultural and educational endeavors.

Organization Description:

The village is home to people of all ages: single adults and families, young people who come to volunteer for a year or more, and participating elders. While all share active social idealism and an intention to be in this community, abilities and capacities vary. Each person adds to the richness of interdependent living.

At Camphill Village Kimberton Hills, community members live together in houses throughout the village, fostering relationships based on respect and mutual support.

Village members enjoy an abundance of cultural opportunities that encourage the discovery and development of talents, capabilities and interests. In the village, a diverse program of concerts, lectures, courses, dramatic events, interest groups, art exhibits, folk dances and festivals enrich life and are occasions for interaction with the local community and beyond.

Community members shop, deliver products, volunteer, engage locally and enjoy libraries, the YMCA, and many local and regional venues and events.

Annual Budget \$ 2,757,309 6 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
 82.5 % of budget for program expenses 9 # of Board Volunteers
 10.2 % of budget for administrative expenses # of Active Non-Board
 Volunteers
 7.5 % of budget for fundraising expenses # of Volunteer Hours
 100 % total

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Family Support & Residential Contributions. Donor Support, External Product Sales & Services

Proposal Information:

Grant Amount Requested: \$ 2500

Description of Grant Purpose:

Our village, which is comprised of more than 400 acres in Chester County, is in need of one bat nesting house and one bird house nesting box for Purple Martins, along with the aluminum poles and mounting kits for each.

Bats are an important part of a functioning ecosystem. Making a bat-friendly place in your backyard supports the ecologically essential role bats have in the environment, including pest-control, pollination and seed dispersal. Globally, bats provide vital ecosystem services in the form of insect pest consumption, plant pollination, and seed dispersal, making them essential to the health of global ecosystems. Today, bats are under unprecedented threat from widespread habitat destruction, accelerated climate change, invasive species, and other stresses. Without concerted international action, their populations will continue to fall, driving many species to extinction. Scientists estimate that insect-eating, or insectivorous, bats may save U.S. farmers roughly \$23 billion each year by reducing crop damage and limiting the need for pesticides. Most, on average, can eat up to half their body weight in insects, while pregnant or nursing mothers will consume up to 100 percent of their body weight each night (*Bat Conservation International, 2022*).

Purple Martins nest almost exclusively in human-supplied housing. They are dependent on us for their survival. They are one of America's most well-loved songbirds for many reasons; their chattering song, aerial acrobatics, insect-eating habits and their tolerance of humans (*Purple Martin Conservation Association, 2022*).

Camphill Village Kimberton Hills – Grant Proposal for:

**Marjorie L. and Arthur P. Miller Fund
Fund for Open Space and the Environment**

Executive Summary

The mission of Camphill Village Kimberton Hills is to create Life Sharing with Special Needs Adults.

Camphill Village Kimberton Hills is a successful agricultural and handcrafting community with more than 120 residents. Its mission is to create and maintain a land-based community together with adults with special needs. Inspired by Anthroposophy, members of the community support one another to contribute to the wider society through biodynamic agriculture, handcrafts and other ecological, social, cultural and educational endeavors. Residents with and without special needs live together in extended family style homes throughout the village, forming a community based on shared responsibility, mutual respect and interdependence. Through work and daily living, relationships develop fostering mutual help and understanding, providing meaningful work and building long-lasting relationships, providing a high quality of life. Two-thirds of the residents with DD have lived at KH for over 25 years and are now elderly and most are low income. It has 16 households that include resident volunteers (who do not take a salary, as part of the Camphill philosophy) and adults with developmental disabilities for a total of 110 residents. Two-thirds of its residents with disabilities came to call CVKH home over 30 years ago, and are now low-income and elderly. They are in remarkable health when compared to general trends found in research: with no obesity, no Type II diabetes, and no chronic preventable diseases; and two independent studies found that they have a high Quality of Life.

Residents work together in small, sustainably-focused businesses and generate ¼ of the income for the village's budget. Onsite businesses include the: Sankanac Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), Kimberton Hills Dairy, The Orchard, Herb Garden, Sweet Water Baking Company, Camphill Café (open to the public), Stella Natura Calendar, estate work which includes the orchards, vineyards and apiary, and a weavery and fiber arts, a pottery and a mosaic workshop that make up the Kimberton Hills Craft Shop. CVKH also has administrative offices, a community center that hosts public events, and an on-site health center. Over 2500 people visit the community each year. The Sankanac CSA has long been a recognized leader in biodynamic agriculture.

Background

The international Camphill Movement began in Scotland in 1940, pioneering community life as a healthy alternative to institutionalization or isolated existences for people with DD. According to Camphill philosophy, it is especially helpful that people with special needs are

fully integrated into a multi-generational community, where volunteers share their lives with those who have DD, rather than provide a service for them, as is more commonly found in “provider/consumer” relationships (Zipperlen, 1975). Because individuals with DD can be highly naïve and vulnerable, they require formal and informal supports (Snell, 2009). At Camphill, people with DD experience genuine social inclusion through expanded formal and informal networks of natural support. There are now over 100 independent Camphill communities in more than 20 countries. Camphill Village Kimberton Hills (KH), founded in 1972 on 432 (350 donated) acres in Chester County, is an agricultural and handcrafting Camphill community of over 110 people with a wide range of backgrounds, ages and abilities. At KH special needs adults live side by side with volunteer residents who share their lives together in 16 homes across the village. Vocations are found at the award-winning dairy, the weavery and fiber arts, pottery, Sankanac Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) garden (that provides for the village residents and to over 250 families living outside of the village), Sweet Water Baking Company, Camphill Café (open to the public), the orchards, herb garden, apiary, vineyard, and in the homes. Whether one is working in the office, weeding, peeling potatoes or caring for the cows, the work is voluntary and based on mutual recognition and shared responsibility. The goal is for all residents to experience what scholars of human development refer to as inclusion, authentic belongingness, self-determination, and meaningful relationships.

Through work, each person knows that he or she contributes to the well-being of the entire village and to the greater community in a significant way.

Kimberton Hills encourages everyone, especially those with special needs, to discover dignity and develop potential, improving their overall Quality of Life (QoL). A recent study (AmeriCorps/U of Toronto, 2010) revealed that the Camphill life sharing communities scored higher than four other types of residential options (large residential care; small residential care [i.e. group home], independent living and family living) and that KH scored the highest among all Camphill communities in North America for overall QoL, where residents have a "meaningful degree of independence and control over their daily lives."

The focus of Kimberton Hills includes:

Aging in Community – support for our elderly population

Health in Community – Dental, medical and behavioral care for all of the 100+ residents

Meaningful Vocations – Agricultural and handcrafting work opportunities for all 90+ adult residents

Training and Education – Professional and skill development for all 50+ resident volunteers;

Creative Therapies – Opportunities for non-verbal self-expression for the adults with special needs.

Community Outreach and Education – It is KH’s premise that by demonstrating sustainable stewardship of the land while promoting the dignity of each person, individuals can gain knowledge and more deeply develop a sense of their own potential to have a positive impact on each other and the land that sustains them. Over 200 volunteers help annually, there are

approximately 28 resident volunteer placements who come from across America and around the world, and this past year over 250 students came for tours, nursing practicums, adjudication, workshops and week-long social service; Cultural events at Rose Hall and Camphill Café draw approximately 2000 people from the region annually, including those with developmental disabilities.

Sankanac CSA Specifics: Our organic and biodynamic 20-acre garden, located in Kimberton, Pennsylvania (about 50 minutes from Philadelphia) operates as a 270 member CSA, which stands for Community Supported Agriculture. We offer shares in the garden at the beginning of each season and shareholders receive their portion of the harvest each week. The CSA is profitable only because it has no labor costs, as it is run entirely by volunteers.

Sankanac CSA Interns : Each year, CVKH accepts approximately 26 new one-year resident volunteers from around the U.S and the world to live and work with those who have developmental disabilities. The Sankanac CSA farmers have developed a special training program in which five of those resident volunteers are accepted as full-time farm interns, (also called apprentices), where they train and work exclusively on the farm, rather than other workshops offered at CVKH. They attend conferences and special workshops, lead educational tours and work with volunteers and Green Interns. Almost all of the other one-year resident volunteers work on the farm as one of their workshops, and approximately four-six are trained directly in the CSA. Additionally, three to five-month volunteer interns are also brought on during the summer months. Over the years, countless individuals have gone on to start their own farms or remain active participants in creating a healthier food system. Several have become quite famous in their circles. One has stayed on at CVKH, becoming a long-term resident volunteer and the assistant garden manager.

Sankanac CSA and the Community: The Sankanac CSA hosts two Green Intern groups for three half-days for five weeks each summer, whereas the other sites host one group. Green Interns are devoted to intensive work periods where the interns are split into small teams under the guidance of Sankanac staff. As part of their philanthropic training, the Green Interns help to plant, cultivate and harvest food grown for the Chester County Food Bank. The Food Bank's mission is to feed the more than 70,000 homes in Chester County that are food insecure.

Educational Tours and Volunteering : Each year, five to six high schools and universities send teams of 10-20 students to spend one-week volunteering at the farm. Approximately 100 children from local primary and secondary schools visit the farm for a day and learn about the integrated nature of a biodynamic farming. For example, they visit the cows and learn how their manure makes compost for soil fertility which helps the vegetables grow – then they see the compost piles and see the vegetables growing as they taste them – then they see the hay that is grown in the soil fertilized by the compost that the cows later eat to create more manure. Often, they may help weed, plant or dig. They visit the bees near the garden, taste honeycomb and learn how we rely on them for pollinating the fruit and vegetables we eat. They learn about the draft horses' role in reducing both fossil fuel use and compaction of the

earth. They visit the pioneering wastewater system, the forest, and the creek to learn about best practice in sustainable water management for clean drinking water.

Community Service: Local community centers, local food banks, and low-income housing developments benefit directly from the work of the Green Interns and Sankanac Interns. Food insecurity plagues people because fresh, healthy food is neither easily available nor financially accessible. Young people need to be exposed to practical ways to solve community problems. Throughout the year, FFT youth are involved in the installations at Sustainable Solutions and Royersford Baptist Church and at least 50% of the produce is donated to Project Outreach in Royersford.

Food Bank: Sankanac continues to increase what it grows for the Chester County Food Bank and integrate that produce into the Green Intern curriculum. By growing for Food Banks, young people provide food to people in need, they see for themselves the impact of their labors, and they are empowered to act on behalf of others. CVKH residents with developmental disabilities also take great pride in volunteering (mostly during the winter) by serving food to those in need on Thursday mornings at the First United Church of Christ Food Pantry in Spring City, PA.

Statement of Need

Our village, which is comprised of more than 400 acres in Chester County, is in need of one bat nesting house and one bird house nesting box for Purple Martins, along with the aluminum poles and mounting kits for each.

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Kimberton Hills is dedicated to ecological practices and has won awards for sustainable practices, including from the Chester County Citizens for Climate Protection, Cornucopia Institute, The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, PA Environmental Council, PennFuture, The PA House and Senate. The Natural Lands Trust researched the ecological health of French Creek and found the healthiest area was at Kimberton Hills. We have organized and contributed to tours, modeling our ecological work. The dedication to health, whether for people, land, animals, soil, forests, food, air, water and connections to the wider society has been present in the Kimberton Hills community since its founding.

Timeline and Expenses

\$2500 – towards the cost of these two nesting boxes, poles and mounting kits
Work on the poles will begin promptly after gaining funds to implement the updates. The goal is to have them up and functioning as soon as possible - by Spring 2023.

Name, title and address of contact person:

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