



United Way  
of Chester County

## Section 1: Chester County Community Foundation Grant Proposal Summary Sheet

### Contact Information

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<b>EIN:</b> 23-2131877	<b>Grant \$ Amount Requested:</b> \$40,000
<b>Year Founded:</b> 1980	

*In filing this application, the nonprofit certifies that it complies with all federal, state & local laws, including taxation; complies with current public health guidelines; and complies with coronavirus pandemic phased reopening restrictions.*

Agreed by: Christopher Saello	Date: 09/16/2022
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### Nonprofit Field/s of Interest: Human Services

Figures	Current
Annual Operating Budget	\$ 941,325
Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff	# 8
# Board Volunteers	# 20
# Committee Volunteers	# 15
# Active Direct Service Volunteers	# 10
Annual Volunteer Hours	# 300

**Is this Grant for:** Program Operations/General Operating

## **Top Funding Sources:**

Individual donors and companies for building silent campaign

## **Grant Proposal Summary:**

We are requesting funding to support the installation of state-of-the-art technology in our new location. Our new office has been outfitted with three multi-purpose community spaces, available for local non-profit organizations to hold in-person, virtual, or hybrid meetings, workshops, and training programs for employees, volunteers, and the community. This new technology is critical for non-profit organizations in Chester County to break down technological service barriers and have greater access to the client populations they work with.

## **Grant Proposal Narrative:**

**Mission:** The mission of United Way of Chester County is to unite people and mobilize resources to build better lives and stronger communities.

**Geographic Area Served:** Chester County

### **What population is served?**

The population served will be Chester County nonprofit staff members and community members. All nonprofits in Chester County will have the option to book any of the three meeting spaces in the new building for board meetings, community gathers and trainings.

### **What would this funding be used for?**

The COVID-19 pandemic forced us to reconsider how we work to support our ALICE population. We and our non-profit partners learned quickly that we were able to modify our operations and provide virtual and hybrid services in addition to what was provided in-person prior to the pandemic. The grant funds will be used to help cover the implementation costs to equip our new community spaces with state-of-the-art technology. United Way of Chester County has purchased and renovated a 5,000 square foot stand-alone building, located at 150 John Robert Thomas Drive in the Commons at Lincoln Center in Exton, that will serve as the permanent new headquarters for United Way of Chester County staff as well as host a Social Innovation Lab, Leadership Training Center and Financial Independence Hub for the community. Our new office has been designed to include three multi-purpose community spaces to be available to local non-profit organizations for use in aiding the ALICE population. The silent capital campaign helped cover the cost for the building and renovations. This didn't include the technology costs. It is important to fund this initiative now so that our new location will be adequately equipped to meet the needs of our non-profit partners and best serve the community. The pandemic taught our partners and us that there is a client need for virtual and hybrid services, there is no going back to operations as they were prior to COVID-19 the facilities we intend to provide are indicative of this.

The Leadership Training Center space will be used as the Leadership Chester County Board Development Program training center, it will hold Capacity Building workshops, United Way Board Meetings, and serve as a meeting space for Community and other Non-Profit events. It will be equipped with the state-of-the-art technology necessary to assist with virtual and hybrid meetings, workshops, training programs, as well as United Way Corporate Campaigns.

The new location will also house a Social Innovation Lab, created for next generation social entrepreneurs. The Innovation Lab is a Collaborative Center designed to jumpstart innovative and creative approaches to community problems. This space will also include an incubation space for small and start-up non-profits in a co-working environment.

Finally, our new office will also be home to the Financial Independence Hub, designed with the intention of providing a variety of financial services to our ALICE population. The Financial Independence Hub will be a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) tax preparation site and a Mobile Home Reassessment registration site. It will also serve as a Financial Stability Center navigation services site when the PA CareerLink location is closed on evenings and weekends, thus closing the gap between ALICE and reasonable access to available services.

Each space will be fitted with wall mounted flat panels with HDMI access to both the wall and tables, Logitech rally bars with tabletop tap bundles which includes built in cameras, microphones, speakers, and AI viewfinder, providing sharp color, crisp sound, and AI technology that keeps the camera focused on the presenter. The Logitech package also includes security features such as disk and data encryption, device access and identity, and key protection. These enhancements easily transform each community space into a secure space for virtual collaboration.

### **How will Impact be Measured?**

Our new multi-purpose community spaces will be available to our partners for booking as needed. We plan to maintain an electronic booking calendar detailing bookings and remaining availability. The calendar will allow us to measure the number of partners utilizing our space and the frequency with which the space is occupied. From there we will be able to also seek feedback from our partners regarding the technology in use including observed strengths and pain points that can be used for future upgrades and enhancements. The multipurpose community spaces will be used to offer regular training for our nonprofit partners as well allow for a space for nonprofit to hold meetings for the larger community.

### **Attachments**

- **501 (c) (3) federal tax-exempt letter**
- **List of Board of Directors, with their affiliations**
- **Annual Report**
- **Audited Financial Statements**
- **Itemized Budget (Consultant Proposal, Invoice)**