

GRANT PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

- The Chester County Community Foundation **connects people who care with the causes that matter**, so their philanthropy makes a difference **Now & Forever**.
 - We are a **collection of Field of Interest & Donor Advised Funds** with **\$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.

Nonprofits can submit proposals for 2 types of grants:

Field of Interest & Donor Advised Funds (No Deadline)	Fund for Chester County Capacity Building Grants (Due 9/15)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ 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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - arts, culture & heritage - community improvement - education - environment - health - human services - religion ◇ 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ For eligibility in this grant program, nonprofits must be located in & serve Chester County. ◇ Nonprofits budgets must be \$500,000 or less. ◇ The goal of capacity building grantmaking is to strengthen the effectiveness of NPO's serving the Chester County region, in areas including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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)-696-8211** 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 2/19/23

Contact Information

Organization Name: Crime Victims' Center of Chester Co. ED/CEO Name: Christine Zaccarelli, Esq.
Address: 135 W. Market Street, West Chester, PA 19382 ED/CEO E-mail: christinez@cvcofcc.org
Phone: 610-692-1926 Board Chair Name: Stephanie Morris, Esq.
Website: www.cvcofcc.org Board Chair Approval (check here): X
Year Incorporated: 1973 Primary Contact Name: Chris Zaccarelli
FEIN: 23-2039284 Primary Contact E-mail: christinez@cvcofcc.org

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

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

Mission:

The Crime Victims' Center of Chester County, Inc. (CVC) is a nonprofit agency providing free, immediate, and confidential crisis response and compassionate support to children and adults impacted by sexual violence and all other crimes. We provide assistance through counseling, advocacy, resources, and education. The Center fosters community awareness and understanding through its comprehensive outreach and prevention programs.

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

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:

CVC's services are available to all residents of Chester County and those victimized in Chester County, regardless of income or law enforcement involvement. In the past fiscal year, CVC reached over 23,000 individuals through our Direct Services and Prevention and Education Programs. We serve all victims of crimes, regardless of race/ethnicity, age, gender or income. Approximately 75% of our clients are female. All of our services are completely free and confidential to all who need them.

Annual Budget \$ <u>1,920,639</u>	<u>18 FT, 16 PT</u> # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
<u>81</u> % of budget for program expenses	<u>12</u> # of Board Volunteers
<u>18</u> % of budget for administrative expenses	<u>12</u> # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
<u>1</u> % of budget for fundraising expenses	<u>1511</u> # of Volunteer Hours

100 % total

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, The Longwood Foundation

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: Any size award will help further our mission.

Proposal Summary: The Crime Victims’ Center of Chester County serves our community with two main services: Direct Services for people who have been victimized by any type of crime, and Prevention and Education to work with community members, especially school-aged children and youth, to create safe and healthy communities. Our services offer a compassionate helping hand to those who have experienced victimization and also a strategy to make Chester County a safer and healthier place for all of us. With government funding decreasing, we have an urgent need for support to ensure that our services are there for people in their time of greatest need.

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

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

The Crime Victims' Center of Chester County (CVC) was founded in 1973, originally called the Rape Crisis Council of Chester County. Our organization began as part of a grassroots effort by concerned local individuals to provide assistance and services to victims of sexual assault and their families. The unifying goal was to develop an atmosphere that would encourage victims of sexual assault to seek appropriate medical, psychological, and criminal justice system assistance. Services to victims of sexual assault were critically needed because there was a lack of reporting and fear of publicity, it was misunderstood and underestimated in the community, and there were no set standards for treating cases of sexual assault. At that time, victims had no voice in the legislation or in the court system.

Today, CVC offers a wide range of Direct Services to those who have been victimized by sexual and all other crimes, from the initial hotline call that is often a victim's first contact with us, to accompanying them to necessary appointments in the law enforcement, court and medical systems, to supporting them for as long as necessary with counseling to help them heal from the trauma of victimization. Over time, we also created a preventive program, called our Prevention and Education (P/E) Program, which seeks to proactively educate students and others across Chester County about the nature of crimes, healthy non-violent strategies to respond to stress and conflict, and the services that are available to those who have experienced crime victimization.

2. Funding request

- **Description of key initiatives**
- **Specific needs & issues to be addressed**
- **Why it is important to fund this now**
- **How impact & results will be demonstrated**

The heart of CVC's work is our **Direct Services Program** to assist victims of crimes. CVC provides the following services:

- Two 24-hour hotlines for sexual assault survivors and other crime victims.
- 24-hour crisis response and in person accompaniment to hospitals, police stations, and legal proceedings
- Group and individual counseling.
- Assistance with Crime Victims' Compensation and restitution claims.
- Coordination with the Chester County Children's Advocacy Center and supporting child abuse victims.
- Coordination with the Chester County Juvenile Probation Office and supporting victims of juvenile offenders.
- Coordination with the Chester County District Attorney's Office and providing notification to victims and accompaniment.
- Overview of victims' rights and legal process.
- Assistance with preparing victim impact statements.
- Information and referral to other resources as appropriate.

CVC's Direct Services provide immediate, personal and highly experienced support to victims of crime in Chester County from the point of harm until the client has found solid ground and resolution, regardless of how long this process may be. All of our direct services are provided free of charge and in a confidential and culturally sensitive manner. Clients are able to access as many services as needed and are provided referrals to other community and government-based agencies for supplemental help when appropriate.

CVC relies on a team of trained volunteers to assist our staff and serve "on call" for our crime victim hotlines. Volunteers serve on-call shifts of up to 16 hours overnight on weekdays and up to 24 hours and overnight on weekends. Their availability is essential to crime victims receiving support and practical assistance immediately as well as to support our staff in lessening the burden of their on call responsibilities.

Because of pandemic-related delays in court appearances, CVC is working to catch up on a backlog of accompaniments that stretch back to 2020. In the past fiscal year, the number of accompaniments we provided to crime victims more than doubled, we suspect in part as a result of appearances delayed in prior years. By comparing these numbers to the current fiscal year when complete, we may be able to draw additional conclusions about changes.

CVC's **Prevention and Education Program** is critical to our work to not only help crime victims in their time of need, but also to prevent crime from happening and create a safer Chester County for all who work, live, and play here. The P/E Program:

- Builds healthier, more protective communities, working with young people to teach them how to prevent violence before it occurs by encouraging healthier interpersonal relationships and teaching healthier ways to manage conflict
- Facilitates workshops in area classrooms, universities, businesses, and community groups on a daily basis to raise awareness of violence and its impact, as well as the services available to victims of crimes
- Teaches program topics including anti-bullying, bystander intervention, personal safety, healthy relationships, dating violence, conflict resolution, sexual harassment, online safety, and others.

Policy around crime in the U.S. has typically been addressed in a reactive fashion, focusing on strong policing (especially in communities of color) and criminal justice. People are starting to recognize the importance of addressing mental health and social determinants of health to prevent crime, rather than simply punishing perpetrators. CVC's P/E program seeks to further this understanding by educating our community, with a particular focus on school-age children (K-12), addressing the risk factors for violence perpetration while building on the strengths of communities to prevent violence. These efforts also aim to connect the community to resources that are available to those affected by crime or violence.

In the coming year, we expect to attain the following objectives:

- Assist 2,500 individuals who call in on our two 24-hour crime hotlines
- Provide 2,300 accompaniments to law enforcement, medical, court or other relevant appointments
- Provide approximately 1,500 counseling sessions to approximately 100 unduplicated crime victims
- Of those who participate in our counseling services, 95% will report an abatement in symptoms of distress

- Provide Prevention and Education sessions to 15,000 individuals in schools and other settings across Chester County
- Of those attending P/E sessions and completing the post-session survey, 90% will report gaining improved knowledge and understanding of how to recognize and respond safely to potential violence.

CVC is Chester County's only comprehensive service organization for victims of crimes. For the past 50 years, we have been a critical resource to thousands of people countywide who have struggled with victimization. While the purpose of our work has remained steady for all of these years, the manner in which we have carried out our work have shifted with time, encompassing assistance with difficult encounters with the medical and law enforcement realms, trauma-informed counseling to heal the negative impacts of victimizations, stronger community partnerships that help victims receive timely support, and culturally informed care that reflects Chester County's diverse population.

CVC is an essential resource to crime-impacted individuals when they are at their most vulnerable. We are proud to be the compassionate, supportive ally standing by people in their time of need. However, exceptionally tight state budgets are soon to take a toll on crime services in our community, as we expect a 10% decrease in state funding (our largest source of revenue) with further cuts likely in future years. With government support decreasing and private funds scarcer in the post-pandemic era, we will need additional private philanthropic support to continue to conduct our important work. The generous support of donors from the Chester County Community Foundation will help us meet these urgent needs and keep Chester County safe for all who live here.