

## 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.

**Proposals submitted by nonprofits are considered for 2 types of grants:**

### Field of Interest & Donor Advised Funds (No Deadline)

- ◇ 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. (I.e. arts, culture, & humanities; education; community improvement; environment; religion; health; & human services)
- ◇ **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**.

- ◇ 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:
  - 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](http://www.chescocf.org) to apply online for grants from all Community Foundation Funds.
- **Email proposals to [grants@chescocf.org](mailto: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)-698-8211** or **[grants@chescocf.org](mailto: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](http://www.chescocf.org)*

Date

**Contact Information**

Organization Name: Promoting Liberation to Under-Resourced Groups      ED/CEO Name: Rasheed Dandridge

Address: 5411 Market st

ED/CEO E-mail: rasheed@theplugphilly.com

Phone: 484-644-0796

Board Chair Name: Rasheed Dandridge

Website: www.theplugphilly.com

Board Chair Approval (check here):

Year Incorporated: 2023

Primary Contact Name: Rasheed Dandridge

FEIN:92-2416218

Primary Contact E-mail:

rasheed@theplugphilly.com

**Organization Information:**

**Field/s of Interest:**

Arts, Culture & Humanities

Environment/Animal Welfare

Education

Health

Human Services

Religion

**Mission:**

**The PLUG facilitates the organizing of resources and services to assist collectives and individuals that empower underserved and under-resourced communities**

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

*Chester County, Philadelphia County, Delaware County*

**Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:**

**Our target population is underserved and under-resourced communities. This could include individuals or collectives facing barriers or discrimination, such as low income, people of color, LGBTQ individuals, immigrants, people with disabilities, and others marginalized or excluded from access to resources and services**

**Annual Budget** \$100,000 \_\_\_\_\_ # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff

65 \_\_\_\_\_ % of budget for program expenses       3 \_\_\_\_\_ # of Board Volunteers

25 \_\_\_\_\_ % of budget for administrative expenses       20 \_\_\_\_\_ # of Active Non-Board Volunteers

10 \_\_\_\_\_ % of budget for fundraising expenses      \_\_\_\_\_ # of Volunteer Hours

*100 % total*

**Top 3-5 funding sources:**

**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:**    \$ 7,500

**Proposal Summary:**

**The Promoting Liberation to Under-Resourced Groups (PLUG) organization aims to provide comprehensive and holistic services to under-resourced communities, addressing needs such as lack of educational opportunities, housing and food insecurity, and access to healthcare. PLUG has been offering these services since 2017 and has reached hundreds of individuals and families. The organization's service coordination program serves as a hub for providing a range of resources and services in under-resourced communities. PLUG seeks funding to expand its services to reach more individuals and families. The organization plans to measure its impact by tracking metrics such as the number of meals provided, the number of individuals who access mental health and wellness resources, the number of individuals who receive employment support and sustained jobs, and the number of people engaged in educational programming. The success of these initiatives will be demonstrated through the number of people we serve as well a reduction in homelessness and poverty in communities over the next 2-3 years.**

## II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

*Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.*

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

The Promoting Liberation to Under-Resourced Groups organization was founded in February of 2023 in efforts to organize services and resources for collectives and individuals in underserved and under-resourced communities. With our comprehensive and holistic approach, the needs we desire to address are not limited to, lack of educational opportunities housing and food insecurity, as well as lack of access to healthcare. When individuals are unable to meet their basic needs they resort to other means of survival. By addressing this, our goal is to work towards a safer, equitable and just society empowering individuals to reach their full potential.

The PLUG was founded in early 2023. However, these services have been offered since the Summer of 2017. Since then, we have served hundreds of meals to families, organized dozens of mental health and other wellness resources, supported a great deal of individuals with employment and provided homeless prevention and home management services. The PLUG has reached hundreds of youth mentoring and engaging them in thought provoking and motivational topics from financial literacy, leadership development, to career planning. Our most recent educational program in collaboration with Cheyney University was very successful. As students learn about budgeting and goal setting 80% of students were then motivated and planned to begin creating their own budgets. 100% of students were more confident in creating their own smart goals for the future.

### 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

According to the City of Philadelphia's poverty profile, over 25% of the city's population lived below the federal poverty line. This prevents individuals from being able to meet their own basic needs. Our service coordination program provides organizing of resources consisting of but not limited to, advocacy, better education, employment, healthcare, home management, meals, and mental health ultimately improving quality of life. We serve as a hub for providing a range of resources and services in under-resourced communities. Our educational resources such as career planning, and readiness, financial literacy courses, as well as access and support with healthcare and mental health are to

improve the quality of life for our communities. We provide food and housing assistance as well as other services to meet as a comprehensive approach to addressing challenges faced in underserved communities.

The hundreds of people served could become thousands. Providing education services to youth and adults can have a long term impact by empowering individuals to become leaders and active contributors to society. Studies show that initiatives that focus on improving mental health, employment, and education have significant positive impact on individuals and their communities. For example, a study by the National Alliance on Mental Illness found that access to mental health services can improve outcomes for individuals and reduce the economic burden on society. (2019). Mental health by the numbers. Retrieved from <https://www.nami.org/mhstats>.

In order to measure impact we will use metrics such as number of meals provided to families, number of individuals who access mental health and wellness resources, number of individuals who received employment support and sustained jobs, As well as how many people were engaged in our educational programming and their benefit from it via surveys. Reduction of homelessness and poverty in communities over the next 2-3 years will show our projects impact and amount of success.

- *For capacity building grant proposals:*
  - *How will this capacity building initiative impact your nonprofit?*
  - *How will this impact be measured?*
  - *Include a description of the expected activities; timeline & costs to implement the initiative. If external consulting services are required, include the anticipated costs & expertise of the consultants to be hired. Include external consultant proposals if applicable.*

### **III. ATTACHMENTS**

#### *E-mail or mail this support information*

1. Copy of 501 (c) (3) federal tax-exempt letter
2. List of Board of Directors, with their affiliations
3. Most recent annual report & financial statement, audited if available
4. Itemized organizational operating budget with actual results for prior fiscal year & current fiscal year to date
5. If capacity building initiative, itemized budget (including external consultant's proposal, if applicable)
6. Current strategic plan. If your nonprofit does not have a current strategic plan, explain why.

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*Connecting people who care with causes that matter,  
so their legacies make a difference.*

## WHAT IS CAPACITY BUILDING?

**Capacity building helps bring a nonprofit to the next level of operational, programmatic, financial, or organizational maturity, in order to more effectively & efficiently fulfill its mission.**

Capacity building may include (but is not limited to) projects which address:

- **MISSION, VISION & STRATEGY**  
Organizational Assessment - Strategic Planning - Financial Planning
- **GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP**  
Board Development - Executive Transition/Succession Planning - Leadership Development - Staff Training & Professional Development
- **PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS**  
Coalition Building – Collaboration - Mergers & Acquisitions - Strategic Restructuring
- **RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING**  
Major Gift Donor Identification, Cultivation, Development & Stewardship - Development Campaigns (Annual, Capital, Planned Giving) - Earned Income Development - Social Enterprise Feasibility & Development - Marketing, Branding & Communications
- **TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS**  
Business Continuity Planning - Financial Management - Human Resources - Volunteer Management - Industry Certification - Risk Management - Technology Improvements