

## 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**.

### Fund for Chester County Capacity Building Grants (Due 9/13)

- ◇ 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 grants is to **strengthen the effectiveness of NPO's serving the region**, see page 4 for more details on the areas including:
  - Mission, Vision & Strategy
  - Governance & Leadership
  - Partnerships & Collaborations
  - Operations & Technology
  - Fundraising, Development & Marketing
- ◇ Proposals submitted between **July 1 - Sept. 13** are 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: One House at a Time (OHAAT)  
Address: 421 Pike Road, Unit 5, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006  
Phone: 215-346-6427  
Website: ohaat.org  
Year Incorporated: 2001  
FEIN: 23-3046871

ED/CEO Name: Kate Fay  
ED/CEO E-mail: kate@ohaat.org  
Board Chair Name: Ken Barber  
Board Chair Approval (check here):   
Primary Contact Name: Kate Fay  
Primary Contact E-mail: kate@ohaat.org

## Organization Information:

### Field/s of Interest:

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

**Mission:** One House at a Time's (OHAAT) mission is to help families establish (or reestablish) self-sufficient lives by providing them with the necessities of a functional home environment. Our current focus is ending child bedlessness in Philadelphia and her surrounding counties. Through our Beds for Kids program, we provide children and youth with beds, bedding, and tools that encourage healthy bedtime habits so that they can get the quality and sufficient sleep they need to thrive

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

Philadelphia, Chester, Bucks, Montgomery, and Delaware Counties

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

**Annual Budget** \$ 614,029 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff  
89.43% of budget for program expenses 8 # of Board Volunteers  
5.66% of budget for administrative expenses 2 8 5 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers  
4.91% of budget for fundraising expenses 1776 \_\_\_\_\_ # of Volunteer Hours  
100 % total

**Top 3-5 funding sources:** W.W. Smith Charitable Trust-\$40,306.00; Phillies Charities Inc-\$25,000.00; Patricia Kind Family Foundation-\$20,000.00

**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:** \$5,000 \_\_\_\_\_

## Proposal Summary:

One House at a Time's (OHAAT) Beds for Kids program is driven by the core belief that no child should ever have to sleep on the floor. Unfortunately, research estimates that in the Greater Philadelphia area there are 6,000 children each year going to sleep on the floor or on makeshift beds of blankets, cushions, or other materials that may be available to them. Coupled with insufficient heating or cooling, and the presence of rodents or other infestations, these situations are unbearable.

Every family we serve is living on or below the federal poverty threshold and is seeking to rebuild their lives. Often our families have experienced a physical or emotional trauma that has had a devastating impact on their lives. Over 250 community partners, including the Home of the Sparrow, Mighty Writers, the Chester County Intermediate Unit, and Vally Youth House, identify families who are in need of basic necessities, including beds for their children, and refer these families to OHAAT's Beds for Kids program.

The Beds for Kids program provides an end-to-end solution for families with very limited resources. Very often at the point at which we deliver the beds, the family may have been able to secure a roof over their heads, but have very little else. Being able to provide essential items such as beds and bedding, along with 'nice to have' items such as a stuffed animal and bedtime books, brings excitement and a sense of pride to the children who are receiving them. It also provides an overwhelming sense of relief to the parents who have simply been unable to afford to provide these items for their children.

OHAAT is requesting \$5000 to sponsor 23 children living in poverty in Chester County with a stainless-steel bedframe, memory foam mattress, pillow, sheets set, blanket, quilt, bedtime books, stuffed animal, and a toothbrush, all delivered directly to the home of the child in need. Recipients also receive educational messages about healthy sleep habits via bookmarks and magnets. With beds of their very own and tools that encourage healthy bedtime habits, children can have a significantly higher quality of life.

## II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

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

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

### 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**

OHAAT's mission is to help families establish (or reestablish) self-sufficient lives by providing them with the necessities of a functional home environment. Our current focus is ending child bedlessness in Philadelphia and her surrounding counties. Through our Beds for Kids program, we provide children and youth with beds, bedding, and tools that encourage healthy bedtime habits so that they can get the quality and sufficient sleep they need to thrive.

OHAAT was formed in 1998 in Ambler as a furniture bank. Two industrious women equipped with a station wagon delivered donations of furniture and household items to low-income fire and flood victims referred by the American Red Cross. In 2001, OHAAT became an official corporation with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status, and the Beds for Kids program started as a supplementary program to provide new beds and bedding for children and youth. In 2011, OHAAT's Board of Directors decided to phase out the furniture bank and focus all efforts on the Beds for Kids program. The board felt that Beds for Kids served a more critical need that was not being addressed by any other organizations. By narrowing the focus, the program would be able to be improved and expanded. Since this decision, Beds for Kids has grown from serving 350 children and youth each year to over 1,900 in 2022.

The Beds for Kids program is driven by the core belief that no child should ever have to sleep on the floor. While many agencies help low-income families obtain and retain housing, very few help turn their housing into functional homes. Research estimates that in the Greater Philadelphia area there are 6,000 children each year forced to sleep on the floor, on sofas, on makeshift beds of blankets, cushions, or any other available materials, or crowded into one bed with others. These arrangements often lead to insufficient and poor-quality sleep. Coupled with issues of insufficient heating or cooling, and the presence of rodents or other infestations, the situation is unbearable.

OHAAT's Beds for Kids program seeks to address this by providing children and youth from low-income families with an appropriate place to sleep. Those in our program must satisfy three criteria: they must be aged between 2 and 20 years old, they must be living in a family whose income is below the federal poverty threshold, and they do not have adequate sleeping arrangements. Many recipients are transitioning out of shelters or other temporary housing. Some are recovering from fires, floods, or infestations, and others have been sleeping without a bed their whole lives.

Children and youth in our program will get a stainless-steel bedframe, memory foam mattress, pillow, sheets set, blanket, quilt, bedtime books, stuffed animal, and a toothbrush, all delivered directly to their home. Recipients also receive educational messages about healthy sleep habits via bookmarks

and magnets. With beds of their very own and tools that encourage healthy bedtime habits, children are more likely to get the sleep they need to thrive. The impact of the program has been independently validated and measured through three sleep studies in partnership with the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and St. Joseph's University, demonstrating the long-term health benefits a bed and a healthy sleep routine have on the health outcomes of children from low-income families.

The Beds for Kids program was designed to support the work of other health and human service providers, not duplicate it. Recipients must be referred by one of our referral partners who are best placed to assess the needs of individual families. We are proud of our collaborative approach to service delivery, working side by side with our referral partners to deliver tangible and lasting health solutions to children in our community. Although there are other organizations throughout the country that provide beds for children who need them, there are no organizations with this focus within OHAAT's Greater Philadelphia service area.

The Beds for Kids 2023 goals are as follows:

- (1) Number served: we aim to provide at least 1,900 children and youth with a complete bedding package.
- (2) Leverage: we aim for the value provided to be at least two times its cost (i.e., recipients would have to pay twice as much to purchase the same goods and services on their own).
- (3) Turnaround time: we aim for average turnaround time (from referral to delivery) of no more than 9 days.

OHAAT collects feedback from all of our referral partners; thus far 100% of respondents have confirmed they are extremely satisfied with every aspect of the service they received and would choose OHAAT's Beds for Kids program to assist families in the future. We also collect feedback from the families who receive services from our program to measure how satisfied they were with our communication and levels of service, and also to measure the overall effect the program has had on the family. This is being measured through follow up telephone calls or texts to the families after they have received a bed delivery from us. As we are a small team, the recommendations from these phone calls/texts often result in easy to implement changes such as communication preferences and delivery time slots, but have also resulted in the larger-scale review of our suppliers. In the second half of the year, we plan to develop an advisory Board for service users and referral partners to fully evaluate each of our processes to ensure a user-focused approach to everything we do.

