

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 7/26/2023

**Contact Information**

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Website: [www.cgrc.org](http://www.cgrc.org)  
Year Incorporated: 1956  
FEIN: 23-1490061

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**Organization Information:**

Field/s of Interest:

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

**Mission:** CGRC's mission is to inspire hope, to empower and to contribute to the well-being of children, families, and adults throughout the five county Philadelphia region by delivering evidence-informed behavioral health services and community-wide wellness programs.

**Geographic Area Served:** CGRC's programs assist families throughout Chester County, at our office at 28 Chester Avenue in Coatesville, and through our community-based therapeutic and case management programs which provides services to children and families in schools, in their homes and in community settings.

**Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:** CGRC provides behavioral health assessment and treatment services along with case management services to over 400 children, adolescents, and families each year, many of whom live in underserved communities and face chronic, multi-generational disadvantages.

Annual Budget \$ 2,819,165 Chester County Programs      36 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff  
85 % of budget for program expenses      13 # of Board Volunteers  
14 % of budget for administrative expenses      45 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers  
1 % of budget for fundraising expenses      1500 # of Volunteer Hours  
100 % total

**Top 3-5 funding sources:** CGRC receives fee reimbursement from the state's managed Medicaid system, and county contracts for behavioral health and case management services provided to eligible families. Philanthropic funding from foundations and individuals provides financial stability to offset the negative impact of these inadequate reimbursement rates and enables CGRC to implement special initiatives such as the one described in this request.

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:** CGRC is respectfully requesting \$7,500 to purchase basic essential items of clothing such as socks, shoes, underwear, pants, tops, and school uniforms to prepare our neediest Chester County clients to return to school in September.

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**1. Nonprofit's history, goals, key achievements, and distinctiveness**

Child Guidance Resource Centers (CGRC) has been a premier provider of behavioral health assessment and treatment services for children, adolescents, and their families across Chester County since 2003. At the request of the Chester County Department of Mental Health/IDD, CGRC opened an office in the City of Coatesville to address the mental health and case management needs of an underserved population. Residents of the City of Coatesville and the surrounding areas face entrenched societal problems caused by high unemployment, lack of access to job and skills training, substance misuse, violence, and fractured family structures. These multi-generational issues create anxiety, depression and hopelessness for residents who fear that their lives will never improve, and that their children and grandchildren are destined to repeat these dysfunctional patterns. Children and adolescents face mental anguish from the trauma of exposure to crime, the abandonment or death of parents and a prolonged lack of necessities including safe housing, food, and medical care.

CGRC offers behavioral health assessment and treatment services which address the entire continuum of mental health issues impacting children and their families. These mental health issues create behavioral problems at home, in school and in the community. CGRC's therapeutic programs also work with children struggling with neurodevelopmental issues such as ADHD and Autism helping them develop their behavioral, communication and socialization skills which enables them function more comfortably in a neurotypical world. Our therapists educate parents who do not understand their child's emotional state and behavior while encouraging them to engage in therapy to achieve the best possible therapeutic outcomes for everyone involved. Much of this challenging work involves changing existing communication and behavior patterns between family members by teaching parents skills for effective discipline, setting behavioral expectations and following through on setting limits and consequences. Parents of children with neurodevelopmental issues learn behavior modifications techniques to reinforce techniques used in therapy. All this work can dramatically reduce parents' anxiety caused by not understanding their child's diagnosis and their subsequent feeling of despair and isolation.

CGRC's achievements are reflected in our ability to offer a variety of behavioral health programs along with case management service to address different needs; this also means that when children and families make progress in an intensive therapeutic program, we can refer them to a less intensive therapy at our organization, which continues the existing therapeutic relationship and eliminates the need for parents to begin searching for another healthcare provider. Many of our programs are evidence-based treatment models whose outcomes are data driven and recognized for their effectiveness by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. CGRC's ability to offer both assessment and treatment services assists parents by providing one organization that can address their child's needs and quickly build the type of rapport and trust which is so needed when a family is feeling vulnerable and seeking assistance.

**2. Funding request:**

CGRC operates an active case management program for families in therapy. Our staff members evaluate each family's needs based on a "Social Determinants of Health" model which considers conditions which impact their physical and mental health and subsequent behavior and lifestyle. This includes their economic stability, education and quality health care access, quality neighborhood and built environment and social and community context. Given the extensive needs of so many of our client

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families, our case manager's responsibilities are to connect families with community resources, both public and private, which can alleviate their burdens. Case managers also educate parents on the educational and health programs available for children with special needs and disabilities. Case managers develop a rapport with their client families and work tirelessly to help them reduce their burdens so they can concentrate on ongoing therapy.

With that background, CGRC is respectfully requesting \$7,500 to implement our second annual "Back to School Basic Needs" drive championed by our Chester County case managers. Our case managers work with families in their homes and understand their living conditions and unmet needs. The objective of this fundraising initiative is to purchase essential items which will prepare students to return to school. These are items that many take for granted such as underwear, shoes, socks, and basic clothing. After last year's success we realize that the results of this initiative extend far beyond the actual items delivered. Mothers, grandmothers, foster mothers, and kinship relations experience a huge relief when they realize that this financial and practical burden is relieved from them; children and adolescents are excited to see new items selected just for them to help them start the school year with a positive attitude. Our goal is to eliminate the need for children to wear sneakers which are too small for them or to miss school due to their embarrassment.

Our case managers selected 60 of our neediest children in Chester County, based on the evaluation of their social determinants of health. The majority live in the greater Coatesville area, in single parent households often a grandparent or kinship relation who is on disability or considered the working poor, meaning they have inadequate means to meet their necessities. Our staff met with parents to determine each child's needs which becomes this year's shopping list. CGRC's case management program supervisor Niki Marinelli leads the process to shop, organize and deliver items to each client in advance of the start of the school year.

**3. Why it is important to fund this now**

Based on the success of our effort last year, we are proud to ask for the community's support on behalf of our client families. This initiative is particularly time sensitive because we are trying to raise funds and shop in preparation for the return to school. Our request is simple, please help us fund the effort to provide essential items to prepare children to return to school. No child should face embarrassment or shame due to their ill-fitting sneakers or clothing. CGRC's financial position does not permit us to fund this initiative, yet we are proud to say that many CGRC staff, board members and friends contributed to our effort last year. This shows a true commitment to the families we serve by recognizing how we can help.

**4. How impact and results will be demonstrated**

CGRC will account for all funds donated and used to purchase items. In 2022 we were able to purchase 200 pairs of socks, 170 pairs of underwear, 22 pairs of sneakers, and 70 new clothing outfits for our clients because of the generosity of our neighbors. In total, our effort assisted 35 local children to prepare them to start school knowing that someone cares about their well-being. Based on last year's enthusiastic response and additional needs due to rising inflation, we hope to help 60 children this year.

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Because client's identities are protected under HIPAA, we are not able to share individual stories, but will use all of our social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram) our website [www.cgrc.org](http://www.cgrc.org) and our email database to acknowledge donors and publicize the results of the initiative, just as we did last year. Each donor will receive personal acknowledgement of their donation along with a description of the items purchased.

Certainly, if funding permits us to provide items for additional children, we will make sure to report that as well.