

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 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)-698-8211** 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: 8/22/23

Contact Information

Organization Name: Phoenixville Free Clinic
Address: 143 Church Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460

Phone: 610-935-1134
Website: www.phoenixvillefreeclinic.org
Year Incorporated: 2001
FEIN: 23-3072363

ED/CEO Name: Christi Seidel
ED/CEO E-mail:
cseidel@phoenixvillefreeclinic.org
Board Chair Name: Mark Delowery, DO
Board Chair Approval (check here): X
Primary Contact Name: Shelley Meenan
Primary Contact E-mail:
smeenan@phoenixvillefreeclinic.org

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

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

Mission: The Clinic provides quality healthcare to the uninsured and underserved with dignity and respect.

Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served): Our primary geographic area served is the Greater Phoenixville area in Chester and Montgomery counties.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served: The Clinic served 1,789 uninsured and underserved patients during our 2022-23 fiscal year (6,241 total patient visits).

Annual Budget \$1,574,595 11.25 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
 91 % of budget for program expenses 11 # of Board Volunteers
 5 % of budget for administrative expenses 140+ # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
 4 % of budget for fundraising expenses 19,195 # of Volunteer Hours (2022-23 FY)
100 % total

Top 3-5 funding sources: Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, Independence Blue Cross Foundation, Vanguard Foundation

Is this grant proposal for: Capacity Building or General Operating ?

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$7,500

Proposal Summary: The Clinic requests general operating funding to provide uninsured and underserved patients in Chester County with quality, comprehensive medical care, including primary and specialty care, lab tests, medications, and diagnostic testing.

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

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

History

Founded in 2001, Phoenixville Free Clinic (formerly The Clinic) began as the dream of two women, Dr. Lorna Stuart and The Reverend Marie Swayze, to create a medical center that would provide comprehensive healthcare to people who lacked medical insurance. Dr. Stuart and The Reverend Swayze were able to secure a significant donation to rehabilitate the former Rectory of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, which the church had contributed as a home for Phoenixville Free Clinic. Additional funds were raised through contributions from the community to complete the medical facility, and through donations of time and talent, The Clinic opened its doors in 2002. From that day on, Phoenixville Free Clinic has flourished as a much-needed safety net medical provider for the at-risk community in the Greater Phoenixville area.

In our pursuit of extending support to those in need, we embarked on a strategic planning process, engaging in conversations with our partners, staff, volunteers, and community members. The goal was to gain a better understanding of the community's needs and establish a sustainable path for future growth. Through these discussions, we recognized the importance of reevaluating our branding to enhance awareness and better serve our community. After careful consideration, a new name, Phoenixville Free Clinic, and logo were chosen. Our new name and logo represent the community we are privileged to serve. They signify not only the breadth of our healthcare provisions but also our unwavering resolve to ensure equitable access to exceptional medical care for all.

Goals

Phoenixville Free Clinic's goal for 2023 remains consistent with its mission and goal over its 20+ years of operation – to provide quality, comprehensive healthcare to the medically underserved in an atmosphere that fosters dignity and respect.

Phoenixville Free Clinic is a nonprofit free clinic that provides medical care to uninsured residents in Chester, Montgomery and Delaware counties. In our 20+ year history, we have provided nearly 175,000 patient visits to our most vulnerable neighbors for both acute and chronic health issues. Along with primary care, we provide specialty services such as pediatrics, cardiology, gynecology, podiatry, gastroenterology, orthopedics, allergy, pulmonology, neurology, mental health counseling, and more. All specialty care providers are volunteers. As part of our comprehensive care, patients also receive lab testing, medications, and diagnostic testing and procedures through a partnership with Paoli Hospital.

Key Achievements

During our 2022-23 fiscal year, Phoenixville Free Clinic provided 6,241 patient visits to vulnerable members of our community, serving 1,789 unique, unduplicated patients.

We also provided 1,632 of our patients with 5,622 lab tests, which our providers use to check organ function, monitor the progression of chronic disease, diagnose health issues, and develop treatment plans. Included in this number were in-house lab tests and tests provided to Phoenixville Free Clinic at a discount by LabCorp.

Last year, Phoenixville Free Clinic's patients continued to receive diagnostic tests and consultations – which include MRIs, CT scans, X-rays, ultrasounds, mammograms, and more – through Paoli Hospital's Financial Charity Care Program.

Hispanic/Latino patients make up over half of our patient population. Collaborating closely with local outreach organizations, we proactively identify these patients and encourage them to seek care. Many of these patients have not seen a doctor in years, or even decades. Phoenixville Free Clinic is regarded as a safe place for immigrants in our community, and we accommodate this large segment of our patient population with on-staff and volunteer interpreters. This year we also began offering a "language line" service, which provides medically qualified interpreters available on demand in more than 240 languages, and in effect, more equitable delivery of care.

Women make up nearly 60% of our patient population. In addition to primary care, they are able to access routine and high-risk gynecological care at The Clinic. As part of our comprehensive gynecological care, they receive blood testing, urine testing, and biopsies.

Distinctiveness

Phoenixville Free Clinic is unique in its culture of caring – providing compassionate medical care to underserved members of our community.

Sylvia is one of those individuals. She is a Spanish-speaking patient who recently came to Phoenixville Free Clinic for the first time with severe neck and right arm pain. She had been sent home from two different emergency rooms without any imaging done, because of the cost. At her appointment, she was in tears. Our staff interpreter explained that she was unable to manage her daily activities or live a productive life because of the severity of her pain and the weakness in her right arm. At her initial appointment, we put her on medication for the pain while we worked on getting appropriate imaging and follow-up.

Her MRI revealed a mass that was severely compressing the spinal cord in her neck. When we consulted a neurosurgeon, they explained that this was a rare case that required a unique specialist for surgical treatment and referred us to a neurosurgeon with specialty care at Jefferson Hospital. We immediately sent Sylvia to Jefferson, and she was scheduled for surgery within days.

Sylvia's situation became even more complicated because she is a breast cancer survivor who was incredibly fearful that this mass could be something cancerous. Luckily, the surgeon assured her it was a benign mass, and she will continue to receive her breast cancer screenings and follow-up care through Phoenixville Free Clinic.

Many times, our patients come to us feeling overwhelmed and swept aside by the medical establishment. They feel that there's no way for them to get adequate care because of their lack of insurance and financial insecurity. Our providers attempt to dispel that notion and advocate for our patients, from basic exams to the most complicated medical issues. In Sylvia's case, our team of providers and interpreters worked together and collaborated with outside providers to assure that she received the level of care she needed.

2. Funding request

Description of key initiatives

Along with Phoenixville Free Clinic's comprehensive medical program, which includes primary and specialty care, lab testing, and medications, Phoenixville Free Clinic has several other key initiatives to foster positive patient outcomes.

In 2023, we embarked on a new initiative, the Phoenixville Free Clinic Behavioral Health Program, which provides comprehensive individual mental health services and group counseling to uninsured individuals at both Phoenixville Free Clinic's main facility and multiple satellite locations. So far, we have two collaborative

partnerships with local area non-profits for this initiative. We have chosen these locations to increase accessibility to these services since they are already utilized by our at-risk patient population. A bilingual, full-time staff Licensed Clinical Social Worker leads this program, and we are in the process of hiring a part-time behavioral health staff member as well.

Phoenixville Free Clinic's flu shot program, which provides flu vaccines to the community at no cost, has become an integral service in the area through a partnership with the Chester County Health Department. The program is part of a state initiative to provide surveillance for flu and flu-like illnesses during flu season. During the pandemic, we altered the program to offer the vaccines in a drive-up clinic.

Phoenixville Free Clinic's partnership with the Chester County Food Bank helps to increase positive health outcomes in our patients through diet and lifestyle changes. Since 2017, Phoenixville Free Clinic has participated in its Healthy Rx program; as part of this program, our doctors write "prescriptions" for patients to be used for local, organic fruits and vegetables at the CCFB's Fresh2You mobile market.

This year, we will also implement our EMR (electronic medical records) system. The primary objective of this migration is to enhance patient outcomes and bolster organizational capacity and resources through an in-depth analysis of current patient outcomes and trends. By adopting the EMR system, we aim to elevate the quality of patient data which will allow significant advancements in patient care. The EMR system will facilitate more efficient access to patient information, allowing healthcare professionals to make informed decisions promptly. This, in turn, will result in better patient outcomes and an overall improvement in the healthcare services we provide. Additionally, the adoption of the EMR system will streamline administrative processes, reduce paperwork, and free up resources that can be directed towards enhancing patient care and support services.

Specific needs and issues to be addressed

In Phoenixville Borough where the Phoenixville Free Clinic is located, 7% of residents are uninsured, and 13% are living in poverty (census.gov). Many of our patients work jobs (sometimes more than one) that do not offer health benefits. These individuals, often making minimum wage, struggle to pay for housing and other basic essentials, and have nothing left over at the end of the month to pay for healthcare.

Since many patients delay medical care because of their inability to pay, patients seen by our providers often have multiple medical issues and require care from multiple specialists, in addition to primary care. This can present challenges with regard to the delivery of comprehensive care, and our ability to provide our patients with specialty care and ancillary services like lab testing and medications is critical.

Other barriers to care include mental health and addiction issues, lack of social and family support, and limited transportation. Our providers refer patients to complementary organizations and programs to address social issues that can affect overall health, and patients also have access to mental health counselors. As mentioned previously, our mental and behavioral healthcare initiative has expanded this year.

Why it is important to fund this now

Phoenixville Free Clinic's patients are served thanks to the generosity of foundations, corporations, community organizations, and individual donors, without whom Phoenixville Free would not exist. In the absence of federal funding, Phoenixville Free Clinic and its mission rely entirely on donations from compassionate individuals and organizations.

How impact and results will be demonstrated

In FY 2023-24, Phoenixville Free Clinic expects to achieve the following organizational outcomes:

- Provide 6,000-7,000 patient visits to uninsured members of the community. This will involve providing initial and follow-up primary medical care, along with ancillary services, to approximately 2,000 unduplicated patients.
- Perform 5,000-6,000 laboratory tests to aid in patient diagnosis and the development of treatment plans.
- Provide necessary medications to patients, or if required medications are unavailable in-house, provide patients with the resources to acquire medications.
- Continue our relationship with Paoli Hospital to provide diagnostic tests, procedures, and consultations to our patients.
- The new Phoenixville Free Clinic Behavioral Health Program will increase access to behavioral health services for those in need in the community. Participants of the program can expect improved mental health outcomes, including reduced symptoms, better-coping skills, and enhanced overall quality of life.

