

I. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

One page only. This page will be shared electronically with Grant Panel Members & Fund Advisors..
To obtain an electronic version of this application, visit www.chescocf.org

Date: 8/27/2023

Contact Information

Org Name: Chenoa Manor Animal Sanctuary & Learning Center **ED/CEO Name:** Roberto Teti, DVM
Address: 733 Glen Willow Rd, Avondale, PA 19311 **ED/CEO E-mail:** hello@chenoamanor.org
Phone: 717-580-1952 **Board Chair Name:** Jocelyn Trapani
Website: www.chenoamanor.org **Board Chair Approval (check here):** X
Year Incorporated: 2005 **Primary Contact Name:** Christiane Moore
FEIN: 41-2076432 **Prim. Email:** christiane@paperpetual.com

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

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

Mission: To provide lifetime sanctuary to farm and exotic animals with nowhere else to turn, while giving teens the opportunity to build empathy and respect for themselves and others through nurturing these animals.

Geographic Area Served: The greater Philadelphia and Wilmington areas, including Chester County

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served: We provide a permanent home to 250 formerly unwanted, neglected and abused animals, including pigs, cows, horses, goats, chickens, parrots and more. Our Learning Center offers youth programs that serve an average of 100-150 young people annually through retreats, clubs and other hands-on service programs. We are also currently in the process of partnering with the Delaware Division of Family Services to open a Congregate Care Home for teen boys in the foster care system.

Annual Budget \$178,000

75 % of budget for program expenses
24 % of budget for administrative expenses
1 % of budget for fundraising expenses
100 % total

0 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
17 # of Board Volunteers
10 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
75 hrs/wk # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Our top funding source is individual donations, which make up 75% of our yearly budget. We also rely on yearly contributions from The Burket-Plack Foundation and the Brooks Family Foundation.

Is this grant proposal for: General Operating

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

Proposal Summary: Chenoa Manor is an Animal Sanctuary & Learning Center focused on supporting animals and youth in need. We offer lifetime home and individualized care for unwanted, abused and neglected farm and exotic animals, regardless of behavioral issues or special needs. Our farm is also a safe and welcoming environment where struggling teens can thrive, and we provide educational opportunities for youth to learn about and interact with animals and nature, helping them to develop important soft and vocational competency including empathy, compassion, communication, and leadership skills.

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

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

Our History & Mission:

Founded in 2005 by veterinarian Roberto Teti, Chenoa Manor has served our community as an Animal Sanctuary & Learning Center for almost 20 years. Located in Avondale, PA, our peaceable kingdom is a place where animals in need can live free from the threat of abuse and slaughter and teenagers can find serenity and meaning through caring for those animals. Our mission is two-fold: to offer farm and exotic animals lifetime sanctuary from situations where they have no alternative placement, and to nurture and empower youth through educational programs that promote nature connectedness, empathy, communication and confidence. It is our hope that we are not only able to offer a permanent safe space for animals in need, but that our programming helps to instill a sense of compassion and respect towards the earth and those who share it, including one another.

As a 100% volunteer-run organization, we've leveraged the power of our community to make a difference in the lives of countless animals and humans. Our general operating budget supports the following primary activities:

Space and Care for Animal Residents:

As a permanent Animal Sanctuary, we provide a safe living environment for about 250 unwanted and neglected animals. We accept a wide variety of species in need, with mammals (including horses, cows, donkeys, sheep, goats, pigs and rabbits), birds (including chickens, ducks, geese, peafowl, pigeons and parrots), and reptiles (including tortoises, turtles, lizards and snakes). Potential new animal intakes are evaluated based on level of need as well as space available, and our focus is on accepting animals who have no alternative placement, have behavioral or health issues, and/or require hospice care. New residents accepted each year averages around 15-50 animals, most rescued from factory farming, threat of slaughter, homelessness, neglect and/or abuse.

Our 25-acre farm and environmentally-focused pasture management provides a healthy, natural space for the animals, optimizing forage management and pasture growth. Larger livestock animals are rotated throughout six pastures, and those that require protective shelter or specialized medical care are given space in a historic 2000 square foot barn, as well as a number of smaller free-standing enclosures situated on the sanctuary grounds. Daily care is provided, including feeding, watering, grooming, enrichment activities and medical care. Most importantly, when animals find their way to Chenoa, they are given a forever home and space to be themselves. Abused animals go from being scared and shy to nosey and outgoing, but we also make space for animals that have lasting behavioral quirks who will always be more comfortable with limited human contact.

We are accredited with the [American Sanctuary Association](#), a national organization that assures humane and compassionate care for animals in need by setting standards for their care, accrediting sanctuaries that meet these standards and assisting in the rescue and placement of homeless animals.

Environmental Efforts:

As an organization focused on restoring the connection between humans and nature, providing eco-conscious land stewardship is incredibly important to us. Through on-site horticulture, we work to maintain and support a healthy ecosystem by cultivating pollinator-friendly native gardens, as well as edible crops including herbs, fruits and vegetables. Produce grown on-site not only supplements our animal residents' diets, but is also sold to local restaurants active in the farm-to-table movement.

We have also partnered with the USDA to mitigate the environmental impact of housing farm animals through strategic shrub and tree plantings within the White Clay Creek riparian buffer. This ten-year project has been

overseen by the Stroud Water Research Center, and includes yearly maintenance and supplemental plantings (in 2023, we planted 250 additional seedlings). By 2025, we plan to continue maximizing our sustainability efforts by completing additional pasture subdivisions and adding designated manure stacking pads.

Youth Programming:

Chenoa Manor's Learning Center focuses on youth programming, providing a safe environment where teens can thrive and tap into their inherent connection with the natural world. Our programs are both therapeutic and vocational in nature, guiding participants to better understand themselves and others through learning about and interacting with our animal residents. Animal therapy has been found to increase individuals' aptitudes for care, compassion and confidence, and in addition to anecdotal success former CEO of Youth Services Agency Roger Dawson said, "In 50 years of operating over 20 programs serving 150,000 at-risk kids from 3 states including DE, animal care therapy is the most effective therapy I have ever seen." Similarly, hands-on vocational activities provide youth with job skills and work experience that help prepare them for the future, with a focus on soft skills like communication and cooperation in an open, understanding environment.

We serve an average of 100-150 young people annually through programs that include Alternative Spring Break retreats, internships for high school and university students, day camps for children with special needs, mentoring, individual volunteer opportunities, group service days and art lessons.

An Exciting Future:

While providing unique day programs for youth has long been a part of our mission and practice, we are currently working to partner with the State of Delaware to develop a Congregate Group Home that will help teens in need through residential, therapeutic, educational and vocational services, all in a safe and supportive environment that nurtures connections with the community, animals and nature. This new program will focus on youth whose needs require more treatment, structure and supervision than family foster care can provide. We plan to take a structured, holistic approach, not only offering youth residents a safe and nurturing living environment with an emphasis on trauma-informed care, but also providing them with individualized mental health case management, educational support, community engagement, and ground-breaking therapeutic and vocational activities centered around our Animal Sanctuary. We have been awarded a contract with the State of Delaware, and are currently working to negotiate and finalize an expanded budget and strategic plan for 2024 and beyond.

2. Funding request

We are requesting a grant in the amount of \$7500 in support of our operational budget.

Key Initiatives:

- Animal Sanctuary - Providing ongoing care for 250+ farm and exotic animals
- Youth Learning Center - Providing therapeutic and educational day programs for 100-150 youth annually
- Congregate Care Group Home - Working to develop a residential program that will provide housing as well as educational, therapeutic and vocational support for teen boys in the foster care system

Needs & Issues:

- Hay and Feed Costs - Providing lifetime care for animals is expensive, and the bulk of our operating budget is allocated to food costs.
- Maintenance Support - Exposed to the elements and at the mercy of increasing severe weather conditions, we are in need of additional budget support to help fund routine maintenance of our grounds, including fence and structure repairs, mowing, plumbing and HVAC servicing.
- Animal Care - While we are currently 100% volunteer-run, we do employ part-time contractors to help with supplemental animal care. We are in need of budget support for contract service providers including a Ferrier, Horse Groomer, and Farm Hand.

Why it is important to fund Chenoa now:

Helping animals in need doesn't stop at removing them from tough situations - it takes a tremendous amount of ongoing resources and support to provide lifetime nourishment and care for animals that are difficult to place. At Chenoa, we accept only the toughest cases, working with other accredited sanctuaries, humane officers and shelters to place animals who would otherwise be euthanized or slaughtered. These animals come to us from a variety of tragic backgrounds, including abandonment, cruelty cases and hoarding situations. Here, residents find a place that truly accepts them for who they are, giving them the space and holistic care to thrive. We meet animals where they are, without expectation.

With our current primary function as an animal sanctuary, about 90% of our operational budget goes directly to feeding and housing these animal residents. As the economy has struggled, prices for supplies and services have increased while individual giving has slowed. We are in need of additional community support to be able to continue caring for the animals who call Chenoa Manor home, as well as to enable us to continue helping more of the countless animals desperately in need. Hay costs alone add up to about \$1000/week, and these needs only increase during the winter months when animals are unable to graze.

In addition to ever-increasing costs, we are currently working on developing a strategic plan for expanding our services to include a residential Congregate Care Group Home for teen boys struggling in the foster care system. We believe that widening our focus will not only allow us to provide youth in need with innovative, ground-breaking services, but that it will also allow us to create a more sustainable organization overall that will continue providing for our community's animals and youth for years to come. It takes a tremendous amount of time and dedication to create a program like this, and while our administrative efforts are focused on this development we are in need of fundraising support more than ever.

How impact & results will be demonstrated:

A general operating grant will first and foremost directly impact our animal residents, ensuring their continued housing and care. We will routinely share these animals' photos, names and origin stories on our website and social media accounts, and will create additional posts highlighting how foundation grants allow us to make a difference in their lives. With this additional financial support we will also continue to review and accept new animal residents on the basis of need, ensuring we keep a target of 250 animal residents (varying by individual species thresholds).

We will also be producing an Annual Report at the end of 2023, highlighting our achievements and outlining our plans (including opening our Congregate Care Group Home) for the upcoming year. This report will be shared with both funders and publicly to community members.

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.

- Use this form @ www.chescof.org to apply online for grants from all Community Foundation Funds.
- **Email proposals to grants@chescof.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 grants@chescof.org with questions.



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