

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

Contact Information

Organization Name:

Young Moms

Address:

111 Marshall Street
PO Box 376
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Phone:

855-YNG-MOMS

Website:

youngmomschestercounty.org

Year Incorporated:

2016

FEIN:

47-5319831

ED/CEO Name:

Mary Hewes

ED/CEO E-mail:

mary.hewes@youngmomscommunity.com

Board Chair Name:

Kristen Weidenmuller

Board Chair Approval (check here):

Primary Contact Name:

Mary Hewes

Primary Contact E-mail:

mary.hewes@youngmomscommunity.com

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

Arts, Culture & Humanities

Environment/Animal Welfare

Education

Health

Human Services

Religion

Mission: YoungMoms equips pregnant and parenting young women with the support, resources, and skills needed to overcome obstacles, minimize social inequities, and build a strong foundation for their families.

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

Southern Chester County

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:

YoungMoms serves pregnant and parenting young women who enter the program between the ages of 13 and 21 years old, many who face significant cultural, socioeconomic, and relational challenges as they navigate adolescence and parenting simultaneously. YoungMoms participants are a diverse group (currently 100% Latina) who are dealing with a myriad of issues including single parenthood, poverty, domestic violence, isolation, incomplete education, language barriers, depression, and a general lack of options and opportunities.

In addition to the individual challenges facing the young women in the program, teen mothers in general are a significantly high-risk population. Teen mothers are more likely to drop out of school, with only one-third of them obtaining a high school diploma. In addition, teen mothers are much more likely to live in poverty than their non-parenting peers, with 80% relying on welfare within the first few years

of giving birth. Teenage mothers are more likely to experience depression, substance abuse, and dysfunctional or abusive relationships than their non-parenting peers. Finally, the children of teen mothers are more likely to receive inadequate prenatal care, be born prematurely, face significant physical and developmental delays, do poorly in school, be at risk for child abuse, and live in poverty than those born to adult mothers. Due to the scope of the problems that face teen mothers, they require a greater investment of resources and individual support than can be provided by schools or other youth-serving organizations.

There is no similarly individualized and comprehensive support program in our area that provides our organization’s combination of case management support, life skills instruction, one-to-one mentoring, and community-building activities. We work extensively with other agencies that address needs outside of our service specialties to ensure that there is no duplication of services. We have strong working partnerships with numerous community organizations and school districts and refer participants to Chester County Nurse Family Partnership, LCH, The Peacemaker Center, Family Promise, KACS, Wings for Success, MCHC, Domestic Violence Center, Crime Victims Center, and other relevant service entities. They likewise refer clients to YoungMoms as needed.

Young women can remain in the program up to four years, allowing us to assist them in overcoming obstacles which might normally derail their progress in achieving goals. This long-term investment in the life of a young woman is what makes our program uniquely effective. Not only are their own lives impacted for the better, but the lives of their children are as well. Each child gains an improved quality of life as they are connected with educational opportunities and medical support while their mothers gain parenting and additional life skills, access to education, and employment opportunities. Each of these steps empower them to build a more stable life for themselves and their children.

In 2022 we served 68 young moms and their 75 children.

Annual Budget \$ <u>460,106</u>	<u>3</u>	# of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
<u>84</u> % of budget for program expenses	<u>7</u>	# of Board Volunteers
<u>10</u> % of budget for administrative expenses	<u>70</u>	# of Active Non-Board Volunteers
<u>6</u> % of budget for fundraising expenses	<u>1,100</u>	# of Volunteer Hours
<i>100 % total</i>		

Top 3-5 funding sources:

- The County of Chester, PA – ARPA Funding
- Nelson Foundation
- United Way of SCC
- Hamilton Foundation
- Justamere Foundation
- Philadelphia Foundation

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

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

 Mission, Vision & Strategy Governance & Leadership Partnerships & Collaborations
x Fundraising, Development & Marketing Technology Other: _____

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$5,000 _____

Proposal Summary: We are respectfully requesting funds to assist with the hiring of an external consultant for grant research. The primary objectives for the consultant will be to:

Research grants

Identifying foundations and funders who align with our mission. Reviewing grant restrictions, qualifications, and special requirements for applying. 8 hours monthly (\$480)

Develop grant library template

Creating a repository of all the organization details and the key blocks of content that may be needed when applying for a grant. 5 hours total (\$300)

Maintain grant calendar

Creating and updating an ongoing grant calendar ensuring new items are added, existing items are updated. 2 hours monthly (\$120)

Write grants

Preparing initial drafts of grant applications as needed for review by Executive Director. 4 hours monthly (\$240)

Projected Annual Cost - \$10,080

**II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE**

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

Nonprofit’s history, goals, key achievements & distinctiveness: YoungMoms is a comprehensive support program that provides the academic, employment, relational, and parenting support pregnant and parenting young women need to improve their lives and those of their children. YoungMoms started in 2010 as a program of The Garage Community and Youth Center, and now operates as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Over the last 13 years, YoungMoms has helped over 240 teen moms stay in high school, pursue college education, gain parenting skills, and connect with resources. YoungMoms provides the academic, employment, relational, and parenting support pregnant and parenting young women need to improve their lives and those of their children. Our individualized approach allows us to identify and address the individual needs and unique combination of challenges faced by each participant. Our comprehensive program empowers participants to take control of their lives and equips them with new skills to face circumstances and overcome obstacles.

Funding request: Description of key initiatives: We accomplish our mission through a combination of highly specialized case management, one-to-one mentoring, and monthly workshops with life skills training. Our team of case managers works with each young mom to develop short and long-term goals, create a plan to achieve them, and connect them with area resources to support their families. We provide our clients with educational and vocational assistance, parenting education, and personal development tools. Our program is designed around the following overarching goals and objectives:

1. Case Management / Goal Setting – Eight Dimensions of Wellness

Case managers meet with clients to assess needs, situations, strengths, and support networks. Clients are helped to articulate goals focused on the Eight Dimensions of Wellness Model which is a model taken from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Its evidence-based model recognizes the importance and interconnection of an individual's holistic well-being. This model allows comprehensive and individualized support to help clients overcome obstacles that interfere with wellness in these eight areas (dimension (example)):

- Educational (complete high school)
- Parental (ensure proper medical and dental care for your child)
- Physical (access proper nutrition through sources such as the Women, Infants, Children (WIC) program)
- Relational (build meaning connections with peers in similar life circumstances through YoungMoms events and programming)
- Spiritual (take time each day to mediate or reflect on spirituality)
- Emotional (connect to local counseling services for mental health support)
- Occupational/Financial (gain job search, resume writing, and interviewing skills)
- Environmental (find secure, stable, and affordable housing and create a child-safe home)

Working one-on-one with their case manager, each client creates a plan to achieve their goals and are then connected to appropriate community resources. Detailed records of client interactions are maintained in the YoungMoms cloud-based database.

2. Life Skills Training (also referred to as Club Nights)

Teen moms are in the unique position of continuing to develop as adolescents while being responsible for the development of their young children. Staff and mentors provide ongoing life skills instruction in areas such as healthy relationships, nutrition, financial responsibility, and budgeting. We teach our young moms effective communication, conflict resolution, decision-making and time management skills. Parenting instruction and encouragement are provided in areas such as child developmental milestones, discipline, play, and raising a bilingual child. YoungMoms uses the evidenced-based Parents as Teachers "Partnering with Teen Parents" curriculum as the basis for our parenting support. We provide sexual health and reproduction educational materials and connect participants to resources in the community that can provide medical and dental care.

3. Community & Relationship Building

One of the primary challenges facing young mothers is isolation from peers and from the community at large – a leading cause of depression and substance abuse. YoungMoms holds monthly dinners and workshops where teen moms have an opportunity to develop relationships with peers in similar life circumstances and with positive adult role models. Many of our young moms are matched to a trained volunteer mentor who offers practical help and encouragement.

Specific needs & issues to be addressed: Historically, our clients were primarily from North America (Mexico and the US). While these clients faced their own challenges, our newer clients are in greater need and require more attention and more connections to resources. Our organization has served a rapidly increasing number of clients (over 80%) who have emigrated from Central America, often from countries with extreme political and economic instability. Typically, these young women are tremendously high-risk and high need. A large majority of our clients come from backgrounds of trauma and poverty, who often do not speak Spanish or English proficiently (those from Guatemala speak native

dialects and have limited Spanish-speaking abilities), and some have never completed their elementary education or are pregnant as a result of sexual assault. Often these young women come with very limited, if any, local family support. As a result, our case managers must work much more intensively and require larger financial investment to overcome these challenges and connect these young women to the resources they need to achieve life stability for themselves and their children as they establish roots in our community. YoungMoms provides young women the opportunity to reach their goals as both young parents and young women, believing every woman deserves the chance to achieve their dreams.

Why it is important to fund this now: This grant would allow us to fund the specialized skillset of a grant researcher and writer consultant to help us grow our network of donors. YoungMoms' client base has grown tremendously over the past several years which has generated an increased need for additional staff, volunteers, resources, and revenue to effectively accomplish the organization's mission. We are seeking to identify new funding sources and build strong relations with foundations and government agencies for organizational growth and sustainability.

Funding for a grant writing consultant will ultimately help us deliver our comprehensive financial, educational, and parental support for an increasing client caseload and meet the extensive needs of our changing client demographics. Without it, it will become more challenging to maintain our current level of client growth and commitment.

How impact & results will be demonstrated: A Grant Consultant will enable YoungMoms to continue to articulate our strategy to best serve constituents and continue a sustainable trajectory of expansion. Local schools, governments, citizens, and organizations rely on YoungMoms to guide their pregnant and parenting teens to financial independence, healthy family lives, and vibrant participation in the community. With close to 70 young mothers, and their 70+ children accessing services each year, YoungMoms recognizes that fundraising, development, and marketing is imperative for continued growth and success. As YoungMoms participants are empowered to set and achieve their goals they can alleviate reliance on public assistance and welfare programs, enabling them to contribute more positively to the workforce and our community. In addition to the impact the program is making on the young moms, it has ripple effects on our client's children who gain an improved quality of life as their mothers increase employability, gain education, enhance life skills, receive mental health services, and develop confidence as women and mothers. YoungMoms has become an essential resource that brings a sense of confidence and optimism to young mothers and empowers them to break the underlying cycles of poverty, abuse, and low self-esteem that often influence teen pregnancy.

How will this capacity building initiative impact your nonprofit? A Grant Consultant will provide the necessary research to identify foundations and funders who align with our mission. They will create a repository of our organization's story and the key blocks of content that may be needed when applying for a grant. They will create and maintain an ongoing grant calendar to ensure deadlines are met and reports are filed in a timely fashion. They will also assist with preparing the first draft of grant applications. Additionally, this project will outline a plan for YoungMoms to ensure its financial sustainability and increase its capacity to ensure all young mothers in Southern Chester County have access to the resources needed to reach their academic, vocational, relational, and parenting potential.

We anticipate that the Grant Consultant would result in enhancing and developing funding relationships and improve our communication and timeliness with grant requests.

How will this impact be measured? We will monitor the approval rate of grant applications submitted as well as increase the overall number of applications submitted. We will monitor the timeliness of applications and reports and ensure all deadlines are met.

Include external consultant proposals if applicable: Please see attached proposal from Wendy Kershner.

Description of expected activities:

- Select a Grant consultant.
- Share organization's mission, vision, equity statement and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Share strategic plan.
- Develop grant library template.
- Develop grant calendar.
- Research new funding opportunities
- Prepare customized grant content and submit applications to funders.

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.*