

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 9/11/23

Contact Information

Organization Name: Philabundance

Address: 3616 S. Galloway Street Philadelphia, PA 19148

Phone: 215-339-0900

Website: philabundance.org

Year Incorporated: 1984

FEIN: 23-2290505

ED/CEO Name: Loree Jones Brown

ED/CEO E-mail: ljones@philabundance.org

Board Chair Name: John Holloway

Board Chair Approval (check here):

Primary Contact Name: Samantha Kirk

Primary Contact E-mail: grants@philabundance.org

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

Arts, Culture & Humanities

Environment/Animal Welfare

Education

Health

Human Services

Religion

Mission: Philabundance's mission is to drive hunger from our communities today and to end hunger for good.

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

Philabundance serves 5 counties in Pennsylvania: Bucks, Chester, County, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia; and 4 in NJ: Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Salem.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:

According to research from Feeding America, nearly 600,000 people in our service area are food insecure.

Philabundance serves 135,000 people per week by distributing food through our community partners. Utilizing research from Feeding America, we estimate that 63% of the neighbors our organization serves are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, or people of color), 30% are children, 16% are seniors, and 54% are adults.

Annual Budget \$ 75,085,692

147 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff

90 % of budget for program expenses

25 # of Board Volunteers

5 % of budget for administrative expenses

3,359 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers

5 % of budget for fundraising expenses

33,488 # of Volunteer Hours

100 % total

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Feeding America, The Energy Transfer/Sonoco Foundation, Rite Aid Healthy Futures

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: Philabundance respectfully requests \$5,000 of general operating support from the Chester County Community Foundation. Your contribution will support costs associated with Philabundance's hunger relief operations in the county, such as weekly food distributions, children's hunger relief programs, meal delivery programs for seniors and medically vulnerable populations, and job training and meal production at our Philabundance Community Kitchen.

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

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

Philabundance was founded in 1984 by an idealist named Pamela Rainey Lawler who saw perfectly good food going to waste, and, at the same time, saw people going hungry. In January 2005, to better meet the growing demand to supply nutritious food to those in need, Philabundance merged with the Greater Philadelphia Food Bank to become the region's largest hunger relief organization. What started out as a small food rescue organization operating out of a Subaru, almost 40 years later, is an innovative, impactful, and collaborative organization distributing millions of pounds of food a year to those in need.

Philabundance's mission is to drive hunger from our communities today and to end hunger for good. In addition to food distribution, we reduce food waste, increase access to nutritious meals, and tackle the root causes of hunger through programs such as the Philabundance Community Kitchen. Philabundance directly serves over 300 community focused organizations and provides additional food resources through lead agencies that reach another 300 partners. In FY23, we distributed nearly 50 million pounds of food through a variety of distribution programs, including our Fresh Produce Program, Senior Programs, and Child and Family Feeding Programs.

2. Funding request

• Description of key initiatives

Philabundance respectfully requests \$5,000 of general operating support from the Chester County Community Foundation to support activities advancing our mission to relieve hunger now and end hunger for good. Philabundance meets the need for charitable food support through the following programs and partnerships:

Philabundance Food Sourcing

By blending our strategic food purchasing efforts with food from donated and rescued source streams, we respond efficiently and impactfully to the enormous need for food distribution in our communities. We rescue and redistribute food through a range of programs, including Grocers Against Hunger, which recovers food at participating grocery stores, and our Emerging Retail program, which recovers food from non-traditional food donors, such as Starbucks, Amazon, and the Reading Terminal Market.

Food Distribution

Our food sourcing and distribution activities are guided by our Good Food Policy, which outlines our commitment to distribute food to our neighbors in need that is nutritious, accessible, culturally responsive, and equitably sourced. Philabundance utilizes the Healthy Eating Research guidelines, developed by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to measure and track the nutritional value of the food we distribute. In FY23, we distributed nearly 50 million pounds of food through a variety of distribution programs.

Fresh Produce Program

Through our Fresh Produce Program, we enable member agencies (the food pantries, community centers, and other organizations to which we distribute food) to easily distribute produce on a weekly basis in low-income

neighborhoods that lack access to nutritious products. Each location operates much like a farmer's market, setting up at the same place and the same time every week.

Child and Family Feeding Programs

Our child and family feeding programs provide access to nutritious, easy-to-prepare food when school meal options are not available. Our offerings for food insecure children include produce distributions, school pantries, intersession meal programs, and other healthy meal distribution initiatives.

Senior Programming

PA Senior Food Boxes provide approximately 30 pounds of pantry staples and cheese for 3,400 vulnerable seniors each month. We also partner with regional health providers to deliver nutritionally complete meals to eligible seniors, as part of our work to positively impact the social determinants of health (SDoH) in our community.

Philabundance Community Kitchen

PCK prepares low-income adults to confidently enter the workforce and retain employment through professional culinary arts training, life skills development, and ongoing support for two years after graduation. Since its inception in 2000, PCK has maintained an 80% overall job placement rate for graduates and a 73% two-year employment retention rate for graduates. In the last three years, the average starting wage of PCK graduates has risen to \$15.02/hr., more than double the state's \$7.25/hr. minimum wage.

Beyond Food: Advocacy, Equity, and Healthy Communities

Our work in the community begins with food, but it doesn't end there. By pairing food with interventions provided by other community organizations, health care partners, and government, we are working to mitigate related social challenges, address the root causes of poverty, increase stability and lower food insecurity in the communities we serve.

• Specific needs & issues to be addressed

Nearly 500,000 individuals in our 9-county service area are food insecure, including nearly 30,000 in Chester County. Of the people Philabundance serves, 63% are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, or people of color), 30% are children, 16% are seniors, and 54% are adults. Philabundance addresses this need by distributing food that is nutritious, accessible, culturally responsive, and equitably sourced to our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. Support from the Chester County Community Foundation would allow us to purchase the foods our communities request and implement targeted programs serving children, seniors, and other vulnerable populations.

• Why it is important to fund this now

Over the past year, Philabundance has observed that the need for hunger relief services in the Greater Philadelphia region, including Chester County, has not disappeared in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. To meet the need for hunger relief in our region, our organization distributes food to an estimated 135,000 people in need each week through our various hunger relief initiatives, including programs tailored for children and seniors, programs that provide fresh produce and high-quality meals created in our Philabundance Community Kitchen, and meal delivery partnerships with healthcare organizations. In FY23, Philabundance distributed 3,038,739 pounds of food to our 15 community partner agencies in Chester County.

Price increases due to ongoing inflation, supply chain issues, and other global events that have made food more expensive and difficult to source. Last year, Feeding America reported that food banks were paying 40%

more for food purchase and nearly 20% more for transportation resources compared to previous years. These price increases also impacted the people we serve, since research from Feeding America indicated that the average American family paid 10% more for food at the grocery store.

Philabundance is also navigating dramatic reductions in government support in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our organization received large amounts of food donated by the federal government during COVID-19, but these emergency offerings are now no longer available. Additionally, the people we serve who rely on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) are now receiving reduced benefits, due to the expiration earlier this year of emergency allotments that were available during the pandemic. Our organization has increased our nonpartisan advocacy efforts to address these challenges by encouraging legislators to prioritize the needs of the people we serve, which include our recent efforts to advocate for SNAP support and other benefits through the Farm Bill legislative process.

In the context of these ongoing economic challenges, Philabundance's hunger relief programs remain essential for the individuals and families we serve in our region.

• **How impact & results will be demonstrated**

Philabundance regularly analyzes data from a variety of sources to ensure that we are serving areas where the need is greatest and the resources are fewest. We utilize data from Feeding America's national Map the Meal Gap study to determine areas of greatest need and target our distributions in those areas. Our fresh produce locations are chosen by mapping Census data, food insecurity rates, and existing services, and our Backpack program only distributes food in schools where 100% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

Philabundance measures the impact of our food distribution efforts by calculating the number of pounds we distribute, which we track using our inventory management system and data warehousing. Philabundance also utilizes the Healthy Eating Research guidelines, developed by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to measure and track the nutritional value of the food we distribute.

The Philabundance Community Kitchen measures impact by tracking the following outcomes that predict students' success in the workplace and the community: enrollment, graduation rate, employment rate, wages at various time intervals, wage increases, and reduction of reliance on public benefits. In FY23 PCK maintained a 56% graduation rate, an 86% employment rate, and an average starting salary of \$15.14/hr.

In order to reduce stigma and barriers to participation, Philabundance does not require clients to provide personal data to access the majority of our programs. However, our organization recognizes the importance of data tracking and we have implemented Agency Questionnaire functionality for our member agencies to increase client demographic data, following recommendations from Feeding America. We are also facilitating a pilot project as part of our implementation of the Feeding America Client Survey (FACS), which will collect anonymized data from a representative group of our community partners. An additional evaluation method Philabundance is in the process of implementing is Service Insights, which will allow our community partners to switch to paperless intake methods to better track the individuals and households that our organization serves each week.