

## 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.

### Nonprofits can submit proposals for 2 types of grants:

Field of Interest & Donor Advised Funds (No Deadline)	Fund for Chester County Capacity Building Grants (Due 9/15)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Grants <b>focus on Chester County</b> causes &amp; issues, but are not limited to Chester County.</li> <li>◇ Charitable nonprofits working <b>in all fields of interest</b> are considered for grant awards.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- arts, culture &amp; heritage</li> <li>- community improvement</li> <li>- education</li> <li>- environment</li> <li>- health</li> <li>- human services</li> <li>- religion</li> </ul> </li> <li>◇ <b>General operating</b> grants are encouraged. Nonprofits should be specific about their mission, goals, &amp; measurable outcomes.</li> <li>◇ Proposals can be submitted <b>anytime all year</b>.</li> <li>◇ Grant decisions are made <b>intermittently</b> all year, as Fund Advisors desire.</li> <li>◇ Grant <b>awards</b> typically range from <b>\$500-\$7,500</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ For eligibility in this grant program, nonprofits must be <b>located in &amp; serve Chester County</b>.</li> <li>◇ Nonprofits <b>budgets</b> must be <b>\$500,000 or less</b>.</li> <li>◇ The goal of capacity building grantmaking is to <b>strengthen the effectiveness of NPO's serving the Chester County region</b>, in areas including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mission, Vision &amp; Strategy</li> <li>○ Governance &amp; Leadership</li> <li>○ Partnerships &amp; Collaborations</li> <li>○ Operations &amp; Technology</li> <li>○ Fundraising, Development &amp; Marketing</li> </ul> </li> <li>◇ Proposals must be submitted by <b>September 15</b> to be eligible for consideration.</li> <li>◇ Grant <b>awards</b> typically range from <b>\$500-\$5,000</b>, with monies distributed by <b>February</b>.</li> </ul>

- Use this form @ [www.chescocf.org](http://www.chescocf.org) to apply online for grants from all Community Foundation Funds.
- **Email proposals to [grants@chescocf.org](mailto: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)-696-8211** or [grants@chescocf.org](mailto: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](http://www.chescocf.org)*

**Date: 3/27/24**

## Contact Information

Health Care Access (HCA)  
100 First Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
PO Box 591  
Phoenixville, PA 19460  
610-935-3165  
[www.hcaphoenixville.org](http://www.hcaphoenixville.org)  
Incorporated in 2005  
FEIN: 20-2556121

ED/CEO Name: Renae Bierer  
ED/CEO E-mail: [rbierer@hcaphoenixville.org](mailto:rbierer@hcaphoenixville.org)  
Board Chair Name: Dr. Andrew Timar  
Board Chair Approval (check here):   
Primary Contact Name: Renae Bierer  
Primary Contact E-mail:  
[rbierer@hcaphoenixville.org](mailto:rbierer@hcaphoenixville.org)

## Organization Information:

### Field/s of Interest:

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

**Mission:** Our mission is to improve the health and quality of life in the Greater Phoenixville area by helping the uninsured and **underinsured overcome** financial and cultural barriers in obtaining specialized health care services.

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

HCA service area includes 19 townships and boroughs surrounding Phoenixville. In Chester County we serve Charlestown Twp, Phoenixville Borough, East Coventry Twp, Schuylkill Twp, East Nantmeal Twp, East Pikeland Twp, South Coventry Twp, East Vincent Twp, West Pikeland Twp, North Coventry Twp, West Vincent Twp and Spring City Borough.

**Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:** HCA serves the underserved of the community, those who cannot afford to pay and would otherwise go without the care. Our clients include Medicaid and Medicare recipients, the uninsured who cannot afford health insurance, veterans without full benefits, the self-employed, those on Social Security Disability waiting for their two years for Medicare eligibility, those insured through the Affordable Health Care Act, those in transition or crisis, and those who do not qualify for insurance. On average, over 1000 people enroll each year for our programs.

**Annual Budget** \$ 692,883      3 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff  
86 % of budget for program expenses      9 # of Board Volunteers  
8 % of budget for administrative expenses      4 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers  
6 % of budget for fundraising expenses      400 # of Volunteer Hours  
*100 % total*

**Top 3-5 funding sources:** Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, Phoenixville Hospital, Eleanor Bennett Family Foundation, Detwiler Family Foundation

**Is this grant proposal for:** Capacity Building \_\_\_ or General Operating \_\_\_X\_\_\_?

**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:** \$10,000

**Proposal Summary:**

Health Care Access respectfully requests a general operating grant in the amount of \$10,000. With this funding, Health Care Access can continue to fulfill our mission of providing access to dental, vision, prescription medications and mammogram services to those in the community who need it the most. Funding will ensure our ability to continue offering our specialty health care programs to as many people in the community who are in need.

## II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

*Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.*

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

Health Care Access (HCA) was founded in year 1999 to assist children in our service area with access to dental care in response to a needs study that found there was a lack of dental and vision care available to uninsured and underinsured residents in the Phoenixville area. Since that time, HCA has grown to include four specialized health programs for children and adults; Dental, Vision, Prescription medications and Mammogram services. The mission of Health Care Access is to improve the health and quality of life in the Greater Phoenixville area by helping the uninsured and underinsured overcome financial and cultural barriers in obtaining specialized health care services. For over twenty years, HCA has served the lower income and underserved community. Our Vision is that every eligible resident of the Phoenixville area will have access to the specialized services they need through our four health programs:

The **Dental** Program provides preventative, restorative and emergency care to qualifying children and adults. Required treatment is always covered for children (except for braces), while the scope of care for adults is limited to cleanings, exams, x-rays, fillings, extractions, and help with the cost of dentures or partials.

The **Vision** Program provides comprehensive eye exams and glasses or contacts if needed for the clients we serve. Those that require a consult with an eye specialist will be seen and treated, if possible, within the limits of the budget.

The **Prescription** Program assists individuals without prescription insurance. Those in need of long-term medications, who qualify, are assisted in completing applications to the pharmaceutical Patient Assistance Programs (PAP's) that provide no-cost brand name medications for up to a year. Those in need of emergency assistance with prescriptions may receive a one-month supply at one of the two local pharmacies that HCA has a partnership. HCA does work closely with the local Phoenixville hospital to ensure that uninsured patients being discharged on life-sustaining medications receive an emergency supply to help avoid readmission. Assistance with copays is also available on an emergency basis.

The **Mammogram** Program assists women and men in obtaining a free mammogram screening, with funding available for further diagnostics.

By the end of 2023, over 23,652 were enrolled in our programs since we were established. Many of our clients access multiple services we offer. We strive to remove any and all barriers to care including transportation, language, finances, stigma and lengthy application procedures. Our application process can be completed in person, via phone, fax, online or by mail. HCA now has the capability of communication with clients via text which some people prefer. Health Care Access provides funding for language interpretation at dental and vision care appointments for clients who are not fluent in English to ensure quality of care. We refer our clients to providers in their neighborhood and arrange transportation via a local program when needed.

Health Care Access credits its success to our unique community provider model. We have created a network of local practitioners including 16 dentists, 10 vision providers, 2 pharmacies and the Phoenixville Hospital and Mammogram Suite that provide care for our clients at a discounted fee. The practitioners provide the care, Health Care Access provides the funding. Our network of providers allows us to meet the health care needs of the population we serve in their own community. We believe our

model of care provides a window into how a community can support both the physical and economic health of its residents and health care providers; this is a win/win for everyone!

## 2. Funding request

### • Description of key initiatives

- support the underserved in our community
- achieve and maintain good oral and vision health
- ensure overall systemic health and well being
- access to preventative healthcare for the underserved
- continue the work of providing those in need with equitable health care

### • Specific needs & issues to be addressed

With your investment at any funding level, our organization can remain committed to our mission of providing access for the uninsured and underinsured to dental, vision, prescription medications and free mammograms. While we do request clients pay a copay directly to our providers when they are able, it is the responsibility of Health Care Access to cover the reduced fees that we've negotiated with our network of providers. We have seen an increase in the need for our Children's Dental and Mammogram Services. The Children's Dental program had a 65% increase in enrollment, while the Mammogram Program's total cost of care had a 44% increase in the past fiscal year. We strive to accept and help as many community members as possible with a concerted effort to not turn away anyone in need of our services. If we cannot provide assistance, alternate resources are provided.

### • Why it is important to fund this now

Funding is more important than ever for two reasons. One being because of the increase in need of the community and the other being that our largest funder, Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, is decreasing our funding over the next four years to 30% of our operating budget. While we continue to strive to engage new donors it continues to be very difficult.

### • How impact & results will be demonstrated

One of the ways in which Health Care Access measures success is by the number of clients we serve. Once a client comes through our door, the goal is always improved health. Whether it's a resolution for an infected tooth, a new set of dentures that helps improve nutrition, self-esteem and overall appearance, or the continued oral health that results from ongoing dental care, it is a true measurement of success. Consistent eye care and glasses lead to improved vision, which in turn can improve school or job performance. The assistance we provide to clients needing long term medications for chronic health issues through the pharmaceutical companies is invaluable. Mammograms save lives. We are proud of our success but know all too well there is still more work to be done.

Although impact on client health can be difficult to measure and track, we are encouraged every day by the positive feedback we receive from our clients; this is another way we measure success. Our client's overall satisfaction is what motivates us each and every day. Some of the positive comments that we have received from our clients:

*"I just picked up my new glasses! Thank you so much for helping me with the gift of sight! Many thanks to your organization and generous donors that make it possible to help people like me. Being able to see definitely improves my quality of life. Thank you again." - Vision Client*

*"Thank you again for assisting my daughter with her fillings and extractions. You really got us over the hump until I was able to secure dental insurance." – Mother of 12-year-old Dental Client*

- For capacity building grant proposals:
  - How will this capacity building initiative impact your nonprofit?
  - How will this impact be measured?
  - Include a description of the expected activities; timeline & costs to implement the initiative. If external consulting services are required, include the anticipated costs & expertise of the consultants to be hired. Include external consultant proposals if applicable.

### 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](http://www.chescof.org) to apply online for grants from all Community Foundation Funds.
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*Connecting people who care with causes that matter,  
so their legacies make a difference.*

## WHAT IS CAPACITY BUILDING?

**Capacity building helps bring a nonprofit to the next level of operational, programmatic, financial, or organizational maturity, in order to more effectively & efficiently fulfill its mission.**

Capacity building may include (but is not limited to) projects which address:

- **MISSION, VISION & STRATEGY**  
Organizational Assessment - Strategic Planning - Financial Planning
- **GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP**  
Board Development - Executive Transition/Succession Planning - Leadership Development - Staff Training & Professional Development
- **PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS**  
Coalition Building – Collaboration - Mergers & Acquisitions - Strategic Restructuring
- **RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING**  
Major Gift Donor Identification, Cultivation, Development & Stewardship - Development Campaigns (Annual, Capital, Planned Giving) - Earned Income Development - Social Enterprise Feasibility & Development - Marketing, Branding & Communications
- **TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS**  
Business Continuity Planning - Financial Management - Human Resources - Volunteer Management - Industry Certification - Risk Management - Technology Improvements