

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: 7/17/2024

Contact Information

Organization Name: The Peacemaker Center
Address: 368 W. Uwchlan Avenue
Downingtown, PA 19335
Phone: 610-269-2661
Website: www.thepeacemakercenter.org
Year Incorporated: 2000

FEIN: 23-3023837

ED/CEO Name: Judy A. Reid, LCSW, LMFT
ED/CEO E-mail:
judy@thepeacemakercenter.org
Board Chair Name: John Clark
Board Chair Approval (check here):
Primary Contact Name:
Scott Edwards, MDiv, MA, LPC
Primary Contact E-mail:
scott@thepeacemakercenter.org

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest: : Health Human Services

Mission: The mission of The Peacemaker Center is to help people find peace with God, themselves, and others. We have clinically trained professionals who provide excellence in therapy within the framework of God's truth and guidance. Services include evidence-based Clinical Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy and Social Work to anyone in need of our services, regardless of their ability to pay. Faith-based counseling is available upon request.

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

Primarily all of Chester County, along with some of Montgomery and Lancaster counties through 7 office locations.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served: We serve individuals, couples and families of all ages and diversity for a variety of relationship and mental health issues regardless of their ability to pay. In 2023 we served 2161 individuals with 20,748 sessions. 71.58% of all sessions were given at a discount due to financial needs. We also provided 1416 donated sessions and 3707 sessions funded by our charitable scholarship.

Annual Budget \$ \$2,137,943.27

83 % of budget for program expenses

16 % of budget for administrative expenses

1 % of budget for fundraising expenses

100 % total

2 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff

6 # of Board Volunteers

8 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers

950 # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources: : Foundation grants, United Way, individual donations, program fees

Is this grant proposal for: General Operating

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$7500 (We appreciate donations of any size.)

Proposal Summary: : The Peacemaker Center is seeking general operating support to provide individual, group, marriage and family therapy, and financial services, addressing a variety of relational and mental health issues including separation and divorce recovery, abuse, addictions, depression, domestic violence, eating disorders, , self-esteem, sexual trauma, suicide prevention, youth-at-risk behaviors, money management concerns, and premarital assessment counseling. These services are provided to those in need with no waiting period and regardless of their ability to pay.

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

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

We began in 2000 when Pastor Carl Green in Downingtown saw the need for help with counseling for deep and pervasive wounds. Pastor Green asked Rob and Judy Reid to develop an organization that would serve children, adults, couples, and families in the community. Since then, due to an ever-increasing need for affordable and accessible mental health counseling, The Peacemaker Center has grown from one therapist working from a home office to a staff of 50 clinicians working from seven office locations. These include Downingtown, Kennett Square, West Chester, Paoli, Audubon, Fort Washington and New Holland.

Our intention is to provide excellence in clinical care to anyone in need of mental health services. One of our primary goals in meeting our mission is to raise money to subsidize our budget for the care of any client regardless of their ability to pay.

The Peacemaker Center has served the Chester County community for the past 24 years and has grown primarily by word of mouth regarding our services. We have been able to build relationships with other care organizations and community leaders. We work closely with organizations such as Police Departments, The Commonwealth of PA Crime Victim Services, Chester County Department of Children, Youth, and Families, A Child's Light in Malvern, Young Moms in Kennett Square and several area churches. We have a Spanish speaking therapist working with the Hispanic individuals. We have been working with two after school youth care centers as well; one in Kennett Square called The Garage, and The Parkesburg Point Youth Center. We also work with Bridge of Hope in Chester and Lancaster Counties. We also partner with multiple churches in the area. Many psychiatrists and physicians hold The Peacemaker Center in high regard and as a result, our therapists work in collaboration with numerous doctors not only within Chester County but beyond.

Due to the dramatically increased need for affordable and accessible mental health services, a major accomplishment in 2023 was the opening of two new counseling relocations in response to the needs of the community. In March we opened an office in New Holland, and in October one in Paoli.

The Peacemaker Center is unique in that we serve all clients regardless of their ability to pay. We do not have a waiting list. We have an online immediate intake process. We offer services in both English and Spanish. We see all clients regardless of their faith, sexual identity, economic status or other diversity.

2. Funding request

• Description of key initiatives

The Peacemaker Center provides Clinical Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy and Social Work to anyone in need of our services, regardless of their ability to pay. Our services are offered in both English and Spanish, and include individual, group, marriage, and family therapy. We address a variety of relational and mental health issues. These issues may include separation and divorce recovery, abuse, addictions, depression, domestic violence, eating disorders, post abortion recovery, gender identity,

self-esteem, sexual trauma, suicide prevention, youth-at-risk behaviors, money management concerns, and premarital assessment counseling. All the interventions used in our counseling programs are evidenced-based and have a trauma perspective on treatment. Faith-based-counseling within a biblical framework of God's truth and guidance is available upon request. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. We work to resolve the stigma and fears of reaching out for help through outpatient counseling and the cost related to receiving quality and timely care. We have an immediate online intake process that quickly facilitates getting people set up with a therapist, as well as tele-counseling.

The Peacemaker Center counseling staff consists of experienced and professionally trained therapists, social workers, and counselors with at least a master's degree. Our staff includes clinicians who have advanced training including trauma treatment, EMDR, dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), cognitive behavior therapy (CBT), drug and alcohol counseling, play therapy, group, and family therapy. We have an extensive internship training program to train students in Social Work, Counseling and Marriage and Family Therapy.

- **Specific needs & issues to be addressed**

As mentioned earlier, the number of individuals served by The Peacemaker Center has grown steadily for the past several years, with a dramatic increase coinciding with the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. This is a reflection of the need in Chester County and beyond. Increased need for mental health services was detailed in an article in [Mental Health Statistics \(2023\) – Forbes Health](#): *"Millions of Americans experience symptoms of a mental health condition each year, and the number of people seeking care is trending upward. While a mental health diagnosis may impact an individual's daily life, it can also have a ripple effect across families, communities and even economies. But asking for mental health support (including online therapy) and gaining access to affordable resources may be two separate issues, as recent trends in mental health treatment suggest. Take a look at these recent U.S. statistics, for example:*

- *While the percentage of U.S. adults receiving mental health treatment increased from 19.2% in 2019 to 21.6% in 2021, 42% of U.S. adults with a diagnosable condition reported in 2023 that they could not afford to access the treatment they needed.*
- *93.5% of adults with a substance abuse disorder did not receive treatment in the past year (2022)*
- *10% of youth covered by private insurance did not have access to mental health services in 2022*

Underscoring a shortage of mental health professionals, a recent report cited only one provider was available for every 350 individuals in need of services."

- **Why it is important to fund this now**

As detailed above, the need for our services has dramatically increased over the past few years. To meet this need we have increased our locations and have hired more counselors. With many individuals experiencing economic hardships, we are donating more services, and as a result are in need of funding to provide them. As per Executive Director Judy Reid's message in the 2024 Annual Report: *"The biggest challenge we ran into was receiving more requests for help from people who could not pay for services than we could manage financially. One couple came in with the husband out of work and the wife pregnant with their third child. They didn't have money to pay rent or buy food for their family. Tensions*

were running high. This is just one of the families that we would need to turn away without the support our donors give us financially.”

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

The impact of our services is demonstrated by the feedback from the hundreds of individuals who reach out to us for mental health services. Each year we ask clients to participate in our Client Satisfaction Survey which helps us evaluate how we are doing as both an organization and as individual therapists. In 2023 98% of those returning the survey indicated that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the services provided to them by their therapist.

We found consistent comments from clients finding the atmosphere to be welcoming, safe, and genuine; a place where they could talk, be heard, be understood; and where they could find encouragement and hope. Here is a sampling of the comments: “My therapist has been the best therapist I have ever seen! She listens to my needs and gives me solutions to help solve my problems. She is truly kind and makes you feel very comfortable when talking with her.”; “My therapist has created an environment where I am learning to grow in my self-confidence and in my ability to be a better wife, mother, and friend!”; “My therapist has been a lifesaver. I have already recommended The Peacemaker Center to others.”; “This practice, and my therapist, has been a Godsend in my life and I am so grateful to have the opportunity to come here weekly. Thank you for so much support over the past few months!” “I love the spiritual aspect with prayer and great interventions.”; “I am so grateful to the Peacemaker Center for providing me the care I so desperately needed at a time in my life when I so needed care but could not afford the going rates. My therapist has probably saved my life and helped me deal with my illness and PTSD.”

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.

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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