

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

Contact Information

Organization Name: Chester County Chapter, NSDAR
Address: 40 Greenhill Rd., Coatesville, PA 19320
Phone: 610-383-1014
Website: ccdar.org
Year Incorporated: 2003
FEIN: 23-6296841

ED/CEO Name: N/A
ED/CEO E-mail: michele@archerbuchanan.com
Board Chair Name: Michele Thackrah
Board Chair Approval (check here):
Primary Contact Name: Karin Brian (Treasurer)
Primary Contact E-mail: kdbdds@comcast.net

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

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

Mission: To promote historic preservation, education and patriotism

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

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:

Annual Budget \$ 37,560 ___ 0 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
40 % of budget for program expenses ___ 9 # of Board Volunteers
50 % of budget for administrative expenses* ___ 50 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
10 % of budget for fundraising expenses ___ 2500 # of Volunteer Hours
100 % total

*Chapter admin expense is 11% of budget, 39% is dues paid forward to State and National Organization

Top 3-5 funding sources: Dues, Donations, Silent Auction, fundraising (Wreaths Across America partnership)

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: In concert with the America 250! Celebration, and the July 2025 General Lafayette's Return Tour to Chester County, we have planned to place a prominent marker honoring the more than forty Revolutionary War Patriots interred within the Upper Octorara Presbyterian Church Cemetery. One of the Patriots interred there is Joseph C. McClellan, a church member, an Aid-de-Camp for Lafayette and the Great Grandfather of Malinda Worthington Hoopes, who founded our Chapter. In addition to creating a lasting memorial to the Revolutionary War Patriots interred there, our Project will increase public awareness of the significance of this Cemetery and stimulate interest to learn more about how both fit into the context of nearby Battlefields and the Franco-American Alliance.

Who We Are

Chester County Chapter, NSDAR, was founded in 1894. We have a rich history of serving Chester County, Pennsylvania. Our chapter is currently the largest in the state with over 200 members who are passionate about community service, preserving history, educating children, and honoring those who serve our nation. All members have proven lineal descent from a Revolutionary War patriot who rendered military, civil, or patriotic service.

We participate in community events through walking in parades to hand out flags to children, attending naturalization ceremonies to present pin flags and congratulate new citizens, holding table presentations at historic preservation events and re-enactments, and delivering cookies to first responders. We gather to learn about and recognize organizations that have excelled in preserving historical sites within our county and we pay tribute to women that have uniquely contributed to our area's history.

We work with guidance counselors in area schools to recognize middle school students participating in an annual American History essay contest and to identify high school students that excel as Good Citizens or are outstanding ROTC and Sea Cadets. We maintain a little free library in Coatesville. We award scholarships to college-bound students studying in fields such as nursing or education or engineering.

Our members regularly volunteer and donate items for the Coatesville Veterans Medical Center. We participate with memorial grave markings and place wreaths on veteran's graves during our annual Wreaths Across America ceremony at Birmingham-Lafayette Cemetery. We regularly ship care packages of needed personal items to the Active Duty Service Members receiving medical care at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.

Our Initiative

The Chester County Chapter of the DAR proposes to design and install a road-side commemorative marker to honor the Revolutionary War Patriots interred within the Upper Octorara Presbyterian Church Cemetery, located across from the church at 356 Octorara Road in Sadsbury Township, Chester County. The marker will contain the names of each of the Revolutionary War Patriots interred within the cemetery, and be visible from the churchyard and adjacent roads. The names will be readable by passers-by.

The Upper Octorara Presbyterian Church is the oldest Presbyterian Church in western Chester and eastern Lancaster counties. Since it was founded in 1720, seventeen Presbyterian churches --- all daughters or granddaughters of Upper Octorara -- have been organized in the territory of its original parish. (Hon. J. Smith Futhey, 'Two Hundred and Fifty Years at Upper Octorara 1720-1970')

We propose that the marker be unveiled in concert with the activities planned for General Lafayette's Return Tour to Chester County planned for July 2025. Lafayette's tour to Chester, County in 1825 was planned and conducted by Joseph C. McClellan, a church member and Revolutionary War Patriot who is interred in the cemetery. Joseph C. McClellan is also the Great Grandfather of Malinda Worthington Hoopes, who founded the Chester County Chapter of the DAR in 1894. Her DAR application mentions that Lafayette and McClellan were warm personal friends. The history of the battle of Brandywine tells us that McClellan witnessed the events surrounding Lafayette being wounded on September 11, 1777,

on Birmingham Hill in Chester County. A friendship forged in battle, McClellan went on to become an Aid-de-Camp for Lafayette.

In addition to creating a highly visible lasting memorial to the Revolutionary War Patriots interred there, our Project will increase public awareness of the significance of this Cemetery and stimulate interest to learn more about how both fit into the context of nearby Battlefields and the Franco-American Alliance.

Why NOW?

We are funding the memorial through proceeds gained from our annual silent auction, donations, grants and reserves if necessary. We fund-raised more than \$3,800 at last October's silent auction and expect to raise a similar amount this year. Utilizing reserves will be the last source of funding as the interest earned on them is what perpetuates our scholarships. Our Chapter has a record of fiscal responsibility thanks to the generous ongoing support of our members and financial stability since receiving a substantial sum from the estate of a member, which led to our Chapter's Incorporation in 2003.

In addition to the expense of the marker, we will have the cost of small flags to be placed at the graves of the Patriots and the printing of a commemorative booklet which will be given to those in attendance at the event and shared with the Chester County History Center, the Church Historian and other local historical societies. The only other anticipated expense will be for a celebratory late-afternoon ice-cream social for all present as was typical fashion of such events held many years ago.

We anticipate the entire cost of the marker and associated dedication event to be near \$14,500. A fifty percent down-payment for the memorial has been made and the names of the patriots being placed on the bronze marker are in the process of being approved by our National Organization thanks to countless hours of genealogy work by our Chapter Registrar and Honorary Chapter Regent. The Bicentennial Lafayette Return Tour kicked off on August 16th, 2024. The day we have been given for the Lafayette Return tour to be at Octorara is July 26, 2025, now less than a year away. America250! Celebrations will kick off on April 19, 2025!

Expected Results

The installation and reveal of the marker during the Bicentennial of the Lafayette Return Tour will engage the community and increase awareness of America 250! Events. For future years, the placement of the highly visible memorial will draw in passing travelers into the Cemetery to visit, explore and remember the Patriots interred there.