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

Date 08/15/2024

Organization Name:	Oxford Area Senior Center
Address:	12 East Locust St., Oxford, PA 19363
Phone:	(610) 932-5244
Website:	www.oxfordseniors.org
Year Incorporated:	1987
FEIN:	23-2469157

ED/CEO Name:	Jim McLeod
ED/CEO E-mail:	jdmcleod@oxfordseniors.org
Board Chair Name:	Ira Binder
Board Chair Approval (check here):	[X]
Primary Contact Name:	Jim McLeod
Primary Contact E-mail:	jdmcleod@oxfordseniors.org

Organization Information:
Field/s of Interest:

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

Mission: The mission of the Oxford Area Senior Center (OASC) is to enhance the quality of life of senior citizens in southern Chester County by providing programs and services that promote health, wellness, and fellowship.

Geographic Area Served: The OASC serves individuals residing in 17 municipalities throughout the Avon Grove, Oxford Area, and Octorara School Districts. Almost 60% of our participants reside in the borough of Oxford.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served: During our 2023-2024 fiscal year, the OASC served more than 800 individuals ages 60 and older. They are mainly women (70%), and a large percentage of our seniors live alone. They are of modest means (14% have incomes at or below poverty level) and the remainder survive on a very limited income.

Annual Budget $368,385 (FY 7/1/24 – 6/30/25)

85 % of budget for program expenses	4.6 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
12 % of budget for administrative expenses	15 # of Board Volunteers
3 % of budget for fundraising expenses	369 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
100.0 % total	4,109 # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources: Chester County Department of Aging Services Annual Appropriation & Supportive Services Funding, Interest Income – Endowment, Congregate Meal Reimbursement, United Way of Southern Chester County.

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
___ Fundraising, Development & Marketing	X Technology	___ Other:

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

Proposal Summary: Oxford Area Senior Center respectfully requests a $5,000 grant to purchase 2 desktop computers, 2 monitors, 2 laptop computers, 1 10.5" tablet, Square Reader, and related accessories for use in both programming and administrative functions.

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

The Oxford Senior Center began in 1974 as a "Meals Together" program that was initiated by the Chester County Department of Aging Services (CCDAS). It was operated in the fellowship hall of the Oxford Presbyterian Church located in downtown Oxford, Pennsylvania. Its mission was to provide the senior citizens of the Oxford Borough with a nutritious noontime meal. The concern was that individuals 60 years and older, living alone or with their senior partner, were not receiving proper nutrition. The program provided the area's elderly residents with at least one nutritionally balanced meal each day in a social setting. It was operated by a part-time director, part-time kitchen supervisor, and volunteers, and received funding through the CCDAS.

In June 1987, the Oxford Senior Center Inc. was established and recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. It was operated by a local board of directors, executive director, and a kitchen supervisor. It also began to seek additional outside funding sources. With the assistance of the Chester County Commissioners and the Ware family of Oxford, the Senior Center purchased a building for $100,000 late in 1999. After upgrades and renovations, operations were moved into the new location in 2000.

Today, the Oxford Area Senior Center (OASC) has grown to provide a wide variety of programs and services to more than 800 unduplicated seniors residing in 17 municipalities throughout southern Chester County. The OASC is one of the most important resources for our aging neighbors in southern Chester County. It has been a cornerstone of the Oxford borough and surrounding areas for more than 50 years, and while our programs and services have changed throughout the years, our commitment to the seniors in our community has never wavered.

The vision of our organization is to be the ultimate go-to resource for all community seniors that results in engaged, enriched, and empowered participants. AARP surveys report that 90% of seniors prefer to remain in their own homes and communities as they age. It is less expensive to provide care for seniors in their homes than to provide care in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. **The OASC offers thoughtful, relevant programming and services that promote positive aging and connect older adults to vital community services that can help them remain healthy and independent.**

Our programs and services include:
- Meal and nutrition programs
- Health, fitness, and wellness programs
- Social, recreational, and educational activities
- Technology help
- Information and Referral Program (I&R)

All programs are in alignment with our mission of enhancing the quality of life of senior citizens in southern Chester County by providing programs and services that promote health, wellness, and fellowship.

Key service statistics from our fiscal year that ended 6/30/2024

- number of total visits to OASC	14,052
- number of unduplicated consumers	808
- number of lunches served	6,094
- number of individuals (unduplicated) served lunch	155
- number of individuals (unduplicated) assisted through I&R program	337
- number of individuals (unduplicated) attending exercise programs	115
- number of individuals (unduplicated) attending educational, recreational, or informational programs	568

2. Funding request
The purpose of this grant request is to secure funding of $5,000 that will allow our organization to purchase:

- 2 desktop computers and monitors with speakers, keyboard and mouse to be used by participants of the Senior Center.
- 2 laptops computers used by staff for programming and work-from-home projects.
- 1 tablet and 2 Square Readers to accept payments via credit card for donations, dues, trips etc.
- Various accessories (tablet screen protector, smart cover case, tablet stand, etc)

This funding will also cover the set-up costs of computers and the installation of software by a local IT Support Company.

It is important to fund this now because our existing computers (desktop and laptops) were purchased in 2016 and refurbished in 2021. The computers often freeze and require restarting on a frequent basis due to system specifications not meeting the minimum requirements of many applications. They are not Windows 11 compatible. Microsoft Windows 10 support ends in October 2025. After this time, there will be no support or updates for our computers by Microsoft, posing potential computer security issues.

It has always been a priority of the OASC to provide computers for seniors in the community to use. The majority of individuals we serve are low income and many do not have computers at home because they cannot afford to purchase a computer or have access to the internet. It is known by the community that we have free public access computers which can be used by participants to get their email, read newspaper and articles, search for information, schedule appointments, access online banking, search for jobs, and many other uses.

Laptops are used extensively by OASC staff in our programming. The Chester County Department of Aging requires our organization to have programs and presentations that cover topics ranging from health and wellness to emergency preparedness. Laptops are connected to a television and/or projector for presentations.

Examples of programs include:
1. <u>Medicare 101</u> with our Information & Assistance Specialist. This program is presented monthly (for 10 months), and <u>Medicare Updates</u> is presented once a year. This program educates seniors on the parts, costs and options of Medicare coverage and the enrollment process.

2. MindMatters: A distinctive approach to learning. WITF, Central Pennsylvania's affiliate for PBS and NPR, offers an exciting initiative for Pennsylvania Department of Aging (PDA) Senior Community Centers to access highly engaging educational programming. Topics cover a variety of subjects on health, mental health, wellness, legal, educational, current events, history, emergency preparedness, art lessons and many interactive activities. (https://mindmatters.witf.org/)

3. Armchair Travel is one our most popular programs and fun things we do with the laptop. Once a month we visit a different country and along with the activities of the day surrounding that country we take a virtual tour through that country using the laptop. This is one of our seniors' favorite activities as it allows them to feel like they are in that country touring!

4. Other presentations by outside resources on topics of interest such as legal, educational, current events, history, emergency preparedness, art lessons and many interactive activities/games.

We would like to begin accepting payments via credit card since the newest generation of seniors is less likely to carry cash or checks. The Samsung tablet will be used to accept credit cards for donations and for participants to pay yearly voluntary dues, trip fees and lunch donations. Payment via credit card requires a tablet and credit card swipe device. We are specifically looking at Square because it is simple to learn how to use, and they charge a lower, non-profit rate for transactions. We would need one Samsung Tablet, stand, glass protector and cover. As well as two square credit card readers, two swipe magnetic strip readers (one would be free when we sign up with Square.)

Impact & results will be demonstrated by the increased reliability of the computers used by our senior participants, which will help them stay effectively connected to online resources and activities. The new laptops will provide senior center staff with the tools they need to continue to offer effective programming. The ability to accept payments via credit cards will not only save time, it is becoming necessary as fewer people carry cash or checks as forms of payment.

Expected activities include the purchase and set up of the new desktop and laptop computers, tablet and the Square Readers for credit card processing. We estimate the cost to be approximately $5,100 (which includes the labor cost for set up by an outside IT support company. Our plan is to complete this project by the end of the current fiscal year (6/30/25).

Thank you! We appreciate your consideration of our request.