

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 9/11)

- ◇ 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. 11** 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) 696-8211** 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

Contact Information

Organization Name: Danny's Ride
Address: 3246 Beaufort Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18017
Phone: 484-265-1411 (office) 610-349-1751 (cell)
Website: www.dannysride.org
Year Incorporated: 2020
FEIN: 85-2783116

ED/CEO Name: Nancy Knoebel
ED/CEO E-mail: NancyK@Dannysride.org
Board Chair Name: Nancy Knoebel
Board Chair Approval (check here):
Primary Contact Name: Nancy Knoebel
Primary Contact E-mail: nancyk@dannysride.org

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

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

Mission:

The mission of Danny's Ride is to honor Danny's legacy of compassion and generosity by providing rides to recovery services for people living with substance use disorder.

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

We serve multiple counties in PA and parts of NC, TX, and NJ, but for this request, we serve all of Chester County.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:

Danny's Ride serves individuals in recovery living with substance use disorder (SUD) by providing transportation to essential recovery services such as Outpatient SUD treatment, medical appointments, job interviews, and early employment, drug testing, legal system meetings, and more.

As of 7/31/24, we have provided 22,356 rides to 2,676 individuals traveling over 206,000 miles.

Annual Budget \$ 463,700 _____ # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff _____ 0 _____
_____ 95 _____ % of budget for program expenses _____ 6 _____ # of Board Volunteers
_____ 5 _____ % of budget for administrative expenses _____ 0 _____ # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
_____ 0 _____ % of budget for fundraising expenses _____ 1000 _____ # of Volunteer Hours
100 % total

Top 3-5 funding sources:

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: \$ 7,500

Proposal Summary:

Danny's Ride requests \$7,500 for General Operating Support in furtherance of our initiative providing transportation services to justice-involved individuals with SUD in the Chester County Department of Adult Probation, Parole & Pretrial Services.

Danny's Ride has partnered with the Chester County Department of Adult Probation, Parole & Pretrial Services in a pilot program that provides transportation services for justice-involved individuals who must attend problem-solving court appointments including Drug Court, Recovery Court, Mental Health Court, and Veterans Court. One of the most significant issues for justice-involved individuals – in Chester County and elsewhere – is transportation to court-mandated meetings, appointments, and services that are essential to recovery. Commenting on the benefits of the program, Chester County Commissioners Marian Moskowitz, Josh Maxwell, and Michelle Kichline said, "the partnership with Danny's Ride helps to prevent transportation from impeding someone's road to recovery. Too often, the lack of public transportation in Chester County and the cost of gas become reasons people cannot complete the necessary steps to fulfill their legal obligations."

The Chester County pilot began on July 1, 2023, and to date, we have provided 83 unique Chester County Court participants with 1,680 rides and they have traveled over 26,000 miles. Nearly half the rides are for drug testing, one of the most effective ways to help ensure sobriety. About 30% of the rides are to attend outpatient treatment, and about 15% to attend meetings with probation officers and court appearances. Rides are also used to attend medical appointments, job interviews and more. In a recent survey, most riders reported that they used Danny's Ride more than 20 times and that they would not have been able to meet their court requirements without it. They also reported that Danny's Ride helped them maintain their sobriety, and that many of them would have had fines, or even jail time, had they not been able to access the programs and services that were not only required by the court, but are designed to support their sobriety.

Danny's Ride was awarded one-time funding to implement this pilot by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and must find other funding to continue this important work. We continue to work with the court to help identify long-term sources of funding to continue what they, and we, recognize as a game changing resource for those being adjudicated through the treatment courts.

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

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

History:

Danny's Ride was established in November 2020 by Nancy Knoebel in memory of her son, Danny Teichman. Danny tragically passed away on 11/11/16 after using kratom to alleviate the effects of Post-Acute Withdrawal Syndrome brought on by discontinuing suboxone as part of his recovery plan. He was just one week shy of his 28th birthday. Danny had been known to offer rides to individuals in his recovery community as well as friends and family, a fact that only became apparent through stories shared after his death. In honor of Danny and his commitment to providing transportation assistance to those in need, Nancy founded Danny's Ride.

Goals:

Our vision is to ensure everyone has access to the support and resources they need to achieve long-term recovery from substance use disorder (SUD), without transportation being a barrier. Transportation is one of the top three challenges individuals face in recovery, alongside housing and employment. Danny's Ride offers a viable, effective solution to this problem. Primary goals include (1) expand Danny's Ride more broadly throughout Pennsylvania, particularly within criminal justice, workforce development, veterans and outpatient services; (2) use the expansion model established in Pennsylvania to expand Danny's Ride throughout the US; and (3) establish this new nonprofit as an organization with long-term sustainability.

Key Achievements:

Since our start in 2021 with one county contract, we have greatly expanded our network and now partner with 24 organizations that work in the recovery sector to serve eastern, central, and western PA, as well as the greater Philadelphia area, plus locations in North Carolina, Texas, and New Jersey.

In FY 2020-21 we provided 100 rides to 31 individuals. As of 7/31/24, we have provided 22,356 rides to 2,676 individuals traveling over 206,000 miles. We track where riders go with Danny's Ride; in order of frequency ride reasons include Outpatient Treatment, Employment, Medical Appointments, Drug Testing, Legal, Community Programming, AA/NA/Other Support Meetings, MAT, Job Interview, Housing appointments, Inpatient Treatment, and Community Volunteering. This data demonstrates that Danny's Ride's impact is far-reaching, holistically supporting people in their recovery journeys.

Danny's Ride has made it a priority to work with organizations that serve vulnerable at-risk populations in recovery. This includes partnering with organizations that provide outpatient treatment, but also those who support women with young children, individuals in the criminal justice system, veterans, unhoused individuals, women who have been sex trafficked, and programs focusing on improving access to recovery for BIPOC populations. Based on our current success, our strategy is to continue to partner with private organizations and Pennsylvania's county drug and alcohol services to provide transportation to all communities where our program can be accessed, and then partner with other states to provide transportation services across the US.

Distinctiveness:

Danny's Ride provides a distinctive service in the non-profit landscape - there are no other organizations of this type that focus on transportation for people in recovery. Nonemergency medical transportation (NEMT) is getting a lot of attention recently, but there does not seem to be a system specifically focusing on recovery and SUD. Hospitals primarily use NEMT to get their patients in for treatment and testing, and to discharge people who lack transportation. Medicaid uses Modiv-Care among other providers, but that requires advance notice, is subjected to Medicaid rules, and only covers rides to medical appointments. What we have found is that where Modiv-Care or other Medicaid transportation is available, most people with SUD still lack the capacity to access the resources they need.

We are also not aware of any program or non-profit that works on the scale, or with the effectiveness, of Danny's Ride. Our partners report that they have not come across such an option, one that is so accessible, broad-reaching, and easy to use.

As demonstrated by our data, Danny's Ride has experienced significant and rapid expansion, validating our assertion that our model is one-of-a-kind and that it works.

2. Funding request

Description of key initiatives

Our key initiative is providing transportation to individuals in recovery from SUD. Danny's Ride's great innovation is the way it has harnessed Uber and Lyft for this purpose, and contracts with Roundtrip, a ride booking technology company based in Philadelphia. We also contract with many service providers. In addition to Chester County Treatment Court, such providers include county drug and alcohol departments, private outpatient or community service providers, nonprofit organizations that serve individuals in recovery, and criminal justice partners including Northampton Treatment Courts, and a sheriff's department (Pitt County, North Carolina).

Once a service provider is contracted with, we work with them to determine what staff should have access to Roundtrip. These staff receive a seat on Roundtrip, which enables them to set up rides for their clients. Riders cannot set up their own rides. This is done to ensure that rides are determined to be necessary for each person by a trained staff member familiar with their clients' needs, and that rides are taken for approved purposes. Riders are unable to change the details of the ride – date, location, purpose, etc.

Danny's Ride trains the staff in how to use Roundtrip, and provides support to them as they use it, in order to make it as seamless as possible. Ride agents (those who are sending the rides on behalf of clients) report high levels of satisfaction with Danny's Ride and the ride booking/management process.

Danny's Ride also accesses a tremendous amount of data through the Roundtrip portal. This includes data on all rides taken within a defined period (date, rider, ride agent, partner organization, pick up and drop off locations, ride purpose, mileage, cost). Danny's Ride provides a monthly report to each partner, and also tracks the data internally to monitor utilization and impact.

Specific needs & issues to be addressed

Why it is important to fund this now:

Lack of transportation is identified by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a critical social determinant of health for individuals in recovery from SUD. Some of these needs include:

- **Access to Treatment Services:** Recovery from substance abuse involves attendance at counseling sessions, support groups, and medical appointments. Reliable transportation is essential for individuals to access these services.
- **Stigma and Isolation:** People in recovery face stigma related to their substance use history. Access to transportation helps them connect with supportive communities, attend group therapy, and participate in recovery-focused activities. Isolation exacerbates mental health challenges and hinders recovery.
- **Employment and Stability:** Sustaining recovery includes rebuilding one's life and often finding employment. Transportation enables individuals to commute to work, job interviews, and vocational training.
- **Access to Sober Living Environments:** Safe and supportive housing is crucial during recovery. Transportation facilitates access to sober living homes, outpatient treatment centers, and other recovery-oriented housing options. Without reliable transportation, individuals may struggle to find suitable living arrangements.
- **Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT):** Some individuals in recovery rely on MAT. Regular visits to MAT clinics are essential, and transportation barriers can disrupt this critical aspect of recovery.
- **Community Support:** Recovery often thrives in a supportive community. Access to transportation allows individuals to attend 12-step meetings, peer support groups, and other recovery-related events. These connections provide encouragement, accountability, and a sense of belonging.

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP), there are approximately 600,000 individuals in Pennsylvania who live with drug and alcohol addiction. Research on transportation as a barrier to recovery resources is consistent. Transportation to services that support recovery is regularly identified as a significant barrier in Pennsylvania and beyond – particularly outside the major metro areas that offer more public transportation options.

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) statistics compiled over a 12-month period show that 21.6 million Americans needed treatment for drug or alcohol abuse but only 2.3 million received care. NEMT (Non-Emergency Medical Transport) improves the likelihood of success. One survey found that on average, those attending 16.4 treatments a month with NEMT would expect to attend only 4.3 treatments monthly without it.

SUD carries a significant stigma, often leading to feelings of shame and isolation for those struggling with it. At Danny's Ride, we aim to change this by emphasizing that SUD is an illness, not a moral failure. When a Danny's Ride vehicle arrives at the

home of an individual living with SUD, who cannot access other forms of transportation, it sends a powerful message - "you matter."

How impact & results will be demonstrated:

Anticipated objectives:

1. Approximately 1600 rides will be taken by Chester County treatment court participants who live with an SUD during the 12-months between 10/1/2024 to 9/30/2025
2. Treatment court participants living with an SUD will have access to rides needed to comply with court requirements
 - a. Danny's Ride will be used when there are no other options, as a 'last resort' resource for court participants.
3. Chester County Treatment Court will have a long-term funding solution in place by 9/30/25 for transportation

Anticipated Outcomes:

1. Riders will report that Danny's Ride was helpful to them in meeting the requirements of treatment court, including:
 - a. Supported their recovery by enabling them to attend AA/NA meetings, drug testing and outpatient treatment
 - b. Assisted with their financial well-being by not having to divert much needed, and limited, personal finances to pay for rides themselves
 - c. Made it possible to complete the treatment court requirements on time, avoiding added time and fines for non-compliance due to a lack of transportation
2. Ride data will demonstrate that riders used Danny's Ride in support of recovery, with the majority of rides to:
 - a. AA/NA meetings, drug testing, legal meetings and court appearances, outpatient treatment, as well as medical appointments, job interviews, housing support, and other key needs faced by the individuals served through this program
3. The court will report that access to Danny's Ride improved the treatment court's impact, removing the barrier caused by lack of access to transportation faced by many who are seen in the program.
 - a. Individuals who receive rides will miss 50% fewer of the mandated meetings and appointments than were experienced by the court before Danny's Ride program was implemented

Anonymous rider surveys are sent out quarterly to get input from the riders themselves. The results of the survey are also shared with each partner.

Outcome indicators:

1. The treatment court uses approximately 100-150 rides per month.
2. The rides are consistent with the expected purposes (noted above).
3. Survey results continue to support the expected benefits to riders.
4. The court program lead will continue to report that Danny's Ride is a critical and impactful resource for the individuals who come through the treatment court. Their "missed appointment" data will demonstrate improved outcomes over "pre-Danny's Ride" era.
5. The court is actively working to identify alternative funding sources that will enable them to fund the rides long-term as part of the treatment court program.

In speaking with our treatment courts partners, we have learned that individuals frequently report feeling a great deal of anxiety when trying to figure out how they will be able to comply with frequent and mandatory probation officer meetings, obtaining required drug testing, attending job interviews and getting to outpatient and peer support meetings to maintain their recovery due to a lack of adequate transportation access. For those with access to fixed bus routes, it can take hours to ride several buses or walk long distances because a single bus does not travel where they need to go. Many have to take their children with them.

Our partners describe the sense of relief that they see on their clients' faces, how their bodies soften and relax when they realize the staff is offering them support and not piling on demands that cannot be met. As these individuals work on their recovery and find jobs they are helped to develop more independent transportation options. This can take the form of carpooling with new work colleagues, finding a place to live on a bus route that gets them where they need to go, earning enough money to buy or use a car, and building back goodwill with family and friends often lost during active use but regained in recovery. They are then well on their way to adapting to their new normal of living a full life while maintaining their recovery. Thus, we describe Danny's Ride as a "hand up" and not a handout.

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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