

## CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

*One page only. This page will be shared electronically with Grant Panel Members & Fund Advisors.*

**Date 2/7/2025**

### Contact Information

Organization Name: **Historic Yellow Springs, Inc.**  
Address: **1685 Art School Rd, Chester Springs, PA 19425**  
Phone: **(610) 827-7414, ext. 14**  
Website: **www.yellowsprings.org**  
Year Incorporated: **1974**  
FEIN: **23-1920704**

ED/CEO Name: **Tim Compton**  
ED/CEO E-mail: **Tcompton@yellowsprings.org**  
Board Chair Name: **Matthew Brady**  
Board Chair Approval (check here): ☒  
Primary Contact Name: **Tim Compton**  
Primary Contact E-mail:  
**Tcompton@yellowsprings.org**

### Organization Information:

#### Field/s of Interest:

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

**Mission:** The mission of Historic Yellow Springs is to share, preserve, and celebrate the unique living village of Yellow Springs. With a focus on history, art, education and the environment, Historic Yellow Springs enriches the lives of all who visit.

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

### Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:

**Annual Budget** \$ **897,766**      **8** # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff  
**73** % of budget for program expenses      **12** # of Board Volunteers  
**20** % of budget for administrative expenses      **152** # of Active Non-Board Volunteers  
**07** % of budget for fundraising expenses      **1600** # of Volunteer Hours  
100 % total

### Top 3-5 funding sources:

- (1) Community events including sponsorships and sales from the popular Yellow Springs Art Show;
- (2) Community art classes featuring drawing, painting, and clay classes for all ages and abilities; and
- (3) 50+ weddings and other private events at our venues.

**Is this grant proposal for:** Capacity Building ☐ or General Operating ☒?

**Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation:** \$ **16,000**

### Proposal Summary:

Historic Yellow Springs, with over 300 years of history, is a vital center for art, history, and community engagement, offering top-tier exhibitions, accessible arts programming, and immersive historic experiences. Recent achievements include the restoration of the last vacant building into an ADA-compliant art studio, expanded scholarships for broader participation, and new programs supporting veterans and individuals with special needs. To sustain this growth, we seek funding for a new strategic plan that will provide clear organizational direction, enhance board governance, and ensure long-term sustainability. This investment will enable us to meet rising community demand, align with PA 250 heritage initiatives, and proactively plan for the future, strengthening our impact in northern Chester County.

## II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

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

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

The village of Yellow Springs has a rich history spanning over 300 years, playing significant roles in events such as the Philadelphia Campaign of the Revolutionary War, the American Impressionist art movement led by the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and serving as the filming location for the cult classic film *The Blob*, among others. Today, Yellow Springs stands as a vital center for local history in northern Chester County, a thriving hub for artists with top-tier exhibitions, highly regarded classes for all ages, and a premier wedding venue.

In the past year, we have made important strides in historic preservation and community engagement. We have recently completed restoration on the last vacant building in the village, transforming a neglected 1800s residence into our first wheelchair-accessible, ADA-compliant art studio, complete with youth programming focused spaces. We also launched new initiatives for veterans and individuals with special needs, offering process-oriented art-making experiences that give traditionally marginalized voices a chance to express themselves freely.

Our new scholarship program now offers opportunities for broader community participation, with 90% need-based, 75% veteran, and 50% merit-based scholarships to remove barriers for those interested in hands-on creativity year-round. In addition, new guided tours and partnerships are drawing fresh visitors of every age, and connecting them with our mission to celebrate art, local history, and the environment.

Much like those before us, we are committed to harnessing the potential of Yellow Springs' 140 acres of opportunity to enrich lives and preserve our shared heritage.

### 2. Funding request

#### Description of key initiatives

Historic Yellow Springs seeks funding to develop a new strategic plan that will guide the organization's future growth and sustainability. Since our last plan in 2008, the organization has undergone significant change, including the hiring of Executive Director Tim Compton in 2023, who has strengthened community ties, built a skilled staff, and led a capital campaign that doubled the capacity of our arts programming. This expansion has raised important questions about the organization's long-term focus across its three core mission areas—environment, history, and arts—while also prompting the board to reassess governance, leadership tenure, and the need for fresh perspectives. To ensure continued growth and alignment, we plan to engage Julep Consulting to lead a three-year strategic planning process that will clarify priorities, strengthen board effectiveness, and position Historic Yellow Springs for long-term success as we serve an increasing number of students and community members.

#### Specific needs & issues to be addressed

The specific needs and issues to be addressed by this funding request focus on the current lack of a strategic plan, and the need for clear organizational vision as Historic Yellow Springs continues to increase their community impact in northern Chester County. The process of developing a strategic plan will help us have a more forward thinking approach as the board, staff, and supporters understand more

clearly the intent for the next three years. This effort will also help to reevaluate board governance and bylaw issues to ensure best practices and sustainability.

Why it is important to fund this now

As a designated Heritage Site in the PA 250 initiative and a key contributor to Chester County's heritage themes, Historic Yellow Springs is poised for a significant increase in attendance and community engagement. Additionally, our newly constructed studio spaces have doubled our capacity, allowing us to serve more students and visitors than ever before. To effectively manage this growth and maximize our impact, we need a clear strategic direction that aligns our goals, programs, and leadership. Investing in a strategic plan now will ensure we are prepared for upcoming events, provide clear expectations for future initiatives, and position us for long-term success and sustainability.

How impact & results will be demonstrated

Results will be demonstrated with the adoption and implementation of a new three year strategic plan in the 2025 calendar year. This new strategic plan will work in tandem with a new campus master plan and ADA access plan to ensure decision making at every level is considering the larger long term implications. This level of forward thinking will result in more proactive planning by the board and staff while better meeting the expressed needs of our community.

### 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. Current strategic plan. If your nonprofit does not have a current strategic plan, explain why.

- 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 [grants@chescocf.org](mailto:grants@chescocf.org) with questions.



*Connecting people who care with causes that matter,  
so their legacies make a difference*