

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: 5/30/2025

Contact Information

Organization Name: Health Care Access (HCA)

Address: 100 First Ave, 1st Floor, Phoenixville, PA 19460

Phone: 610-935-3165

Website: www.hcaphoenixville.org

Year Incorporated:

FEIN: 20-2556121

ED/CEO Name: Renae Bierer

ED/CEO E-mail: rbierer@hcaphoenixville.org

Board Chair Name: Dr. Andrew Timar

Board Chair Approval (check here): ☒

Primary Contact Name: Renae Bierer

Primary Contact E-mail:

rbierer@hcaphoenixville.org

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

☐ Arts, Culture & Humanities

☐ Environment/Animal Welfare

☐ Education

☒ Health

☐ Human Services

☐ Religion

Mission: Our mission is to improve the health and quality of life in the greater Phoenixville area by helping the uninsured and underinsured overcome financial and cultural barriers in obtaining specialized health care.

Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served): Charlestown Township, Phoenixville Borough, East Coventry Township, Schuylkill Township, East Nantmeal Township, East Pikeland Township, South Coventry Township, East Vincent Township, West Pikeland Township, North Coventry Township, West Vincent Township, Spring City Borough, Collegeville Borough, Royersford Borough, Limerick Township, Trappe Borough, Lower Pottsgrove Township, Upper Providence Township and Lower Providence Township

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served: Health Care Access (HCA) serves uninsured and underinsured individuals and families in the greater Phoenixville region. Our clients often face significant financial, cultural, and access barriers that prevent them from receiving timely and necessary healthcare; those who would otherwise go without care if not for our services. Many of our clients are navigating specialized health needs without adequate support or resources, and our programs offer critical access points for preventative, restorative and emergent care.

As of late, HCA enrolls over 1,300 individuals annually through our core programs, which include Dental, Vision, Prescription, and Mammogram Assistance. Our outreach is focused on vulnerable populations, low-income households, individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds, and those who fall through the cracks of traditional healthcare systems.

Annual Budget \$790,105 _____ 4.5 _____ # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff

87 _____ % of budget for program expenses 9 _____ # of Board Volunteers

8 _____ % of budget for administrative expenses 4 _____ # of Active Non-Board Volunteers

5 _____ % of budget for fundraising expenses 152 _____ # of Volunteer Hours

100 % total

Top 3-5 funding sources: Phoenixville Community Health Foundation; Phoenixville Hospital; Detwiler Family Foundation

Is this grant proposal for: Capacity Building ____ or General Operating X?

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$3,500

Proposal Summary: Health Care Access respectfully requests your consideration in supporting the general operating costs associated with one of our four core health access programs: Dental, Vision, Prescription and Mammogram. Our services are delivered through an established and trusted network of community-based healthcare providers and supported by dedicated staff who guide each client from intake through the completion of care. Each program is designed to address specific unmet needs in our community.

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

1. Nonprofit's history

HCA was established in 1999 in response to a community needs study conducted by the Phoenixville Community Health Program in that found a lack of dental and vision care available to uninsured in the Phoenixville area. Programs created in response to these needs have been in existence since year 2000; the Dental Program was run out of the Phoenixville Hospital, where space was donated, and called the Phoenixville Area Dental Network, while the Vision and Prescription Programs were administrated by another local agency.

In January of 2005, all three programs were combined into the Health Care Access Programs. In March of 2005, application was made with the IRS for non-profit status and the Phoenixville Health Care Access Foundation was established in May 2005. In April of 2007, due to the expansion plan of the Hospital, Health Care Access relocated to downtown Phoenixville and program staff became employees of Health Care Access (HCA). IRS determination was received in September of 2007 and we officially shortened our name to "Health Care Access." In 2011, the Mammogram Program was transferred to HCA from Phoenixville Hospital's Community Education and Outreach Department where it was being administered.

Today, HCA operates four specialized health programs: Dental, Vision, Prescription Assistance, and Mammogram Support. These programs are designed to meet critical gaps in care for uninsured and underinsured individuals. Through a trusted network of local providers, our clients are able to access essential services directly within their community at little to no cost.

Goals

- Ensure Access to Care: Provide uninsured and underinsured individuals in the greater Phoenixville area with access to essential health services including dental, vision, prescription medications, and mammogram screenings, diagnostics and ultrasounds.
- Reduce Barriers: Address financial, cultural, language, transportation, and systemic obstacles that prevent clients from seeking or completing care.
- Promote Continuity of Care: Support clients through treatment with the goal of achieving improved overall health and well-being, and encourage return visits for routine and preventive care.
- Strengthen Community Partnerships: Expand and maintain a trusted network of local providers who deliver care through HCA's voucher system.
- Adapt to Evolving Needs: Continuously improve and expand programs based on changing community health trends and client feedback.
- Expand Outreach and Inclusion: Ensure bilingual support and culturally responsive services for all clients, with targeted outreach to underserved populations.

Key Achievements

- 25 Years of Service: Celebrated 25 years of sustained, community-based healthcare access programming.
- 25,000+ Individuals Served: Successfully enrolled more than 25,000 individuals into one or more of HCA's core health access programs.

- **Bilingual Access Expansion:** Hired bilingual staff and interpreters, and contracted bilingual healthcare providers to better serve Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking clients.
- **Transportation Support:** Introduced Lyft transportation assistance to ensure clients can attend healthcare appointments when transportation is a barrier.
- **Responsive Program Growth:** Adapted programs and introduced additional supports to address emerging needs and reduce gaps in care.
- **Comprehensive Case Management:** Developed a personalized, client-centered case management model that supports individuals through every step of care until treatment is complete.

Distinctiveness

- **Established Community-Based Provider Network Model:** HCA has built and sustained a trusted network of over 30 local healthcare providers—including dentists, optometrists, pharmacists, and the Phoenixville Hospital and Penn Radiology—who accept HCA-issued vouchers and serve clients at a reduced cost to HCA. These strong community partnerships allow us to offer timely, equitable and affordable care while maintaining a personalized, local approach.
- **Voucher-Based Model:** Our streamlined voucher system ensures a smooth connection to providers for necessary services without delays.
- **Bilingual and Culturally Competent Services:** With bilingual staff, interpreters, and providers, we deliver services that are respectful, inclusive, and accessible to our diverse client population.
- **Comprehensive Case Management:** Clients are supported from intake through the end of their treatment plan, ensuring continuity of care and improved outcomes.
- **Barrier-Focused Support:** From providing Lyft rides for those without transportation to assisting with pharmaceutical paperwork and follow-up care, HCA designs services around eliminating the real-world barriers clients face in accessing healthcare.

Funding request

• **Description of key initiatives**

Health Care Access (HCA) offers four core programs designed to remove financial barriers to care and connect uninsured and underinsured individuals with critical health services. For each program, eligible clients are connected with an established local healthcare provider or facility, and a voucher is issued. This allows clients to receive affordable and equitable health services.

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

Dental Program: This program provides access to preventive, restorative and emergent dental care for individuals without adequate insurance. Clients are screened for eligibility and matched with one of 16 participating dental practices for services such as exams, cleanings, x-rays, fillings, extractions, partials and dentures.

Vision Program: Through partnerships with nine local vision care providers, this program offers comprehensive vision exams, medical eye exams or diagnostic tests, and prescription glasses or contact lenses.

Prescription Assistance Program: This two-part program addresses medication insecurity. HCA provides short-term emergency prescription vouchers redeemable at one of two local pharmacies and assists clients in applying for long-term support through Pharmaceutical Patient Assistance Programs. Case managers guide clients through the entire process, including coordinating documentation and provider signatures.

Mammogram Support Program: Designed to provide life-saving breast cancer screening, this program covers the cost of screening and diagnostic mammograms, ultrasounds, and related follow-up care.

Services are provided through vouchers at no cost to the client. Care is provided through a partnership with Phoenixville Hospital and Penn Radiology.

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

With ongoing economic uncertainty and the rising cost of living, many individuals and families in our community—particularly those in low-wage jobs—are forced to make impossible choices between basic needs and their health. Even when employment includes healthcare benefits, those plans often come with high deductibles, limited coverage, or no access to specialty care.

HCA is uniquely positioned to fill in the gaps by providing access to essential services such as dental care, vision exams and glasses, prescriptions, and breast cancer screenings. Without our programs, many clients would go without the care they need—risking preventable illness, chronic pain, or worsening health conditions simply because they cannot afford to be seen.

Now more than ever, sustained and increased funding is critical to ensuring that no one in our community is left behind in accessing the specialized care they deserve.

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

HCA uses a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods to track and demonstrate program impact and effectiveness:

- Client Enrollment & Service Utilization: We collect and analyze monthly and annual statistics on client enrollment, treatment visits, and program participation to assess reach and growth over time.
- Program Inputs & Outputs: We measure each program's performance against our fiscal year budget and compare outcomes to previous years to evaluate efficiency and cost-effectiveness.
- Client Feedback & Outcomes: We actively seek and document client feedback through follow-up calls, surveys, and case management notes to better understand the real-life impact of our services, identify areas for improvement, and ensure we are meeting the health needs of those we serve.

This multi-layered evaluation approach ensures accountability, informs program improvements, and clearly demonstrates the difference our work is making in the lives of our clients and the health of the greater Phoenixville 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. 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.

- 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 grants@chescocf.org with questions.



*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