



28 W. Market Street, Lincoln Biography Building  
West Chester, PA 19382  
(610) 696-8211 [www.chescocf.org](http://www.chescocf.org)

Let your legacy  
make a difference in  
Chester County

## 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)	Fund for Chester County Capacity Building Grants (Due 9/10)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◇ Grants <b>focus on Chester County</b> causes &amp; issues, <b>but</b> are not limited to Chester County.</li><li>◇ Charitable nonprofits working <b>in all fields of interest</b> are considered for grant awards. (I.e. arts, culture, &amp; humanities; education; community improvement; environment; religion; health; &amp; human services)</li><li>◇ <b>General operating</b> grants are encouraged. Nonprofits should be specific about their mission, goals, &amp; measurable outcomes.</li><li>◇ Proposals can be submitted <b>anytime all year</b>.</li><li>◇ Grant decisions are made <b>intermittently</b> all year, as Fund Advisors desire.</li><li>◇ Grant <b>awards</b> typically range from <b>\$1,000-\$7,500</b>.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◇ For eligibility in this grant program, nonprofits must be <b>located in &amp; serve only Chester County</b>.</li><li>◇ Nonprofits <b>budgets</b> must be <b>\$500,000 or less</b>.</li><li>◇ The goal of capacity building grants is to <b>strengthen the effectiveness of NPO's serving the region</b>, see page 4 for more details on the areas including:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Mission, Vision &amp; Strategy</li><li>○ Governance &amp; Leadership</li><li>○ Partnerships &amp; Collaborations</li><li>○ Operations &amp; Technology</li><li>○ Fundraising, Development &amp; Marketing</li></ul></li><li>◇ Proposals submitted between <b>July 1 - Sept. 10</b> are eligible for consideration.</li><li>◇ Grant <b>awards</b> typically range from <b>\$1,000-\$5,000</b>.</li></ul>

- 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** or **[grants@chescocf.org](mailto: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](http://www.chescocf.org)

Date

### Contact Information

Organization Name: Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County, Inc.

ED/CEO Name: Michelle Brown

Address: 14 W Second Street Media, PA 19018

Phone: 610-565-6272

Website: [www.dapdc.org](http://www.dapdc.org)

Year Incorporated: 1977

FEIN: 23-2053144

ED/CEO E-mail: [mbrown@dapdc.org](mailto:mbrown@dapdc.org)

Board Chair Name: Rev. Alina Gayeuski

Board Chair Approval (check here): X

Primary Contact Name: Kathy Quinn

Primary Contact E-mail: [kquinn@dapdc.org](mailto:kquinn@dapdc.org)

### Organization Information:

#### Field/s of Interest:

☐ Arts, Culture & Humanities

☐ Environment/Animal Welfare

☐ Education

☐ Health

☒ Human Services

☐ Religion

**Mission:** The Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County provides critical support services to empower individuals impacted by domestic violence to achieve safety and healing and strives to prevent Domestic violence through education and advocacy.

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

Delaware County, PA with services also available to Chester Co. residents

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

DAP provides comprehensive services for victims of domestic violence, intimate partner violence and teen dating abuse in Delaware County. All residents of the county's 49 municipalities are eligible to receive DAP services. In FY24-25, DAP served 2,151 survivors. The majority were female, between the ages of 25 and 59, and of those who reported income, over 60% were from households below \$35,000 per year. They experienced victimizations including sexual assault, aggravated assault, strangulation, bullying and stalking. In most cases, their abuser was a partner, ex-partner or spouse.

Delaware County is the 5th most populous county in Pennsylvania with the 3rd smallest geographic area. Upper Darby Township and Chester City are two areas of the county where most of DAP's clients are located. 2023 US Census data reports that Upper Darby Township's diverse population is 34.1% Black, 12% Asian, and 8.5% Hispanic. 22.9% are foreign born and 13.5% live in poverty; 26.4% speak a language other than English. In Chester City, where over 75% of residents are Black, the median household income is less than \$40,000 per year and 28.5% live in poverty. Conditions such as diminished economic opportunity, high unemployment, and income inequity elevate the risk of domestic violence.

**Annual Budget** \$ 3,336,869 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_25\_\_\_\_\_ # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff

\_\_\_\_\_75\_\_\_\_\_ % of budget for program expenses \_\_\_\_\_11\_\_\_\_\_ # of Board Volunteers

\_\_\_\_\_20\_\_\_\_\_ % of budget for administrative expenses \_\_\_\_\_30\_\_\_\_\_ # of Active Non-Board Volunteers

\_\_\_5\_\_\_ % of budget for fundraising expenses    \_\_\_7,577 in FY24-25\_ # of Volunteer Hours  
100 % total

**Top 3-5 funding sources:**

- Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV)
- Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD)

**Is this grant proposal for:** Capacity Building \_\_\_ or General Operating \_X\_\_\_?

**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:** The Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County, Inc. requests general operating support in the amount of \$7,500 to sustain high-need service areas where demand and impact are both rising: free civil legal representation for victims with the greatest need, community education and prevention awareness programs, Justice, Autonomy, Restoration and Safety training for advocates in both Delaware and Chester Counties and trauma-informed counseling services to help survivors build resilience and move toward lives free from violence.

## II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

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

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

The Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County, Inc. (DAP) was established in 1976 as part of a community effort to provide safety, advocacy, and supportive services to victims of domestic violence intimate partner violence and teen dating abuse in Delaware County. In 1984, DAP opened its first emergency shelter and remains the sole provider of free, comprehensive domestic violence services in Delaware County. DAP's service area is the 5th most densely populated county in Pennsylvania, with over 3,000 people per square mile living in only 183 square miles - a total of almost 600,000 residents. DAP's mission is to empower individuals impacted by domestic violence to achieve safety and healing and strives to prevent domestic violence through education and advocacy. Today, in addition to DAP's impact of direct victim services, our collaborative relationships with law enforcement, healthcare systems, and schools have made DAP a community hub for survivor support and advocacy.

DAP's services include a safe house that is open 365 days a year, a 24/7 emergency telephone hotline, legal services for victims of domestic violence and relationship abuse, counseling for adults and children, victim advocacy services to support survivors seeking justice, and community education and prevention programs throughout the county. DAP also operates a primarily volunteer-staffed thrift store in the community which is both a source of earned revenue for the organization and a vehicle for community outreach. In FY24-25, DAP served 2,151 survivors. The majority were female, between the ages of 25 and 59, and of those who reported income, over 60% were from households below \$35,000 per year. They experienced victimizations including sexual assault, aggravated assault, strangulation, bullying and stalking. In most cases, their abuser was a partner, ex-partner or spouse.

DAP is uniquely positioned and innovative as the only domestic violence service provider in Delaware County. DAP has successfully implemented the Lethality Assessment Protocol training program for police departments across the county, decreasing the incidence of poor outcomes for domestic violence victims and improving law enforcement's ability to respond effectively to escalating domestic violence situations. DAP removes critical barriers for victims seeking justice by offering free court transportation and promotes greater safety for survivors by providing free home security systems for rehoused clients. DAP's survivor-centered prevention education programs can be customized for audiences of all ages. DAP's strategic visibility initiative ahead of its 50th anniversary in 2026 is designed to expand the organization's digital footprint, outreach and community connection.

### 2. Funding request

#### Description of key initiatives

Among DAP's key initiatives is its safe house, which has been in operation since 1984 and is the only emergency shelter exclusively for victims of domestic violence in Delaware County. DAP's safe house is open 365 days a year and has a total of 35 beds; victims of domestic violence may be housed there for up to 90 days. DAP's safe house staff work with residents to develop an individualized plan for transition to secure permanent housing. DAP's safe house also offers workshops on a variety of topics to support victims as they move toward lives free from abuse such as job search, financial literacy and domestic skills. In FY24-25, DAP housed 42 adults and 55 children in its safe house. As a member of the

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV), DAP works in partnership with domestic violence service providers in nearby counties, including Chester County, to ensure that victims fleeing violence receive emergency shelter services. DAP also provides victims of domestic violence in Delaware County with civil legal representation and legal options counseling in Protection from Abuse (PFA), child custody, child support landlord-tenant and no-asset divorce matters. In FY 24-25, DAP's legal team represented 69 clients in these areas. They also co-sponsored a symposium on elder abuse and assisted clients experiencing caregiver abuse and stalking.

**Commented [KQ1]:** @Michelle Brown I combine numbers from supplemental stats + CLR quarterly reports - not sure if this is correct though.

DAP's offers community education and prevention awareness programs across the county to a wide variety of groups, including school professionals and students, therapy groups for grandparents who are primary caregivers, parents, religious organizations, college residential advisors, and homeless services providers. DAP's "Domestic Violence 101" program presents an overview of domestic violence and focuses on how to be a supportive bystander, with an introduction to power and control dynamics and the services DAP offers. In addition, DAP provides youth-focused programs and can customize training sessions to suit the needs of any community organization and audience. In FY 24-25, DAP participated and/or led 224 educational awareness presentations, prevention education sessions, community events and trainings/informational meetings with healthcare professionals.

All DAP staff and volunteers complete a comprehensive training program, "JARS" - Justice, Autonomy, Restoration and Safety. This training, offered in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV), provides a deep understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence and builds the skills advocates need to work effectively with survivors. It emphasizes a restorative justice approach, focusing on repairing harm, building relationships, and ensuring the safety and well-being of those affected by domestic violence. In FY 24-25, DAP hosted Chester County domestic violence advocates who participated in JARS training sessions and is committed to continuing this partnership in FY 25-26. Additionally, DAP provides internship opportunities for students at West Chester University. Interns at DAP receive hands-on experience providing legal advocacy services for victims of domestic violence who are navigating the civil court system to pursue Protection from Abuse (PFA) orders.

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

##### **Safe House Infrastructure**

DAP's safe house is subject to wear and tear from continuous turnover and use, which requires costly maintenance and repair. General operating support would help cover the rising cost of essential repairs (e.g., roofing, plumbing, flooring) to keep this vital resource safe and operational.

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##### **Counseling Services**

DAP's counselors use trauma-informed approaches to help survivors process experiences, build resilience, and regain a sense of safety and autonomy. In FY 24-25, DAP offered 450 counseling sessions to adults and 202 counseling sessions to children impacted by abuse, with the demand outpacing staffing capacity and leading to 3 or more months of wait time. With funding cuts for these services, your support would help ensure that wait time doesn't widen further.

##### **Leadership & Staff Development**

Finally, many of our staff members are social workers or criminal justice professionals by trade. As DAP strengthens its leadership pipeline, funds would help provide management training and wellness support to retain and uplift its deeply committed team.

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

Like many non-profit organizations, DAP is navigating ongoing uncertainty in the federal funding landscape. Nearly half of DAP's funding comes from federal government sources, supporting critical and core services like our emergency safe house, victim advocacy, and our 24/7 hotline. We are meeting this challenge head-on by growing foundation and individual support. With a grant from the Chester County Community Foundation, DAP would sustain and strengthen high-need areas where demand and impact are both rising.

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

DAP measures success by community and survivor reach, effectiveness of services we provide, as well as feedback from survivors who have received our services. DAP uses multiple information management systems to collect, report, and analyze data. In addition, DAP's direct service staff collect monthly statistics on a range of services such as total nights of emergency shelter, hotline calls, counseling appointments, court accompaniments and appearances, legal advocacy clients, relocation case management clients and community education events.

### **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](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**.
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