

GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

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Date

Contact Information

Organization Name: Phoenixville Public Library
 Address: 183 Second Ave Phoenixville, PA 19460
 Phone: 610-933-3013
 Website: www.phoenixvillelibrary.org
 Year Incorporated: 1896
 FEIN: 20-2627254

ED/CEO Name: Lara Lorenzi
 ED/CEO E-mail: llorenzi@ccls.org
 Board Chair Name: Lauren Eustis
 Board Chair Approval (check here):
 Primary Contact Name: Chloe Tolman
 Primary Contact E-mail: ctolman@ccls.org

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Arts, Culture, Heritage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education, Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	Environment, Animals
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Justice, Civic Engagement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>	If other, please describe:		

Mission: The Mission of the Phoenixville Public Library is to provide access to information and services that address the educational, cultural, and recreational needs of the community the Library serves.

Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served): We provide services to East Pikeland, Charlestown, Phoenixville Borough, and Schuylkill Township.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served. (Include Chester County # &/or % served.)

The Library serve a population in Chester County of approximately 37,700 individuals

Annual Budget \$1,273,801 _____ # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff 7 _____
15 _____ % of budget for program expenses 9 _____ # of Board Volunteers
80 _____ % of budget for administrative expenses 25 _____ # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
5 _____ % of budget for fundraising expenses 1171.2 _____ # of Volunteer Hours
100% = total

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Phoenixville Area School District
 Passport Applications
 State Funding

This grant proposal is for: X Direct Service Programs & General Operating &/or _____ Capacity Building

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Contingency Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Partnerships, Collaborations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Merger, Closure
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mission, Vision, Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Board Engagement & Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marketing, Communication
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resource Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology
<input type="checkbox"/>	If other, please describe:				

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$10,000

Proposal Summary: *(a few sentences, please)*

The Phoenixville Public Library (PPL) is a welcoming, free, and trusted gathering place where people of all ages come to learn, connect, and feel supported. At the heart of our mission is a deep commitment to literacy, education, and the overall well-being of our community. Even in a rapidly evolving digital world, PPL continues to adapt thoughtfully to meet the needs and interests of the people we serve, remaining both relevant and deeply valued.

We take great pride in our role as a cornerstone of a strong, inclusive community. Our doors are open to everyone, and for many of our neighbors, especially those most vulnerable, the library is more than a place to borrow books. It is a source of free health and human services, career guidance, trusted information, and, at times, simply a quiet, warm place to feel safe and welcomed. Our librarians and staff serve as compassionate guides, connecting individuals to vital resources, community partners, and programs that help them thrive.

Nearly all of our programs and services are offered at no or low cost, ensuring equitable access. Grant support will allow us to strengthen and sustain these essential offerings. With greater financial support, PPL can continue to innovate and respond thoughtfully to the evolving short- and long-term needs of our community and the surrounding region.

II. GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information in 1-3 pages. Please be brief.

1. Nonprofit's overall aims, key initiatives, key achievements & distinctiveness

The Phoenixville Public Library (PPL) exists to strengthen our community by providing free, equitable access to information, education, and supportive services that improve quality of life. Our aim is not only to foster literacy and lifelong learning, but also to serve as a welcoming, trusted hub where individuals can connect—to resources, to opportunity, and to one another.

Key initiatives include early literacy programming for children and caregivers; academic and enrichment support for students and teens; workforce development and career readiness services for adults; and access to health, social service, and community resources for those navigating economic or personal challenges. Across all initiatives, PPL prioritizes accessibility, inclusivity, and responsiveness to community needs.

PPL has a strong record of achievement, reflected in consistently high program participation, growing community partnerships, and sustained public trust—even as libraries nationwide face shifting demands. We have successfully expanded services beyond traditional library offerings to meet evolving needs, while remaining a free and welcoming space for all.

What distinguishes PPL is our dual role as both an information provider and a community connector. Our staff serve as knowledgeable navigators, helping patrons access not only library resources but also services offered by local nonprofits, government agencies, and educational institutions. For many residents—particularly those who are vulnerable or underserved—the library is a first point of contact and a reliable source of support.

2. Funding request

- **What specific needs & issues are being addressed, via what programs and services?**

This funding request seeks support for programs and services that address critical and growing community needs, including:

- Access to free educational and literacy resources
- Workforce development and career support
- Connection to health, human, and social services
- Safe, inclusive spaces that reduce isolation and promote well-being

These needs are met through a combination of direct library programming, one-on-one staff assistance, and partnerships with community organizations. Grant funding will help sustain and strengthen these services, ensuring they remain accessible to all residents regardless of income or circumstance.

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

Demand for library services continues to grow as economic uncertainty, digital divides, and social isolation increasingly affect our community. At the same time, libraries are being asked to do more with limited resources. Funding at this moment is critical to stabilize core services, support innovation, and ensure that PPL can respond effectively to both immediate needs and long-term community challenges.

Without timely investment, the library risks scaling back services that many residents rely on daily. With support, however, PPL can expand its impact and continue evolving as a responsive, resilient community anchor.

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

Results and impact will be demonstrated through a combination of quantitative and qualitative measures, including:

- Program attendance and participation data
- One-on-one service interactions and referrals
- Community partner engagement and outcomes
- Patron feedback, surveys, and testimonials

These metrics will allow PPL to assess effectiveness, identify areas for improvement, and clearly communicate the value and outcomes of funded services.