



## LET FREEDOM RING

### AMERICA250 GRANT APPLICATION FORM

### CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

An electronic version of this application is available at <https://cccf250.org/planning/>

#### **Contact Information**

Contact Person Name: Mark Evans & Don Vymazal  
 Organization Name: Caln Township & Spackman Davis Farm  
 Address: 253 Municipal Drive, Thorndale, PA 19372  
 Phone: (610) 384-0600 x114  
 Email: [mevans@calntownship.org](mailto:mevans@calntownship.org) [dvymazal@calntownship.org](mailto:dvymazal@calntownship.org)

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

Year Incorporated: 1868

FEIN #: 23-6005459

*Note: Please attach a copy of your 501c3 letter with this request. Per IRS regulations, grants can be awarded to nonprofit charities and municipalities, but NOT individuals nor businesses.*

#### **Organization Field of Interest**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Arts, Culture, Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Environnent, Animals	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Library
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health & Human Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Justice, Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Municipality/Governmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	If other, please describe:		

A lot	Some	A little	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This inspires & engages a <b>wide array of people in commemoration of America's founding with our Revolutionary Declaration of Independence.</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This <b>connects Chester County's stories to the nation's past, present &amp; future.</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This commemoration is <b>truly by the people, for all people.</b> We invite wide input & welcome all to actively participate.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This examines & fosters <b>fundamental rights of Life, Liberty &amp; the Pursuit of Happiness for All.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	We zoom in to <b>CCCF250</b> planning meetings to share information & ideas.

#### **Amount Requested from the Community Foundation:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,250	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$2,250	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$5,250	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$10,250
--------------------------	-------	--------------------------	---------	--------------------------	---------	--------------------------	---------	-------------------------------------	----------

Please **BRIEFLY** describe how this funding will help your programs, services, activities and/or events to celebrate and commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our nation's Declaration of Independence, and our continuing journey toward liberty and justice for all. (SEE NEXT PAGE)

### **What are you doing? When? Who will it impact? What difference do you aim to make?**

On June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Caln will host a celebration focused on true community gathering, united by our shared history and reflection on the generations of Chester County families who made our present possible. The backdrop for this event will be the Spackman Davis Farmstead and how the farm and Caln itself struggled through disagreement and conflict from the very beginning, while becoming the unifying center of what would be Western Chester County. The tale covers every century and aspect of the 4 pillars of the 250<sup>th</sup> requirements.

The day will feature a number of activities across the Spackman-Davis Farm and will provide a contextual example of colonial Chester County agriculture, with the property largely unchanged since before the Nation's founding. This year's emphasis will not simply be on the Longest Picnic Table in Chester County but will also encourage folks to get on their feet and experience living history at every corner of the 11-acres that will be open to the public. The corn will be high to create the perfect backdrop.

Schedule performance for the June 20<sup>th</sup> Picnic include:

- Dignitaries from Calne, England
- The Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard
- A British Army encampment and potential skirmish
- A multi-panel LED Video Wall with one panel as a dedicated portal to Calne, England
- Vignettes by professional actors from 1776 and/or other plays
- "Ghosts" of generational Spackman ancestors telling their stories at key locations on the farm
- Vintage Trolley Tours by Old Caln Historical Society depicting the farm and visiting key historic resources in Caln (OCHS is charging a minimal fee for the tour)
- A Juneteenth declaration by Bertha Jackmon and a display noting the Pathway to Freedom sites throughout Caln Township
- The Colored Troops of America Color Guard (pending confirmation)
- Displays and stories by neighboring Historic Commissions whose towns grew from Caln Twp (So far we have Coatesville and East Brandywine committed)
- Randell Spackman and friends roaming the grounds in colonial and British army attire recruiting guests to "join them"
- Roving barbershop quartet type singers
- Ragtime piano playing by grammy award winner Patrick Robinson
- Live art projects
- **The actual Dare to Declare will be one of the following:**
  - **A screening of the CCCF video?**
  - **A reading by the last 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduating class of Caln Elementary School (Class of 2026)?**
  - **Our actors and State/County Elected Officials reading the declaration**
- The longest picnic table in Chester County with exceptional food from Cedar Creek Catering
- A post lunch rock concert by Chico's Vibe
- Tethered hot air balloon rides on the great lawn
- Interactive themed art projects for all ages

### **What will it cost overall? Who are you partnering & coordinating with?**

While the run of show for this event is ambitious, Caln Township is committed to hosting a centerpiece event for the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration and has budgeted \$10,000 through the Caln Township Historical

Commission for this event. To support additional costs, the Friends of the Spackman Davis Farm have committed an additional \$5,000 of community funding for targeted activities on June 20<sup>th</sup>. In addition, local leaders have been engaged and fundraising is underway with our local business community targeted at providing \$10,000 to \$15,000 of additional support. In total, we anticipate that the event will cost approximately \$40,000. Funding from the Chester County Community Foundation in the full amount requested of \$10,250 will close this financial gap and ensure all those who attend this event will leave the Spackman Davis Farm with a 250<sup>th</sup> experience they will not soon forget!

We have learned from past community celebrations that dedicated partners make all the difference when hosting events with the scale and scope of this magnitude. With this in mind, we have secured the following partners to support us in ensuring this event is worthy of the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration.

- Representatives from Calne, England
- Friends of the Spackman Davis Farm
- Old Caln Historical Society
- Caln Township Parks and Recreation
- Coatesville Historical Commission
- East Brandywine Historical Commission
- Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard
- Cedar Creek Catering
- Chico's Vibe
- Stargazers Winery
- Tailor Made Films
- Randell Spackman and Friends
- The Spackman Farm Players
- Grammy Winner Patrick Robinson

*Please e-mail this Mini-Grant request with your 501c3 letter to [grants@chescofc.org](mailto:grants@chescofc.org)*

*Let Freedom Ring Mini-Grant decisions are made on the 25th of each month.*

*Questions? Contact Grants Officer Stephenie Stevens (610) 696-8211 [grants@chescofc.org](mailto:grants@chescofc.org)*

**For Good. For All. Forever.**