



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: Sarah Lerch

Organization Name: Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead

Address: Ridley Creek State Park, 3900 North Sandy Flash Drive, Newtown Square, PA 19073

Phone: 412-200-0694

Email: director@colonialfarmstead.org

Website: www.colonialfarmstead.org

Year Incorporated: 1973/opened to public officially in 1976

FEIN #: 23-7249215

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

A lot	Some	A little	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			This inspires & engages a wide array of people in commemoration of America's founding with our Revolutionary Declaration of Independence.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			This connects Chester County's stories to the nation's past, present & future.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			This commemoration is truly by the people, for all people. We invite wide input & welcome all to actively participate.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			This examines & fosters fundamental rights of Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Happiness for All.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		We zoom in to CCCF250 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
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Please BRIEFLY describe how this funding will help your programs, services, activities and/or events to celebrate and commemorate the 250th anniversary of our nation's Declaration of Independence, and our continuing journey toward liberty and justice for all.

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

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

In 2026, the nation's 250th anniversary of independence will coincide with a powerful milestone for the Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead: 50 years as a public living history site. This yearlong commemoration provides a unique opportunity to deepen public understanding of the Revolutionary Era through the lens of everyday farm families whose labor, choices, and values shaped early America.

What distinguishes the Farmstead is its commitment to full-cycle historic farming, demonstrating how nearly 90 percent of colonial Americans sustained themselves through agriculture. Few sites are positioned to tell this story as holistically as the Farmstead, where history is not only interpreted but actively lived through seasonal, hands-on agricultural practice. Through living history, visitors experience how farming anchored daily life while intersecting with the political, economic, and cultural upheavals of the Revolutionary Era, connections that remain relevant today.

Programmatic support in 2026 will enable the Farmstead to expand this work through increased seasonal farming activities and a broader range of demonstrated 18th-century trades and skills while inviting the public to directly engage with history through hands-on, place-based experiences. The Farmstead will also strengthen partnerships with community organizations, artists, and historic tradespersons to deliver shared programming, expand offerings, and increase regional visibility during this milestone year.

While the Farmstead is located right over the county line in Delaware County close to 50% of the site's annual visitation and school groups come from communities in Chester County. The Farmstead is committed to extending reach in Chester County with ongoing promotion with Chester County Tourism and participation in the Chester County Tourism Savings Pass.

The overall project budget is \$75,000 and includes salary support for education and interpretation, education program supplies, instructor fees for historic skills workshops, guest presenters, and care for the site's heritage breed animals central to the visitor experience.

Please e-mail this Mini-Grant request with your 501c3 letter to grants@chescocf.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@chescocf.org

For Good. For All. Forever.