



Celebrate America's 250th Birthday!
For Good. For All. Forever.



DARE TO DECLARE

CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
"DARE TO DECLARE" MINI-GRANT APPLICATION FORM

An electronic version of this application is available at https://cccf250.org/daretodeclare/

Please note: Per IRS regulations, grants can be awarded to nonprofit charities and municipalities, but NOT individuals nor businesses.

Contact Information

Contact Person Name: tonya thames-taylor
Organization Name: People's Hall
Address: 810 Doe Run Road, East Fallowfield, PA 19320
Phone: 610-209-7825
Email: tonyathames@gmail.com or peopleshall1845@gmail.com
Website: https://www.peoples-hall.org/
Year Incorporated: 2015
FEIN #: 47-373-3530
Note: As requested, a copy of our 501c3 letter is attached

Organization Field of Interest

X Social Justice, Civil Rights X Religion

Mini-Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation

Table with 5 columns: \$250, \$500, X \$1,575, \$2,000, \$2,500

Your Dare to Declare Event:

Table with 4 columns: Date, Time, Location Name, Location Address. Rows for March 28, 2026 and June 27, 2026.

Please BRIEFLY describe:

1-How will this funding help your Dare to Declare Event? In December 2025, People's Hall enthusiastically hosted a Dare to Declare Event. The event drew a diverse audience that was intergenerational, interracial, and represented a wide range of socioeconomic backgrounds. Attendees received a "Fast Facts" handout related to the Declaration of Independence and those facts were contextualized. Five readers dramatically read the Declaration. After the reading, audience members collectively sang holiday cheer. At the end of the program, attendees interacted in conversations and enjoyed complimentary refreshments. One participant, Stacey J. expressed gratitude for the event, "This was a great event. Very educational and enlightening." Carolyn J., remarked "Wonderful. Those words are still relevant. I will never hear 'self-evident' and not think of People's Hall." Lisa A. said the program was "engaging and thought-provoking." Others reflected on the relevance and meaning of "self-evident truths" today. To continue this America250 momentum, in March and June 2026, we are hosting two more "Dare to Declare" events on Saturday, March 21 and Saturday, June 27. For

the March event, as we celebrate Women’s History Month, we will read both the “Declaration of Independence” and the “Declaration of Sentiments.” We will discuss the roles that women played in shaping the Village of Ercildoun. We will discuss abolitionist Abby Kelly Foster’s visit and suffragist Alice Paul’s connections to the area. For the June event, we are highlighting the revolutionary story of abolitionism, the most successful reform movement in the 19th century and arguably the most impactful in American History, following the Revolution. We will have a public discussion of Frederick Douglass’ “What to the Slave is the 4th of July?” We will also discuss the importance of Douglass’ visit to Fallowfield Friends Meeting, which is in Ercildoun, in 1844.



Back (Left to right): Dan Tracey, Jim Petro, Jimmy Petro, and Stephen Lyons. Front: tonya thames-taylor. Readers at a Dare To Declare Event, People’s Hall, East Fallowfield, December 2025.

People’s Hall needs funding to present our upcoming “Dare to Declare” community events. Our next events combine the elements of community forum, public discussion, lecture series, oral and written history collection, and civic engagement.

Our two events will include a reading of the Declaration by community members and Trustees of People’s Hall. We need funds to purchase mini-American flags and keepsake giveaways for all ages for both events. Giveaways will include pens, which will be used for our community *Self-evident Truths We the People* project described below. As we did in December, we plan to distribute color, informational brochures regarding the Declaration, so we need funding for that. To foster conversation and interaction, we need funds to subsidize our catered light refreshments and snacks. To make sure we are operating in full integrity to generate meaningful dialogue, we need funds to pay token honorariums for keynote speakers who have the skills to generate conversation among participants. Lastly, we want to build on what we witnessed at our December 2025 “Dare to Declare” event: written and oral reflections of “Self-evident Truths” and “We the People.”

At our December 2025 event, the audience embraced and chanted “We the People.” Also, audience members shared what “self-evident truth” meant to them now. To historically capture this, at our next “Dare to Declare” events, we need funding to capture written and oral reflections for a long-term historical, digital archive. We need funds to pay a token honorarium for an archivist to solicit participation, collect, organize, digitize, and upload to our website answers to: (1) What does “self-evident truths” mean to you?; (2) When you hear “We the People” what does that mean to you?; (3) “What does America250 mean to you?” and/or (4) In 10 years, my hope for America is (fill-in-the-blank)? Why I have this hope is (fill-in-the blank). In sum, we need funds for flags, giveaways, informational brochures, refreshments, honorariums, and a digital archive.

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
Remembering the Ladies:
 Join us on Saturday, March 21, 2026, 1-2 PM
 as we Celebrate and Discuss How
 Women Shaped East Fallowfield

East Fallowfield includes The Village of Ercildoun. Founded by Quakers, Ercildoun benefited from the Quakers’ belief in women’s equality. Come find out how these early WOMEN shaped our local, regional, and national histories.

At this FREE event, we will read the Declaration of Independence. Also, we discuss notable local women and how their actions brought more justice, opportunities, and liberties to our nation.

PEOPLE'S HALL
 810 DOE RUN ROAD
 EAST FALLOWFIELD, PA 19320
 SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026
 1-2 PM

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED BY TRIPLE FRESH CATERING
 ANY QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT
 PEOPLESALL1845@GMAIL.COM
 OR (484) 247-4279

March 21, 2026 Flyer. In addition to the Declaration of Independence, we will also read the “Declaration of Sentiments.”

By executing our “Dare to Declare,” we are providing quality programming that brings people together and documents our shared humanity. By doing so, we hope to generate interest in local histories and spaces.

2-Who it will impact?

For our most recent programs in December 2025 and February 2026, we enjoyed meaningful interaction with People’s Hall filled near capacity. We expect our excellent turnout to continue. Our programming has both local and regional support pulling participants from all over Chester County and our neighboring states of Delaware and Maryland.

3-The approximate amount you’ll be spending on Dare to Declare activities overall.

In addition to personal and business donations, People’s Hall’s Trustees supported our first Dare to Declare using a budget of \$550 (refreshments, speakers, location, oil, decorations, printing, sound system, and giveaways). For the next two programs, with our limited funds, we are budgeting \$300. We have secured professional services at deeply discounted prices. The caterers, keynotes, and archivist are charging us token amounts because they believe in People’s Hall’s mission and want to support our America250 efforts. Also, these are local businesses and people who have contributed financially in the past.

4-Who you are partnering/coordinating with?

For this project, People’s Hall will continue coordinating with East Fallowfield Township, elected officials in East Fallowfield Township, Triple Fresh Grocery and Catering, and Fallowfield Friends Meeting. Also, we have secured pocket-sized copies of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution from the National Constitutional Center located in Philadelphia.

Funding from CCCF will help us to continue our local history storytelling and America250 programming. People’s Hall is requesting **\$1575** to cover the costs associated with hosting our next two programs, which are free and open to the public.

Dare to Declare with Self-Evident Truths/We the People Initiative

Mini-American Flags for all-year programs	\$200
Buntings for windows	\$100
Pens/paper with People’s Hall and America250 logo	\$150
Colored Handouts (Programs and Brochures)	\$175
Refreshments and snacks for program and post-program interviews, conversations and writing exercises	\$450 (\$225 each program/ 50+ people)
Keynote Addresses (historians/trained docents)	\$250 (\$125 each program)
Archivist	\$250 (about two months of specialized labor)
Total Grant Request	\$1575

*Please e-mail this Mini-Grant request with your 501c3 letter to grants@chescofcf.org
 Dare to Declare Mini-Grant decisions are made on the 25th of each month.
 Questions? Contact Grants Officer Stephenie Stevens (610) 696-8211 grants@chescofcf.org*

For Good. For All. Forever.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

Date: DEC 28 2015

PEOPLES HALL LIMITED
810 DOE RUN ROAD
EAST FALLOWFIELD, PA 19320-0000

Employer Identification Number:
47-3733530
DLN:
26053755005305
Contact Person:
CUSTOMER SERVICE ID# 31954
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990/990-EZ/990-N Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
December 1, 2015
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

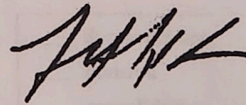
If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Letter 5436

Sincerely,



Jeffrey I. Cooper
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements