



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: Ernie Holling
 Organization Name: The Mill at Anselma
 Address: 1730 Conestoga Rd, Chester Springs, PA 19425
 Phone: 610-827-1900
 Email: ernie@anselmamill.org
 Website: <https://anselmamill.org>
 Year Incorporated: 1998
 FEIN #: 23-2971911
 Note: Please attach a copy of your 501c3 letter with this request.

Organization Field of Interest

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

Mini-Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$1,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$2,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$2,500
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Your Dare to Declare Event:

Date	Time	Location Name	Location Address
July 4, 2026	10am - 4pm	The Mill at Anselma	1730 Conestoga Rd, Chester Springs

Please BRIEFLY describe: 1-how this funding will help your Dare to Declare Event, 2-who it will impact, 3-the approximate amount you'll be spending on Dare to Declare activities overall, and 4-who you are partnering/coordinating with.

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

For Good. For All. Forever.

The Mill at Anselma

Dare to Declare Mini-Grant Proposal to Chester County Community Foundation

Introduction

The Mill at Anselma is the oldest known grist mill in the United States operating with its original machinery. It was built in 1747 on Pickering Creek in Chester County, Pennsylvania by Samuel Lightfoot, a surveyor, to produce flour and animal feed. It has been exactly maintained in its original structure and function. In 2005, The Mill was designated a National Historic Landmark, recognizing it as the most intact authentic example of a custom water-powered grist mill operating with its original Colonial-era power train in the United States. The Mill has a dedicated team of both full-time and part-time volunteers, achieves its goals without paid staff, and is supported solely by donations and grants.

Eighteen months ago, The Mill at Anselma formed a committee to direct The Mill's contributions to Chester County's America250 celebration. This 11-member committee has met monthly since then. Our goal is to celebrate our nation's independence while providing our visitors with a journey into life at a typical Colonial-era grist mill, and trace the history of this mill from its inception to present. We have developed a full slate of programming to tell our story, with our main event on Saturday, July 4, 2026.

July 4th Celebration

The event will kick-off with a reading of the Declaration of Independence by our trained volunteers in the Visitors Center. Throughout the day, visitors will have the opportunity to watch as we grind wheat into flour using our Colonial-era machinery. There will be a special performance of the Lenape Brass, and activities for children demonstrating skills used in Colonial-era homes including candle, ink, and papermaking. A second reading of the Declaration will follow in the afternoon. Our historic site will be decorated with bunting and flags, and volunteers will demonstrate Colonial breadmaking in our beehive oven. Visitors will receive a special handheld Declaration prepared by Dr. Emily Sneff, early American historian and leading expert on the Declaration of Independence. A new banner will be displayed to promote the event, and we will be widely publicizing it in the upcoming months.

Goals and Outcomes

The goal of our July 4th Celebration is to demonstrate to visitors what it would be like to live in the Colonial-era in a community with a thriving grist mill, and share with our visitors the significant fact that The Mill at Anselma was among numerous mills built at this time in Chester County that played a key role in America's ability to declare independence from Great Britain. The expected outcome of this event is to increase The Mill's visibility, audience engagement, and future sustainability.

Community Served

Through our educational programs, tours, demonstrations, and events, The Mill at Anselma serves approximately 2,000 people a year, including schoolchildren, families, scholars, tourists, and Chester County residents. We anticipate welcoming many new and returning visitors for America's upcoming 250th anniversary and our July 4th Celebration.

Budget

Advertising	\$50
Lenape Brass	\$600
Decorations/Bunting	\$100
Breadmaking Demo Materials	\$50
New Banner	\$100
Kids Activities	<u>\$100</u>
Total	\$1,000

Collaboration

The Mill at Anselma is an active member of the Chester County America250 planning group, and is collaborating with Brandywine Valley Tourism to promote the July 4th Celebration.

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: JUL 25 2003

THE MILL AT ANSELMA PRESERVATION
AND EDUCATIONAL TRUST INC
PO BOX 42
CHESTER SPRINGS, PA 19425-0000

Employer Identification Number:
23-2971911
DLN:
17053186748073
Contact Person: GERRY R McLAUGHLIN ID# 31115
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Public Charity Status:
17(b) (1) (A) (vi)

Dear Applicant:

Our letter dated July 2, 1999, stated you would be exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and you would be treated as a public charity during an advance ruling period.

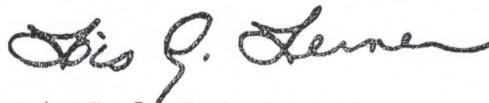
Based on our records and on the information you submitted, we are pleased to confirm that you are exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code, and you are classified as a public charity under the Code section listed in the heading of this letter.

Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, provides detailed information about your rights and responsibilities as an exempt organization. You may request a copy by calling the toll-free number for forms, (800) 829-3676. Information is also available on our Internet Web Site at www.irs.gov.

If you have general questions about exempt organizations, please call our toll-free number shown in the heading between 8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Eastern time.

Please keep this letter in your permanent records.

Sincerely yours,



Lois G. Lerner
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Letter 1050 (DO/CG)