



**Mighty Writers El Futuro Kennett
Summer Camp 2026
Grant Proposal to the Hadley Fund**

HADLEY GRANT/SPONSORSHIP REQUEST

I. COVER SHEET

Date: 2/28/202

Contact Information

Organization Name: Mighty Writers El Futuro Kennett
Address: 121 Willow St., Toughkenamon, PA 19374

Contact Person Name: Tricia Coscia
Contact Person E-mail:
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Phone: 267-239-0899

Board of Directors Chair Name: Mustafa Rashed

Website: <https://mightywriters.org/>

Year Founded: 2009

EIN:01-0920922

Have you received grant/sponsorship money from the Hadley Presents in the past?

Yes No Not Sure

Which of these Hadley priorities are embedded in your program?

Cultural Enrichment

Diversity/Isms; Bringing Disparate Groups of People Together to Promote Understanding

Environmental Justice & Education

Healthy, Sustainable Practices for Individuals and Communities

Peace, Justice & Non-Violence

Other: Literacy, summer learning

Who do you envision will primarily be attracted to your program? (approximate percentages, please)

Latinos

Youth

African Americans

White Caucasians

General Public

Other:

Other:

100% Total: 100%

Families

Seniors

General Public

How many people from the Kennett region will be served by this program?

less than 25 26-100 101-999 over 1,000 over 5,000

Personnel

47 # of Paid Staff 13 # of Board Volunteers 300 # of Non-Board Volunteers

Timing

Proposed Program Date: May 1 2026- August 31 2026

Hadley Funding/Sponsorship Decision Desired by the first day of what month:

Jan Feb Mar April May June July Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec

Finances

\$ 5000 How much grant/sponsorship funding do you seek from The Hadley Fund?

\$ \$67,000 What is your overall budget for this program?

\$ 850,000 What is your overall budget for this year? (for MW Kennett site)



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III. DESCRIPTION

Please describe briefly:

1-What is your nonprofit's mission?

Mighty Writers' mission is to teach kids of all ages to think clearly and write with clarity so they achieve success in school and life. In our free high-quality interdisciplinary after-school and summer programs, we teach bilingual students to discover the power of their voices. By improving English and Spanish literacy proficiency, we provide kids with equal opportunity to achieve in school, engage with their community, and gain access to the tools they need to reach their full potential. Mighty Writers Kennett offers year-round fun and engaging bilingual writing programs for kids and teens ages 7-18, along with one-on-one mentorships, full-day summer camp, adult digital literacy and family write nights. Our programs are offered after school, evenings, weekends and during the summer in our safe and inclusive space which is as bright and creative as our kids! Our after-school programs and summer camps provide enrichment opportunities that would otherwise not be accessible for the children and youth in our programs.

2-What are you trying to achieve with this program?

Mighty Writers is very grateful for the funding from the Hadley Foundation for our family events at Mighty Writers El Futuro Kennett in 2025. This year, Mighty Writers seeks this funding to provide fun and innovative full day camps that help reduce learning loss during the summer months for children and teens at the El Futuro Kennett site. Located 121 Willow St., Toughkenamon, PA 19374, MW El Futuro Kennett serves children living in West Grove, Kennett Square, Oxford, New Garden Township and nearby Toughkenamon. All of the students in our program are children of migrant farmworkers,. Demographically, 100% of the students and families we serve in Chester County are from Hispanic/Latin(x) communities. All the literacy programs are provided for free to underserved Hispanic immigrant kids and youth in zip codes 19311, 19348, 19390, 19374, 19363 and 19380. Additionally, 85% of the youth we serve live below the poverty line; 85% qualify for free or reduced-price lunches in school; 95% speak Spanish as their first language. In addition, they face steep academic and social challenges.

- More than 50% are below grade-level proficiency in English language skills.
- 90% grapple with assimilation stress, bullying, slippage of core identity and low self-esteem.

All of our programs ultimately aim to reduce poverty by giving kids the skills and supports they need for success. MW El Futuro Kennett summer camp will be offered to elementary and middle school students, Monday through Friday. Weekly themes explore various topics through writing, art, project-based workshops, games and field trips to enhance learning. The program aims to increase reading and writing proficiencies in elementary and middle schoolers as well as better the emotional well being of youth. Students are provided with plenty of snacks, community building activities, time for outdoor and active play, and every workshop or outing has a writing component.

MW's Literacy Directors will design and teach daily reading and writing curricula that are directed enough to achieve results yet fluid enough to make space for varying needs. We listen to our kids and can easily turn their suggestions into programs because of our policy for staff to have full creative and scheduling control of their sites. In addition to weekly themed learning, students will have the opportunity to go on field trips to places such as museums, parks and art centers for fun and enrichment. Culminating events will be planned for families and kids to enjoy and reflect on their summer experiences. Literacy Directors will be responsible for diligently engaging and promoting leadership among volunteers and ensure the recruitment and retention of youth in our summer program.

Camp activities: Daily camp activities will integrate literacy, art, outdoor play and prosocial opportunities to enhance English Language Learning and writing skills, encourage social interaction and provide underserved youth with consistency and routine in safe spaces where they learn, grow and have fun. Every day, before the camp activities begin, students receive meals, participate in warm-up sessions, and set positive tones for the week through Social Emotional Learning (SEL) -integrated activities like Mighty Mantras and icebreaker games.

Our bilingual curriculum bridges language gaps while celebrating Hispanic heritage. By integrating English proficiency development with cultural pride, we create an enriching educational experience. Examples of activities include:

- Folk Art in Mexican Culture: Crafting vibrant, handmade art from recycled materials.
- Day of the Dead Ofrenda: Celebrating loved ones through traditional offerings.
- Piñata-Making: Creating papier-mâché piñatas for festive occasions.
- Papel Picado: Designing intricate, perforated paper decorations.
- Amate Paintings: Crafting colorful bark paper art reflecting village life.

These workshops, led by bilingual instructors from immigrant communities, honor the students' cultural origins, foster pride in their heritage, and advance literacy. Instructors serve as role models, showing how students can embrace their identity while excelling academically and personally.

Staff who work year round with students in our after-school programs develop plans for summer camp based on the needs and interests of the kids and their community. Weeks at Summer Camp revolve around themes, for example:

Week 1: Literature and Poetry

Week 2: Sportswriting

Week 3: Mindfulness and Empathy

Week 4: Multimedia and Arts

Week 5: STEM

Week 6: Reflection and Learning

We create culturally affirming, safe and collaborative learning environments for students to build emotional skills, strengthen literacy proficiency, and explore the literature to broaden perspectives. During Mindfulness Week, our certified mindfulness instructor provides SEL-integrated workshops to help kids and youth effectuate concepts like gratitude, compassion, and respect through mindfulness-based movements, meditation, journaling, arts, and storytelling.

During art week, students explore art forms such as music, cinema, and multimedia and then create projects to express themselves. Literature Week strengthens reading, writing, and critical thinking skills by increasing access to books written by diverse authors and encouraging kids to find books they like and are excited to discuss.

Field trips provide access to new experiences for our campers, opening their minds to new possibilities and expanding imaginations. We want our Mighty kids to know they belong in all kinds of spaces. Whether the trip is to a cultural site, museum, Longwood Gardens, a local park, or a college tour, every experience includes a writing component.

The last week of summer camp will focus on reflection and learning, creating spaces to share challenges, navigating ways to overcome them, and finalizing the writing projects with their peers and families. We will host a family-based event to build community and camaraderie while sharing students' successes.

3-How you will discern the impact and results of this program?

At Mighty Writers, our summer programming, like our after-school programs, aims to help kids think clearly and write with clarity. Literacy is not our only goal, instead our organization takes a Whole Child approach as evidenced by our commitment to the emotional well-being of the youth participating in our program. For our summer programming to be successful, Mighty Writers will see tangible results indicating overall growth in literacy proficiency and social emotional well-being. To ensure high-impact learning, MW tracks and evaluates multiple student outcomes throughout the year, namely:

- Grade-level literacy proficiency: By the end of the school year, 77% of participating students will reach grade-level writing proficiency.
- Attendance: At least 85% of the students will improve attendance.
- Academic progress: 85% of students will improve their reading, writing and comprehension skills from the time they join MW.
- After-school program attendance: 87% of students will attend three out of five Academy classes.
- Homework completion and accuracy: 95% of students will complete their homework and writing assignments daily.
- Writing skill development and engagement: 85% of students will report writing more frequently outside of school.
- Social and emotional well-being: 85% of our students will feel empowered through positive emotional regulation, clarity in thinking and improved self-confidence.
- Student participation and involvement in the daily camp activities are closely monitored. Staff provides one-to-one feedback to students and families for any struggling student.

Throughout the year, quantitatively, we use MY Access to measure the writing proficiency of After-School Academy participants. MY Access is an application to score student writing proficiency using linguistic analysis and millions of student writing samples nationwide. It tracks student writing progress on a scale of 1-6. We aim to achieve a score of 5 and above for each student.

Qualitatively, MW uses surveys and participant feedback to improve our offerings, surveying parents, youth and volunteers before and after participation. Surveys are distributed and collected quarterly for all workshops. Students and their parents complete the surveys, and MW staff gather the data and feedback, which is compiled into the end-of-school-year report in the summer. All questions are available in Spanish and English. The report includes both quantitative and qualitative assessments. Qualitative assessments are usually testimonials.

4-Why is it important to fund this now?

Our Mighty immigrant families, who are so vital to our community, are facing outsized stressors and challenges. We aim to counter negative narratives by approaching bilingual education in Chester County from a strengths-based perspective. We work with community-based organizations such as La Comunidad Hispana (LCH), with whom we partner on client referrals ensures families receive comprehensive support services. The Garage Youth Center: Helps with events, summer transport, and collaborations with Mighty Writers, such as on a float for the 2025 Light Parade in Kennett Square and the Hispanic Heritage Festival. Casa Guanajuato collaborates with MW on cultural enrichment activities, including reciprocal participation in community events and performances, such as showcasing traditional dancers.

Rather than seeing students who are proficient in their native language but struggle with English as suffering from a deficit, we see them as starting with an advantage. As future bilinguals, they are primed for higher achievement. All families need and want the same opportunities for their children, and given the tools and supports they need, we know our Mighty Kids will shine!

III. ATTACHMENTS

E-mail or mail this support information

1. Copy of 501 (c) (3) federal tax-exempt letter
2. List of Board of Directors, with their affiliations
3. Most recent annual report and financial statement, audited if available
4. Organizational operating budget with actual results for prior fiscal year and current fiscal year to date
Additional Attachment - MW Kennett Summer Camp Budget
5. Current strategic plan. If your nonprofit does not have a current strategic plan, explain why.

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