



## GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

To obtain an electronic version of this application, visit [www.chescocf.org](http://www.chescocf.org)

This page will be shared electronically with Grant Panel Members & Fund Advisors + posted online.

**Date 3/26/2026**

### Contact Information

Organization Name: Chester County’s Children, Inc.  
 Address: 601 Westtown Rd, Suite 310  
 West Chester, PA 19380  
 Phone: 610-344-5800  
 Website: [www.chestercountyschildren.org](http://www.chestercountyschildren.org)  
 Year Incorporated: 1987  
 FEIN: 22-2974255

ED/CEO Name: N/A  
 ED/CEO E-mail: N/A  
 Board Chair Name: Kenneth Klein  
 Board Chair Approval (check here):   
 Primary Contact Name: Nancy Zion  
 Primary Contact E-mail: [nancyzion3@gmail.com](mailto:nancyzion3@gmail.com)

### Organization Information:

#### **Field/s of Interest:**

Arts, Culture, Heritage		Education, Library		Environment, Animals
Health	X	Human Services		Social Justice, Civic Engagement
Religion		If other, please describe:		

**Mission: “Reaching, Supporting, and Empowering Chester County’s children and families since 1987”**

**Geographic Area Served** (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served): **Chester County**

**Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served.** (Include Chester County # &/or % served.)

**We provide financial assistance for families in crisis and for children living in foster care through our partnership with the Chester County Department of Children, Youth and Families. In addition to the approximately 100 children we support during our summer camp program, we provide assistance to several other dozen children and adolescents.**

**Annual Budget** \$ \$48,300 0 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff  
 95%      % of budget for program expenses 8 # of Board Volunteers  
 2.6%      % of budget for administrative expenses      # of Active Non-Board Volunteers  
 2%      % of budget for fundraising expenses 60 # of Volunteer Hours  
*100% = total*

### **Top 3-5 funding sources:**

**This grant proposal is for:** X Direct Service Programs & General Operating &/or      Capacity Building

### **If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:**

Contingency Planning		Partnerships, Collaborations		Merger, Closure
Mission, Vision, Strategy		Board Engagement & Leadership		Marketing, Communication
Resource Development		Operations		Technology

If other, please describe:

**Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation:** \$ \$5000

**Proposal Summary:** *(a few sentences, please)*

This grant would help to fund the Sister Maria Consuelo Sparks Summer Camp Program. The aim of the Sister Maria Consuelo Sparks Summer Camp Program is to assist foster families or families in crisis identified by the Chester County Department of Children, Youth and Families with the cost of summer camp activities. Sister was a founding member of Chester County's Children. This program allows such disadvantaged children to participate in summer activities like "normal" children and to benefit socially, developmentally, athletically or artistically.



## II. GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

*Provide clear, concise information in 1-3 pages. Please be brief.*

### 1. Nonprofit's overall aims, key initiatives, key achievements & distinctiveness

Chester County's Children, Inc. was established to assist children and families identified by the Chester County Department of Children, Youth and Families with expenses that are not funded by state, county or federal funds. Expenses may include such items as food, clothing, school supplies, or something as simple as a reward visit to McDonald's for the successful completion of a behavioral contact for a school-avoidant child. Occasionally other vetted low-income children are supported as well.

However, most of our monies go to fund the Sister Maria Consuelo Sparks Summer Camp Program. Summer is often a difficult time for low-income families and families in crisis. Simulating or physical activities may be limited in some locales. Often these families are unable to afford a day or overnight camp experience. Tailoring a camp experience to a child's interests can develop a needed skill or future area of pursuit. Children with special needs also benefit greatly from a camp experience tailored to their needs.

This summer camp program has been running successfully for at least 20 years. Other than during Covid, we have seen a steady increase in camp requests and in the number of children able to participate.

### 2. Funding request:

Chester County's Children, Inc. is run by a small volunteer Board, without paid staff, which allows us to utilize all funds collected to address the needs of local children and families. We receive funding from several organizations for this program through grants. Unfortunately our major grant source, though steady, has kept monies awarded static while the number of children interested in attending camp, or attending more sessions, has increased. Again this year we have raised the budgeted amount for camp due to increased interest.

Summer is often a difficult time for low income families and a time of more lax supervision. Attending a camp session not only provides social and physical stimulation, it can allow parents or caregivers an opportunity for a small break.

With the assistance of the social workers at the Chester County Department of Children, Youth and Families, children are identified who have an interest in attending a summer camp program in the area. We have established relationships with several local camps, but requests are not limited to those. Requests representative of the child's interests are identified through family conferences with social workers. Payments to the desired camps are arranged through DCYF. Occasionally we will approve the expenditure for camp-related equipment or clothing for the child. All expenditures remain confidential.

Each autumn a social worker Camp Coordinator from the Chester County Department of Children, Youth and Families presents to the CCC Board a report detailing the number of children, number of different families, and number of days or weeks of camp attendance. A comparison of this data with that of previous year is made to evaluate the use of the funds and to determine any budget adjustments needed for the following year. Anonymous feedback from parents, children, and social workers is also shared with the Board.