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I. GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

To obtain an electronic version of this application, visit www.chescof.org

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

Date

Contact Information

Organization Name: The Crime Victims' Center of Chester County, Inc ED/CEO Name: Chris Zaccarelli
 Address: 135 West Market Street, West Chester ED/CEO E-mail: christinez@cvcofcc.org
 Phone: 610-692-1926 Board Chair Name: Beau Crowding
 YWebsite: www.cvcofcc.org Board Chair Approval (check here): Yes
 Year Founded: 1973 Primary Contact Name: Same as CEO
 FEIN: 23-2039284 Primary Contact E-mail:

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

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

Mission: CVC fosters healing, hope, and empowerment through free, confidential, and compassionate support for victims of sexual violence and other crimes. We guide individuals through trauma, recovery and legal processes. We work to prevent violence by promoting community inclusivity, raising awareness and imparting essential skills through outreach and education throughout Chester County.

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.)

Annual Budget \$ 1,860,214 18 FT, 19 PT # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
81 % of budget for program expenses 11 # of Board Volunteers
18 % of budget for administrative expenses 10 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
1 % of budget for fundraising expenses 225 # of Volunteer Hours
 100% = total

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, County of Chester, Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, Chester County Bar Foundation

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

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Contingency Planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnerships, Collaborations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Merger, Closure
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mission, Vision, Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Board Engagement & Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marketing, Communication
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resource Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology

If other, please describe: _____

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$ __\$3,350_____

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

CVC is seeking funding to partner again with the Garage Youth Center in Avondale to provide an eight-week group counseling program led by CVC's bilingual counselors to support families impacted by adolescent suicide. CCCF recently funded a support group for adults impacted by the trauma and fear created by the current immigration enforcement chaos and during these sessions the need was identified for the group to continue and focus on the impact of adolescent suicide.

The session will again we 8 weeks with sessions of 1.5 hours each. The goals of this second session will be:

- Connect The Garage with the Chester County Suicide Prevention Partnership to provide the QPR Training in Spanish.
- Offer an extension of the Trauma Informed Psychoeducation Skills Building Group Program that was created for the first session.
- The extension of the group will go deeper into each weekly topic (lesson) covered for both new participants and those that wish to join the group again to help solidify the information.
- The extension of the group will also offer the participants a place to process and ask further questions related to the QPR training that will open the door for the discussion.
- Provide a sense of safety, understanding and support to participants.

Just as the first sessions, this collaboration brings culturally responsive, trauma-informed mental health services into a trusted community space, reducing barriers to care for individuals and families who may be hesitant to seek traditional services. The group sessions will be offered in both English and Spanish and will focus on creating a safe, confidential environment where participants can process fear, stress, and uncertainty while building coping strategies and emotional resilience.

Through this partnership, CVC and the Garage Youth Center are addressing an urgent community need by combining clinical expertise with strong local relationships. Participants will have the opportunity to connect with others facing similar challenges, reduce isolation, and gain practical tools to manage anxiety, grief, and secondary trauma related to enforcement actions affecting their families and communities. With your support, CVC and the Garage Youth Center can strengthening community well-being by ensuring adults have access to supportive, culturally competent care during a time of heightened instability and distress.

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

CVC is the only non-profit providing 24/7 access to services for victims of all crime in Chester County. We were founded in 1973, originally called the Rape Crisis Council. Our organization began as part of a grassroots effort by concerned local individuals to provide assistance and services to victims of sexual assault and their families. The unifying goal was to develop an atmosphere that would encourage victims of sexual assault to seek appropriate medical, psychological, and criminal justice system assistance. Services to victims of sexual assault were critically needed because there was a lack of reporting and fear of publicity, it was misunderstood and underestimated in the community, and there were no set standards for treating cases of sexual assault. At that time, victims had no voice in the legislation or in the court system. Unfortunately, victims of sexual violence are still facing the same challenges today as when we were founded over 50 years ago.

CVC offers a wide range of Direct Services to those who have been victimized by sexual and all other crimes, from the initial hotline call that is often a victim's first contact with us, to accompanying them to necessary appointments in the law enforcement, court and medical systems, to supporting them for as long as necessary with counseling to help them heal from the trauma of victimization. In 1974, we also created a preventive program, called our Prevention and Education (P/E) Program, which seeks to proactively educate students and others across Chester County about the nature of crimes, healthy non-violent strategies to respond to stress and conflict, and the services that are available to those who have experienced crime victimization.

2. Funding request

- **What specific needs & issues are being addressed, via what programs and services and why now?**

This proposal responds directly to a critical community need identified during the first sessions by continuing to provide providing timely, trauma-informed support to individuals and families affected by the uncertainty and fear created by current immigration enforcement actions. By offering accessible, culturally and linguistically responsive counseling in a trusted community setting, the program helps reduce isolation, stabilize emotional well-being, and strengthen coping skills. In doing so, it supports not only individual healing but also the resilience and cohesion of the broader community during a period of heightened stress and disruption.

- **How will results & impact be demonstrated?**

Attendance and the total number of participants served will be tracked to document reach and engagement, but no additional surveys, written feedback, or personal data will be reported to protect confidentiality and ensure participants feel safe and secure. This approach prioritizes trust and privacy while still providing a clear measure of the program's utilization.

- **Additionally, for capacity building grant proposals:**
 - **How will this capacity building initiative impact your nonprofit?**

This program falls outside CVC's typical service model because participants will not be required to self-identify as victims of a specific crime in order to receive support. This grant will build our capacity to serve individuals affected by immigration enforcement-related fear and trauma without additional barriers, stigma, or risk.

- **How will this impact be demonstrated?** See Above
- **Include a description of the expected activities; timeline & costs to implement the initiative. If external consulting services are required, include the anticipated costs & expertise of the consultants to be hired. Include external consultant proposal/s if applicable.**

The participants in the first session will be invited back for the second session and for any openings, the program will be jointly marketed by CVC and The Garage Youth Center using outreach strategies that reflect the needs and communication preferences of the Avondale community. Information about the group will be shared through trusted community channels, bilingual materials, and direct referrals to ensure accessibility for adults who may be hesitant to engage in formal services. Registration and participation will be designed to be simple and low-barrier, reinforcing a sense of safety and confidentiality from the outset.

The counseling group will consist of eight in-person, one and a half hour sessions facilitated by CVC's bilingual counselors at The Garage Youth Center. Funding for the program will support counselor staff time for group facilitation, preparation, and documentation, as well as travel to and from the site and supervision.

Budget:

To CVC: \$2,750

Mileage: \$400

Staff Salaries: \$2,350

To The Garage

Staff Salaries: \$600

III. ATTACHMENTS

Email this support information. If it is on your website, please provide the [URL](#).

1. *Copy of **501 (c) (3)** federal tax-exempt letter
2. *List of **Board** of Directors, with their affiliations [URL](#):
3. *Most recent **annual report** [URL](#):
4. *Audited or reviewed recent **financial statement** [URL](#):
5. Itemized **organizational operating budget** with actual results for prior fiscal year & current fiscal year to date
6. If capacity building initiative, **itemized budget** (including external consultant's proposal, if applicable) see above
7. *Current **strategic plan**. If your nonprofit does **not** have a current strategic plan, **explain why**.

***All of the requested attachments are on our Candid profile: The Crime Victims' Center of Chester County, Inc**

A letter of support from The Garage is also attached.



May 12, 2026

Dear Grant Review Committee,

On behalf of The Garage Community & Youth Center, please accept this letter of support for the Crime Victims' Center of Chester County's (CVC) suicide education and awareness proposal. Recently, our shared partnership provided an eight-week, bilingual counseling group for adult caregivers of Garage students who are experiencing fear, trauma, and uncertainty related to current immigration enforcement challenges.

For 25 years, The Garage has been a consistent, trusted presence for youth and families in southern Chester County. Families do not come to us only for programs, they come for connection, safety, and relationships built over time. Many of the parents and caregivers who walk through our doors are carrying significant emotional stress while continuing to show up for their children and community. We have seen firsthand the growing need for culturally responsive, trauma-informed mental health support specifically designed for the adults who are central to the stability and well-being of Garage families.

Our partnership with CVC grew directly out of conversations with families and our shared commitment to respond to emerging community needs with compassion and intention. By bringing CVC's bilingual counselors into The Garage, a place where families already feel welcomed, known, and respected, we are able to reduce barriers such as stigma, fear, transportation challenges, and distrust of unfamiliar systems. Together, we have combining CVC's clinical expertise with The Garage's deep community relationships to ensure that Garage families receive meaningful, relevant, and accessible support.

We strongly encourage you to support CVC's proposal for suicide education and awareness proposal. This program will strengthen the community's understanding of mental health needs, and expand access to responsive mental health support for families in need.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristin Proto", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kristin Proto
Executive Director
The Garage Community & Youth Center