



60 W. Boot Rd West Chester, PA
610-222-6562

Our mission is emphasizing health and knowledge, we work with small nonprofits in Southeastern Pennsylvania to pursue their vision and improve our community.

Our Grantmaking Priorities and Guidelines

Acts of Generosity was established in 2005 by Henry R. Rudolph to advance charitable causes he believed in. We are a private foundation committed to developing partnerships with small non-profits in Pennsylvania's Berks, Chester, and Lancaster Counties. All organizations we work with must be committed to collaboration, equity, and innovation.

How to Apply for a Grant

Our funding model is one of *trust-based philanthropy*. We believe trust is essential between us and our grant recipients. Trust-based philanthropy empowers organizations to think beyond the typical power dynamics and restrictions. Thus, allowing them to be creative, adaptive, and innovative at every level.

Qualified nonprofits should send an introductory email including: **the nonprofit's mission, vision, values, and DEI statement** to Acts of Generosity's Executive Director, Leah Nassau; LNassau@ActsofGenerosity.org. Our grantmaking process begins with a conversation.

Our Priorities

In 2023-2024, Acts of Generosity is focusing its support on the Arts, Mental Health, and Youth. We are now seeking proposals for projects, programs, or initiatives in these three areas. We are committed to investing in community-driven solutions. We encourage proposals that promote inclusion with a focus on equity within our communities.



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General Eligibility Criteria

- Organizations must provide a majority of their services in Pennsylvania's Berks, Chester, or Lancaster Counties.
- Grants are given to only qualified public IRS recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations.
- An organization's work must align with the mission, vision, and values of Acts of Generosity.
- Organizations must have a DEI statement.

We Do Not Fund

- Organizations or projects that unlawfully discriminate employees, volunteers, delivery of program or services, or clients served based on age, sex, religion/creed, race, color, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, marital status, military or veterans' status, pregnancy or genetic information.
- Endowments.
- Debt retirement, financing, reduction of an operating deficit or replenishment of resources used to pay for such purposes.
- Lobbying or legislative and partisan political activities.
- Capital improvement requests.
- Programming or expenses occurring before the grant is awarded.
- Individuals.
- Sectarian organizations for religious purposes
- For-profit organizations.
- Any organization or project that is inconsistent with the mission, vision, values, and strategic framework of Acts of Generosity.



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Criteria for Evaluating Grants

Generally, we will award grants to an organization for up to one year although it may be for a longer period given program priorities. Each organization we work with should expect to receive only one open grant per grant period.

The criteria we use to review grant proposals includes:

- Organizations committed to trust-based philanthropy.
- Demonstrated need for the project or program.
- Fiscal health and stability of the agency.
- Capacity of the organization to undertake the project.
- Quality and effectiveness of the project.
- Level of coordination and cooperation with other organizations.
- Potential for leveraged funding.
- Project sustainability and opportunity for replication.

Funding Opportunities

Our Grantmaking Strategy and Approach

As a trust-based funding organization, we expect to work as partners with the organizations we fund. We understand programs evolve, success can take time, and some ideas may not work. We do not expect perfection. We do, however, expect open, honest communication. We pledge to do our work and in return, expect the same.

We believe in fostering creativity and in supporting innovation. We believe in being open and adaptive as needed. Organizations we work with should expect to have a continuing conversation. We will meet. We want to know, and we expect to hear when something is



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working. We also expect to hear when it is not. We believe by working together as partners, organizations become more empowered, and the results will be a thriving and well served community.

Arts

The Arts is an important element that contributes to a community's quality of life. We believe the Arts enables people to connect, express, and improve both as an individual and community.

Our Goal

We look towards activities that resonate with people. Where community residents can access, participate-in, and create arts and experiences. This can be many things, including programs that focus on art classes, dance, theater, or other forms of artistic expression through community and individual engagement.

Mental Health

We believe mental health issues need to be addressed with an intersectional and open-minded lens. Individuals and families are diverse. Not everyone shares the same values, beliefs, or privileges. Many of the traditional approaches towards mental health overlook factors including but not limited to race, ethnicity, religion, income, age, and language.

Our Goal

Our focus is to recognize inequities and help bridge the gap in current mental health resources. This could be a community care program; various types of therapy programs; building a community support system; or resources to improve the quality of one's mental health.



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Youth

We are committed to improving the lives of our community's youth. The solution may be a new approach, professional development, or improved access to existing programs.

Our Goal

Our focus is on positive youth development. Programs may differ in their method and what they emphasize, but we believe all programs should strive toward incorporating developmental and educational opportunities while working to meet the needs of individual participants. Programs may focus on any age up to 18. A sample of possible program areas are: character development; ethical activities; mentoring activities; community youth centers and clubs; after school programs; risk avoidance programs; cultural enrichment; academic enrichment; skill building; community service; civic participation, etc.

For More Information Contact

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