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May 23, 2022

*Via Email: [shoskins@friendsfoundationaging.org](mailto:shoskins@friendsfoundationaging.org)*

Ms. Susan W. Hoskins, LCSW  
Executive Director  
Friends Foundation for the Aging  
PO Box 1081  
Langhorne, PA 19047

**First Nazarene Community Development Foundation / J.O.Y. / Letter of Intent**

Dear Ms. Hoskins:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a Letter of Intent on behalf of First Nazarene Community Development Foundation, Inc. on behalf of J.O.Y., which stands for Just Older Youth. J.O.Y. exists to serve seniors aged 55 and older to provide opportunities for fellowship, a sense of community, socialization, activities, trips, meals and training in the areas of technology, safety, health and wellness and much more to enhance the quality of their lives.

I am writing to request a one-year grant in the amount of \$25,000 to cover the cost of our program's administrative costs, speakers, meals, outings, and trainings. Our demographic represents seniors in the City of Camden and surrounding areas and we offer a variety of informational workshops such as identity theft, avoiding scams, estate planning specialists, arts and crafts and so much more. Our demographic is about 95% African American, about 80% female. We are currently open one day per month, however due to Covid-19, most of our seniors' socialization and activities are limited due to the pandemic's closure of many other programs in the county and private programs. We aim to open our doors at least one day per week and offer a drop-in program whereby our seniors may enjoy fellowship, a meal, enjoy a board game, take a scheduled painting class or day trip, or simply take in a knitting class.

Our program is open to all seniors, with 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the participants classified as low-income and reside in either senior housing or subsidized senior housing project. We are open to all nationalities and faiths. Our attendees have expressed an interest in meeting more frequently as well as having requested the following topics and/or presenters:

- Social Security Updates
- Men & Women's Health
- How to avoid Phone Scams
- Ways to lower expenses
- Assistance with grocery shopping
- Technology training with smart phones and gadgets
- Nursing home assistance and/or companionship.

Activities that our J.O.Y. members enjoy and have requested are as follows:

- Light exercises
- Brain games & trivia
- Knitting
- Puzzles
- Painting
- Day trips
- Estate Planning
- Model car assembly, etc.

I am seeking funding opportunities to allow us to open our doors at least one day per week to combat the problem of the seniors being isolated and shut off due to the pandemic and safety concerns in the City of Camden. We offer transportation to those seniors who need it, as well as a schedule of activities and speakers to address the cares and concerns of the seniors who share with us what they need and desire. My plan is to continue to look for funding opportunities and pursue fundraising options to allow us to continue to address the needs of the seniors we serve. In addition, I am seeking partnership opportunities with other organizations that cater to the needs of seniors so that we may work together and enhance the quality of their lives.

Thank you very much for your consideration. For your reference, I am attaching a copy of our 501(c)3 IRS Determination Letter.

Sincerely,

*Belinda Barksdale*

Belinda Barksdale  
Executive Director