

New grantee partner information sheet

Name of Organization: Kennett Area Community Service (KACS)

Project proposed: Senior Food Programs

Amount requested: \$15,000

Problem addressed: Food Insecurity

While many residents earn enough to live comfortably in Kennett Square, many earn dramatically less, especially those on a fixed income. For many, transportation is a barrier to visiting our food pantry in person, especially as there is very little public transportation in southern Chester County.

Proposed actions:

Two special programs enable us to ensure that low-income seniors who cannot travel to our Food Cupboard are able to access sufficient food.

Population served:

Our partnership with Luther House, a low-income HUD senior living facility in Avondale, served 28 seniors in 2021. Our KACS on Wheels program delivered food to 126 homebound seniors in 2021. The Kennett Food Cupboard provides food and essential personal items to food insecure households. Target beneficiaries are those living below 350% of the federal poverty level and residing in the Kennett Consolidated, Unionville-Chadds Ford, or Avon Grove school districts. About 85% of those we serve live below the poverty line. Approximately **10%** are age 62+. The Food Cupboard's target area includes residents of the Kennett Consolidated, Unionville-Chadds Ford and Avon Grove School Districts.

The population we serve at KACS is predominantly Hispanic (83%), with smaller numbers of White (9%) and Black (6%) individuals (2% are Biracial or Other). Most Food Cupboard clients (about 85%) have household incomes below the federal poverty level. For many of the Latinx residents we serve, public benefits such as SNAP are not available (undocumented), so the safety net food and services they receive at KACS are truly life-sustaining. Most of our staff are bilingual in Spanish and English, and our food offerings are tailored to the tastes and traditions of Latinx families. Our partnerships with Philabundance, the Chester County Food Bank, and local farms allow us to provide fresh produce, dairy, and healthy proteins for our participants.

Partners:

KACS's Food Cupboard relies on numerous partnerships to secure healthy food for those in need, including partnerships with the Chester County Food Bank, Philabundance, and local businesses and farms. We also rely on a network of loyal volunteers to stock, track, and deliver food both at the pantry and for our Luther House and KACS on Wheels programs.

How will evaluate success:

KACS considers the Food Cupboard program successful if it is able to satisfactorily meet the needs of all who wish to benefit from it. Firstly, that means that we must have adequate food to serve a rising

number of seniors in our service area. Secondly, that means that we must be able to be responsive to their needs and deliver food they prefer, such as fresh food.

How funds will be used:

Purchase food.

Website: www.kacsonline.net

EIN: 23-2215441

Contact person: LeeAnn Riloff

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Address: 136-138 W. Cedar Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348

Mission, primary work, founding year:

Kennett Area Community Service (KACS), founded in 1954, provides essential, life-sustaining services to thousands of individuals each year. KACS's mission is to strengthen the community in Southern Chester County through food, housing and crisis services. Our services focus on the critical needs in our community: food security, housing stability, and crisis services. In addition, our Getting Ahead program focuses on the long-term economic health and sustainability of individuals who are motivated to break the cycle of poverty.

Organization annual budget: \$3,309,016

Notes from Susan: Funding for Luther House residents and home-delivered. Not new idea. Not clear how they keep older adult programs separate from others.

IRS Determination 990

Swh 3.22