

# LOCAL SHARE MUNICIPAL GRANT APPLICATION PROJECT NARRATIVE

## The Partnership for Hope

### **B. Description of Project/Need and Objectives:**

Every year The Partnership for Hope helps hundreds of struggling people, collecting and distributing tens of thousands of dollars in basic needs like home and baby items, furniture, and food. Our volunteer teams help homeless families as they return to housing from emergency shelter, providing bedding, kitchen and bath items, cleaning supplies, “homewarming baskets” and many other household essentials. And we work with partner organizations to provide accountability, mentoring, and furniture to ex-offenders who are returning to our communities from incarceration.

Our project teams and partner organizations also extend critically-needed car seats, bedding, strollers, and other baby items to single parents and struggling families as we come alongside them to develop healthy, supportive relationships. We also operate the House to Home project, a warehouse that provides gently-used furniture and new home items to people in need who are in active mentoring relationships with our organization and other collaborating non-profits.

Besides helping many other people return to housing from crisis situations and delivering healthy food to families in need, we also work with Dauphin County Human Services, local schools, churches, businesses and other non-profit organizations to host the Dauphin County Holiday Celebration, providing home and personal items, toys, and other gifts to close to 2,000 people.

While our retail partners like Amazon and Walmart and others provide housewares, baby items, toys, etc. at minimal cost, we’ve incurred close to \$100,000 renting trucks, leasing storage facilities, and underwriting costs to transport, sort, store, and distribute these items. And efforts to collect and provide furniture to people in need who are transitioning from shelter, incarceration, and crisis situations has further increased our transportation-related expenses. Our hope is for funding to offset some of those costs.

Our request includes two components:

### **UNDERWRITING TRANSPORTATION COSTS:**

In addition to picking up and delivering truckloads of retail donations to our sort facilities and to over two dozen partner organizations (named on the next page of this narrative), The Partnership for Hope's staff, volunteer team members and collaborators travel to donor homes in their own vehicles to pick up furniture, rent moving trucks to transport items, unpack and sort

boxes of donations, deliver furniture, assemble and repair items, and otherwise manage the logistics for the distributions of tens of thousands of basic needs items each year.

As mentioned there are significant out-of-pocket expenses for transportation. As such we're asking for funding to purchase a delivery truck to fully-support our distributions of basic needs. We would intend to use the truck for the aforementioned purposes. And we would offer use of the vehicle to other non-profit organizations in our region for other basic needs projects, to include food pantry programs at local churches, clothing giveaways, events like Project Homeless Connect, and other efforts.

A partial list of the non-profit partners whom we've served:

AMiracle4Sure  
Angels of Faith  
Bethesda Mission  
Blessings From Within  
Brethren Housing  
Brethren Community Ministries  
Caitlin's Smiles  
Capital Area Coalition on Homelessness  
Capital Area Intermediate Unit  
Champions for Children  
CHOICE Living  
Christian Churches United  
Christian Recovery Aftercare Ministry, Inc.  
City of Refuge Evangelism  
Clarks Valley Zion Evangelical Congregational Church  
Dauphin County Human Services  
Family Promise  
Friends Over Fences  
Fountain Gate Church  
Harrisburg Brethren in Christ Church  
Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families  
LAHMB's Ministry  
Love, INC.  
M28  
New Digs Ministry  
New Hope Church  
New Hope Ministries  
NutriPack program of Central Dauphin School District  
Paxton Ministries  
Robert Jackson Veterans Center  
Shalom House  
The Neighborhood Center  
United Church of God  
YMCA  
YWCA

Initial estimates for the purchase of a suitable delivery truck are approximately \$24,000; related project costs exceed \$100,000. We would expect to use the vehicle on an almost daily basis throughout the year.

**C. Relationship with Gaming Facility:**

While we cannot, of course, provide details The Partnership for Hope has provided care and accountability to a number of individuals and families directly impacted by addictions to gambling. It is not known if those issues and their impacts have been attributable in any regard to the local gaming facility and venues in Dauphin County, only that our efforts in providing care, mentoring, and basic needs have supplemented the programs of the categorical agencies of Dauphin County Human Services. In a number of situations the intervention of our mentoring efforts has prevented probable re-incarceration or return to emergency shelter and continued dependence on public welfare programs. Otherwise these are projects of public interest, improving the quality of life of disadvantaged and struggling residents in our County.

**D. Local and Community Support for the Project:**

We have very strong local and community support as is evidenced by our collaboration with the dozens of other local organizations identified in this proposal. Similarly, over 300 County residents have contributed to our efforts financially and as volunteers. Last, our retail partners, local churches, and non-profit partners have contributed over \$6.25 million in non-monetary, in-kind donations. Letters of Support from City of Refuge Evangelism, the LAHMBs organization and the Christian Recovery Aftercare Ministry, Inc. will be included in our application.

**E. Projected Schedule and Timeline of Project:**

<b>ACTIVITY:</b>		<b>START DATE:</b>	<b>ESTIMATED DURATION:</b>
<b>DELIVERY TRUCK PURCHASE</b>	research	February 2024	one month
	purchase	March 2024	one week
	licensing & insurance	March 2024	two weeks

**F. Project Budget/Leverage of Funds:**

<b>PROJECT COMPONENT:</b>	<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>ESTIMATED COST:</b>	<b>DERIVED FROM:</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTOR:</b>
<b>DELIVERY OF BASIC NEEDS</b>	home and baby items, toys, food, furniture	\$1,000,000*	retail pricing	Walmart, Amazon, Disney Stores, QVC, private donors
	man hours	\$48,000**	hourly rate	The Partnership for Hope
	gas	\$2,750	prevailing cost	The Partnership for Hope
	maintenance	\$500	prevailing cost	The Partnership for Hope
	admin fees	\$12,750***	Good360 fees	The Partnership for Hope
	<b>vehicle</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>	<b>online research</b>	<b>Local Share funds</b>
	* in kind donations of housewares, furniture, toys, baby items, food, etc.			
	** estimated staff and volunteer hours, both salaried and donated time			
	*** brokerage fees for the administration of retail store partnerships			
	requested Local Share funding is <b>2.2%</b> of the total of this project component			

**The Partnership for Hope’s request of \$24,000 is 2.2% of the project’s total cost.**

**G. Evidence of Prior and Anticipated Interaction with Sponsoring Municipality:**

The Partnership for Hope has been a significant contributor to Dauphin County’s Systems of Care Practice since its inception. The Systems of Care Practice is integrated with Dauphin County’s categorical Human Services agencies and has provided resources, services, and supports to tens of thousands of people.

While The Partnership for Hope has already provided basic needs, mentoring, and care to well over 10,000 people in Dauphin County as part of the Systems of Care Practice, other project teams operating out of locations in Lower Paxton Township also provide care to homeless families, struggling single parents, and others in need of mentoring and basic needs in our sponsoring municipality.

**H. through M. Comprehensive Plans; Fire or Emergency Response Vehicles or Equipment; Youth Athletic Facilities:**

Sections H through M do not apply to this project.

**N. Instances of Fraud:**

There have been no instances of fraud in The Partnership for Hope’s history.

**O. Pending Litigation, Proceedings, or Approvals**

There is no pending litigation against The Partnership for Hope. No administrative proceedings have impacted our organization. And we are not awaiting any government approvals that would impact the proposed project.

**P. Job Creation or Preservation**

We don't expect to create new jobs. We do provide hundreds of community service opportunities to juvenile and adult offenders and would expect to continue those efforts through our basic needs initiatives.

**Q. Document of Support from the Affected Community:**

Letters of Support from the following people are included in our application:

- *Scott Heiland, Director of City of Refuge Evangelism*
- *Juanita Edrington-Grant, Founder and CEO, Christian Recovery Aftercare Ministry, Inc.*
- *Julie Cassel, Lords Angels Helping Mothers and Babies*

**R. Project Prioritization**

In as much this project will significantly aid four different volunteer teams as they provide care to homeless families, single parents, returning citizens, and people in crisis, it is a high priority for 2024. We expect to provide assistance to close to 2,500 people annually through these efforts and also assist other non-profits in the fulfillment of their mission.

We don't expect this prioritization to negatively impact our capacities to serve other non-profits with technology services, impair the expansion of afterschool programming for children at-risk of obesity, or impede other events or programs. But without funding our expenses related to truck rentals and transportation costs will continue to constrain our capacities to serve people and to procure additional retail partnerships through which we collect basic needs. There will be fewer volunteer opportunities, as well.

**S. Certification of Non-Contingency Form:**

This form has been included in our application.