

## 2023 Cycle 2 Grants Summary

### Community Bridge Builders Program

Organization Name	Project Name	Amount Awarded	Project Summary
Lancaster Recreation Commission	Lancaster Unity Cup	\$25,000.00	Lancaster Rec and CWS Lancaster are teaming up to create the Lancaster Unity Cup. The 8-week soccer tournament will celebrate our diverse Lancaster residents from around the world building community, developing leaders, building bridges and healing trauma - all through the sport of soccer. This new opportunity, complete with a cultural festival, will kick off Lancaster's Welcome Week in September 2023. The tournament is a bold, collaborative way to bring diverse people together between all walks of life to promote cultural understanding and celebrate our thriving community.
YWCA Lancaster	CRGE Black Artist Waystation and the Equity Profile Action Group	\$25,000.00	The Black Artist Waystation (BAW) aims to support and showcase the work of local Black Artists (artist-activist), honoring the city's historical significance as a Waystation on the Underground Railroad. Additionally, YWCA Lancaster formed an Equity Profile Action Group (EPAG) to increase awareness of the first Lancaster County Equity Profile and develop strategies to address disparities. The group will organize a community-wide meeting in August 2024 to gather input for a strategic plan for the subsequent year. Both programs are from The Center for Racial and Gender Equity of YWCA Lancaster.
Millersville University Office of Visual & Performing Arts	Traveling While Black	\$20,000.00	Running a full month, this Virtual Reality experience transports participants to the historic Green Book site - Ben's Chili Bowl. Seated in an installation recreating the diner, participants share, via VR, intimate moments w/ Ben's patrons reflecting on their own experiences. Confronting the way we understand race in America, TRAVELING WHILE BLACK highlights the urgent need not only to remember the past but to learn from it, and facilitates dialogue about the challenges minorities still face today through a series of community conversations conducted in partnership w/ relevant local partners.
CASA	Protecting Democracy in Lancaster County	\$20,000.00	Last fall, CASA expanded access to democracy in Pennsylvania by successfully demanding that Spanish-language text be made available on the ballot for legal voters who require it. This year, CASA wants to carry on this civic engagement momentum by ensuring that our members in Lancaster and their communities (working-class immigrants and people of color) make their voices heard in this fall's municipal and local elections in the county. We will bring our time-tested voter engagement operation into full execution, including voter registration and Get Out the Vote operations.

Discerning Eye Community Agriculture	From Roots to Leaves	\$25,000.00	This project will allow DECA to develop a mobile farm market to meet the ever-shifting demographics of Food Insecurity in Lancaster and reach as wide of a swath of our city residents as possible. These mobile markets will be anchored in neighborhoods we serve with community engagements and education, the first of which will feature artist Shauna Yorty, who will lead a mural project in the historically underserved neighborhood, Sunnyside. The intergenerational project will educate our community on urban ag and our first mobile produce stand will reside beneath it during harvest season.
Bethany Christian Services of Central PA	The O.Z. Scholarship for Equine-Assisted Therapy	\$25,000.00	Addressing the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on addiction and honoring the life of a client who vehemently fought to overcome addiction and succumbed to an overdose, The O.Z. Scholarship for Equine-Assisted Therapy will enable Bethany in partnership with Little Springs Farm to expand its equine-assisted therapy services to the marginalized population of pregnant/postpartum women struggling with addiction. Funding will provide curriculum development and service provision for 15 women (10 sessions each) focusing on remediation of root causes to process and heal from past trauma.
Girls on the Run of Lancaster and Lebanon	Building A Stronger Community Through Collaboration	\$10,000.00	GOTR's new community outreach campaign will deepen our commitment to provide programming for individuals of all races, ethnic groups, socioeconomic backgrounds, and athletic abilities by increasing access to girls in underserved communities. To increase our program's reach and impact, we focus on areas where awareness is limited. Our goal is to create a reflection of the diverse populations in Lancaster County, fostering inclusivity and accessibility for all girls. By fostering both existing and new equitable partnerships, we aim to dispel misperceptions and reach a wider audience.

### Cultivating Beloved Community Program

Organization Name	Project Name	Amount Awarded	Project Summary
Advoz Mediation and Restorative Practices	Moving Diversity Beyond The Theoretical To In Practice At Advoz	\$25,000.00	Having undertaken the first steps in building an equity survey and participating in the work of this cohort, Advoz will begin the important work of implementing the changes needed to make our organization more diverse in the way we think, hire, promote, and operate. 1) We received the results of our organizational DEI survey, highlighting areas for internal and external growth. 2) Working with Dr. Sessoms and our new Board Chair, Advoz will develop implementation plans to improve the above areas in relation to DEI and how they should be integrated into our strategic plan.

Millersville University Office of Visual & Performing Arts	Creative In/tension	\$25,000.00	We will work with artist Evita Colon to use the arts to foster real change—braiding beauty and cultural celebration with the truth and tension needed to challenge injustice and uplift our community. We will address economic disparity and representation by paying two BIPOC artists to conduct residencies: one at a school, focusing on art, culture, and learning; the second at A Concrete Rose, where the artist will develop community workshops and events. We will focus on intergenerational exchange, cultural pride and understanding, and the power of creative expression to be a true change agent.
ASSETS	Advocating for Equity	\$25,000.00	ASSETS provides a safe, welcoming space for women and BIPOC entrepreneurs of all ages to speak, share, and grow together. As a convener, we learn about different challenges faced by those we serve. For our project we will engage our team, clients, and community stakeholders in the process of creating an advocacy agenda. We will facilitate community conversations to gain more insight into barriers faced by underserved entrepreneurs. By creating a relevant agenda we give a voice to marginalized communities, raise awareness of issues, and advocate effectively for social and economic justice.
The Common Wheel	The Common Wheel in Columbia	\$25,000.00	The Common Wheel is excited to open our third location in the borough of Columbia! However, we want to do so with great intention and with the residents of Columbia as our partners and stakeholders. This grant will assist with opening our new location on Locust Street in the former Lazy K Lounge, bringing our classic programming, apprenticeships, and whatever else the people in Columbia are seeking from their bicycle co-op. We intend to be a place that is safe for folks from all backgrounds to gather and celebrate and see how cool, revolutionary, and life-changing the bicycle really is!
Lancaster Education Foundation	The Youth in Public Service Program at J.P. McCaskey High School (YIPSP)	\$25,000.00	YIPSP empowers students to make a positive impact in their community. Through networking with experts, collaborating on projects & fostering critical thinking, students gain valuable skills & civic responsibility. The program expands students' networks, transforms social capital into action & nurtures interdisciplinary thinking. Students design & implement projects that benefit their school/local community, promoting problem solving skills. The program prepares students for college, career & active citizenship. The program empowers students to become leaders & change makers in the community.

The Mix	Stakeholders of the Mix	\$25,000.00	Honoring our legacy of providing services that reflect the needs of the children, families, and members of Lancaster county, we continue to reflect and grow as an organization by creating intentional spaces for our learning in how we can be more equitable in our approach to this mission-driven work as people and as a community partner. The Stakeholders of the Mix Group will be an intentional monthly gathering of our diverse Mix stakeholders that will hold space for courageous conversations, resource sharing, and healthy grounds for building and strengthening equitable relationships.
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### Community Conservation Grants

Organization Name	Project Name	Amount Awarded	Project Summary
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay	SoWe Project Clean Stream	\$12,000.00	Project Clean Stream is an Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay initiative offering hands-on opportunities through local partnerships to take action to restore clean local waterways. Volunteers are empowered with the agency to lead their own stream cleanups and build a stronger sense of place in their communities and ultimately foster a healthier and more sustainable relationship with the Chesapeake watershed. For this project, the Alliance plans to focus efforts in the Southwest quadrant of the City of Lancaster, where we will have two staff-led cleanups and smaller monthly community champion-led cleanups while partnering with local institutions. We will provide champions with stipends for their time. We are also focused on tracking a cultural and behavioral shift around litter and building educational aspects and public awareness around litter's impact on clean water. The Alliance has actively partnered with SoWe for the last few years and this project will build on this engagement.

Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake	Expanding the One Water Partnership in Lancaster County	\$14,837.00	<p>The Lancaster One Water Partnership (LOWP) is a regional hub of faith-based action to address highly fragmented non-source pollution challenges and opportunities. By working with communities of faith, we reach non-traditional partners who are private landowners, many of whom generate stormwater pollution or who offer opportunities for significant increased tree canopy, aligning with the goals of the Countywide Action Plan. To achieve these outcomes, we will conduct quarterly events in collaboration with partner congregations to forge connections with faith communities throughout the region, recruit 3-5 faith-based congregations in Lancaster County to build green teams and create action plans, host monthly meetings with our volunteer Lancaster Task Force, develop a water-based experiential education program, and cultivate relationships with 3-5 DEIJ faith-based congregations to determine how to best support local leaders in clean water equity and justice needs.</p>
Let's Go 1-2-3	Southeast Growing Greener & Sowing Seeds of Change	\$15,000.00	<p>The purpose of this Let's Go 1-2-3 project is to engage the southeast neighborhoods in the City of Lancaster around green space(s) and sustainable practices for healthy lands and clean water. (See uploaded map identifying the Let's Go 1-2-3 target neighborhoods.)</p> <p>This Let's Go 1-2-3 project will engage new audiences by providing education and outreach through us partnering with Thaddeus Stevens College and the Lancaster City Housing Authority. Our project, titled, "Southeast Growing Greener &amp; Sowing Seeds of Change" will engage the southeast neighborhoods in the City of Lancaster using the Let's Go 1-2-3 model of engagement to (1) organize a Community Green Team, (2) develop and conduct neighborhood surveys to build knowledge and awareness about green space(s) and sustainable practices for healthy lands and clean water, and (3) celebrate with a Nature Fest for the community.</p>

City of Lancaster	River Connections	\$15,000.00	<p>This funding will support the continuation of the River Connections project, which has increased awareness and engagement with local communities of color, enhanced their relationship, highlighted their history, and encouraged action to protect and care for the Conestoga River.</p> <p>The primary portion of the funding will be to develop and implement a Love Your Block River Connections grant to support the continued installation of storm drain murals and performance art throughout the City. We will use the remaining funds to engage a local artist to help us bring to life Rosie the Fish — an animated ambassador to educate the public, specifically school-aged residents, about the river and the work done through the River Connections project.</p>
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Friends of Fishing Creek	Engagement and Education of our Watershed Community	\$8,000.00	<p>1. The Friends of Fishing Creek will engage groups and businesses in our local community to provide education on the importance of preserving and enhancing the entire ecosystem of our Fishing Creek Watershed. We will attend the Annual Solanco Fair in 2024 providing education on the progress that has been made over the last several years as well as the continued risks that continue and we can all work together to remediate those risks for continued watershed improvement. We will have brochures and recycling bags as handouts. The Solanco Fair usually occurs the 3rd week in September.</p> <p>2. We will also engage with fifteen Jeep organizations who enjoy the Fishing Creek Watershed for leisure and recreation. These Jeep organizations have expressed interest in engaging with the Friends of Fishing Creek to learn about their impact on the watershed and how to influence proper access and use to have a positive impact on its fragile and sensitive ecosystem. We will organize and hold an event specifically focused on the local Jeep Clubs with an educational drive thru of the public dirt road that travels along Fishing Creek for 3.8 miles with 3 concrete fords.</p> <p>3. We will also schedule educational meetings with local Jeep dealerships to give printed handouts to Jeep owners in the proper recreational and leisure use of the Fishing Creek Watershed. Goal: To enlist and educate local Jeep Clubs on the ecology and environment of Fishing Creek along the 3.8 mile dirt road stretch that attracts off roaders that drive through the Creek, vernal pools and the muddiest parts of the road so that they can educate others about the importance of this special wild environment. Stations: The plan is to have 5-6 stations along the 3.8 dirt public road that runs along Fishing Creek. Each station will be staffed with volunteers knowledgeable about different aspect of the Fishing Creek environment. Each stop will be a 15-20 minute introduction to various environmental topics with discussion and a handout that will have the key points for the participants. The Jeep Club participants will drive their Jeeps from station to station. We will have groups of 10 or so jeeps and each group about 20 minutes apart. This will allow for small group interactions at each station. We will start at one of the Riparian Buffers along Fishing Creek Hollow Road and from there the group will enter the 3.8 mile dirt road at the Furniss Road entrance. There will be volunteers at each station. Some stations will have tables and prepared items for the participants to actually see what is being discussed. The journey will end at the Sugarbump State Park.</p>
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**Paris Meyers Fund**

Organization Name	Project Name	Amount Awarded	Project Summary
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Boys & Girls Club of Lancaster	Columbia Strings Program	\$1,700.00	In partnership with the Columbia School of Music, Boys & Girls Club of Lancaster would like to pilot an orchestra program where teachers and students challenge and inspire one another, students share their music with the community in performances, and a community of musicians thrives. Through this program, Columbia youth gain access to quality stringed instrument education teaching the reward of achieving long-term goals, teamwork, and personal expression. This program ensures our Columbia youth are involved in the renaissance of the borough, giving them opportunities as musical performers.
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