



EASTON ROTARY SERVICE FOUNDATION

**Rotary Club of Easton
Easton, Pennsylvania**

2886 Hope Ridge Drive, Easton, PA 18045-8144

GRANT APPLICATION

Organization Name Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley: Ferry Street Apartments

Address CACLV: 1337 East Fifth Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015

(Ferry Street Apartments: 600 Ferry St, Easton, PA 18042)

City Bethlehem State PA Zip 18015

Phone 484-893-1047 Fax 610-691-6582

Email planner-SSS@caclv.org

Contact Person Chris Cassidy Title Senior Planner

Project Director Kristine Blasco Title Director

Project Title Sixth Street Shelter: Ferry Street Apartments

Grant Period July 1-June 30

Total Cost of Project \$79,670 Amount Requested \$3,500

Signature of Approving

Agency Personnel  Date 3/18/2019

Name of Approving

Agency Personnel Chris Cassidy Title Senior Planner

For use by Easton Rotary Service Foundation

Date Received _____

Action Taken _____ Date _____

Brief Description of the Organization

The Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, Inc. (CACLV) was incorporated on December 20, 1965 as a 501(c)(3) to work with and for low-income residents of the Lehigh Valley in order to combat poverty. CACLV offers programs that meet basic needs while encouraging self-sufficiency; works towards the economic and community development of low-income neighborhoods; engages in community planning and advocacy efforts with community participation; and establishes partnerships with community organizations, local government, and the private sector. CACLV's mission is *to improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley by building a community in which all people have access to economic opportunity, the ability to pursue that opportunity, and a voice in the decisions that affect their lives.*

Summary of the Proposal

The Ferry Street Apartments program is an intensive 18-24-month transitional housing and educational/vocational program that helps homeless families achieve their educational goals, become more self-sufficient, and improve their situation through case management, financial assistance, and other services.

The Ferry Street Apartments is part of the Sixth Street Shelter, which helps families learn to stand on their own through its mission *to provide the opportunity and direction for all people to become self-sufficient, productive members of the community.* The guiding principle at the Ferry Street Apartments is *to demonstrate that education and job training play an important and valuable role in the lives of families attempting to improve their lives and the lives of their children.*

We are seeking \$3,500 in support from the Easton Rotary Club for our supportive services fund. These funds are used for things like tuition assistance, books and course materials, computers, the acquisition or replacement of documents (Social Security cards, birth certificates, and driver's licenses), childcare, food, transportation costs, hygiene items, cleaning supplies, emergency assistance, and diapers and other supplies for children. In short, the fund removes barriers to self-sufficiency to assist our families on their journey to stability.

Project Description

- *Statement of the need*

Families end up homeless for a variety of reasons and are of all ages and racial and ethnic backgrounds. The lack of affordable housing in the Lehigh Valley plays a key role in the issue of homelessness, where the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) listed the Fair Market Rent (FMR) in 2018 as \$1,048 for a 2-bedroom unit. According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, the income needed to afford the FMR for a 2-bedroom unit is \$41,920 or an hourly wage of \$20.15 or 2.8 full-time minimum wage jobs. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology Living Wage Calculator indicates that a living wage for Lehigh County household consisting of one adult and two children is \$28.04 an hour (\$58,323 annually). Both of these measures illustrate the gap between a living wage and not being able to afford appropriate housing and other necessities, including proper clothing and nutritious food.

The long-term impact on children who grow up in poverty is profound. According to the American Psychological Association, children in poverty are more likely to suffer poor health, including obesity, asthma, anemia, low birth weight, and malnutrition. This can lead to lower academic achievement, including higher dropout rates, due to an inability to concentrate or focus on school. Children growing up poor and homeless are under even greater stress. Research from the National Center on Family Homelessness indicates that children experiencing homelessness are twice as likely to be food insecure, and, according to the U.S Department of Education, have three times the rate of emotional and behavioral problems. A 2015 Center for Housing Policy and Children's HealthWatch report found, "the stress of homelessness during early childhood can lead to

potentially permanent harmful changes in brain and body function, in turn causing higher levels of stress-related chronic diseases in later life.” According to a 2016 report by Civic Enterprises and Hart Research Associates titled *Hidden in Plain Sight: Homeless Students in America’s Public School*, “Students experiencing homelessness struggle to stay in school, to perform well, and to form meaningful connections with peers and adults.”

- *How the proposal addresses the need*

At least one adult in the family must be enrolled in an educational, training, or vocational program. As soon as a family enters the Ferry Street Apartments program, they meet with their counselor to develop a Family Service Plan that includes educational, vocational, and financial goals that serve as a roadmap to self-sufficiency. Program participants then meet with their counselor at least once a week (frequently more often) to review their progress and to work together to determine strategies to remove any obstacles toward that end; all residents also work with their counselor on housekeeping, life, and parenting skills. Following the family’s completion of the program, the counselor maintains contact with the family to offer follow up care to make sure obstacles are addressed so there can be continued progress toward their goals. In addition, the family receives a Section 8 voucher, which subsidizes the rent and facilitates the search for affordable housing.

- *Population to be served*

The ten-unit Ferry Street Apartments program is located in Easton. Families must have at least one child under the age of 18 residing with the family. Since 2017, the Ferry Street Apartments has served 19 single moms and a single dad, with 32 children among them. They have attended or are attending Northampton Community College for political science, art, social work, and nursing pre-requisites; Moravian College for nursing; Lehigh University for microbiology; East Stroudsburg University for education; Project of Easton for English as a Second Language; and GED classes at multiple agencies. Ferry Street Apartments has graduated teachers, accountants, social workers, licensed practical nurses (LPNs), and paralegals, not to mention the countless children that have gone on to colleges.

One story is Fairouz’s. After six year of marriage, Fairouz found herself fleeing domestic violence. She was on the street with her two children. With few options and fearing for her and her children’s safety, she was able to seek refuge at a safe house. From there, she entered the Sixth Street Shelter. When she arrived at the Shelter, she was so shy and timid she found it difficult to talk to people. But as she worked with her counselor and other Shelter staff on the issues that led to her homelessness, she gained confidence and a belief in herself. She learned the skills necessary to parent on her own and to budget and save money so that she could support herself and her children. She also worked on improving her English (her third language!), learned to drive and got a license. She made friends that she now calls family. Fairouz was accepted into the Ferry Street Apartment program. While there, she began her nursing studies at a four-year university. She also earned her U.S. citizenship! She admits it was challenging to go to school full-time, work part-time, and be a good mom to her kids. Yet, she was able to flourish with the assistance of her counselor, who Fairouz says is like a sister to her. Fairouz now lives with her children in a house with a big yard. The kids are thriving in school. Fairouz continues her studies, hoping to go on to pursue a Master’s degree or even a PhD. She is full of plans for her and her children’s future and says no one will ever make her feel afraid again.

- *Goals and measurable outcomes*

Each year, a Work Plan is developed with measurable goals and performance targets that guide the activities of the program and are designed to have a positive impact on both Ferry Street families and the larger community. Staff meet regularly with volunteers to ensure the program is on track to meet its objectives. The Work Plan is evaluated twice yearly by the Program Development and Evaluation Committee of CACLV’s Board of

Directors and is then approved by CACLV's full Board of Directors. Current objectives for the Ferry Street Apartments include:

The Ferry Street Apartments programs will provide long-term transitional housing, case management and other supportive services for families with children who are experiencing homelessness and help them achieve their self-sufficiency goals.

Performance Targets:

- A. At least 1 adult in each family who resided at FSA for more than 60 days will be enrolled in an educational or vocational training program during their residence in the program.
- B. 80% of families interviewed will be actively working toward their Family Service Plan long-term goals 3 months after completing FSA.
- C. 25% of the heads of household of the families interviewed will be employed 6 months after completing FSA.
- D. 2 FSA families will start a savings account at a financial institution as a part of their goal plan.
- E. 7 participants will receive financial counseling and/or financial literacy education to promote self-sufficiency to decrease the likelihood that they will return to homelessness.
- F. 50% of heads-of-households will, within 6 months of completing the long-term transitional housing program, continue their educational program, obtain employment, and become ineligible for at least 1 public benefit.

- Other funding sources

After over twenty years of operating a successful program (one in which no family that had completed the program had returned to homelessness in over ten years), the Ferry Street Apartments program lost \$70,000 in federal funding on October 1, 2017, because the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is no longer funding transitional housing programs. Since that time, we have been forced to seek new funding sources. Thus far, we have been successful, but only because of the generosity of individual donors and foundations like the Easton Rotary Club.

Financial Information

- *Project budget*
Please see attached.
- *Most recent year end financial statement*
Please see attached.

Other Information

- *IRS letter re 501(c)(3) status*
(If first time application)
Please see attached.

- *Board of Directors*
Please see attached.
- *Any other supporting material*
Please see attached.

FERRY STREET APARTMENTS PROGRAM **2018-2019**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Salary (counselor)	\$37,523
Benefits (counselor)	\$22,147
Supportive Services for Residents (including tuition assistance, books and course materials, computers, child care, food, transportation costs, hygiene items, cleaning supplies, emergency assistance, diapers and other supplies for children)	\$20,000
TOTAL	\$79,670

Internal Revenue Service

Date: October 3, 2006

COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE OF THE
LEHIGH VALLEY INC
1337 E 5TH ST
BETHLEHEM PA 18015-2103

Department of the Treasury
P. O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Person to Contact:
Sheila Schrom 31-02836
Customer Service Representative
Toll Free Telephone Number:
877-829-5500
Federal Identification Number:
23-1669589

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your request of October 3, 2006, regarding your organization's tax-exempt status.

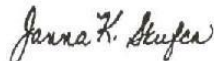
In April 1966 we issued a determination letter that recognized your organization as exempt from federal income tax. Our records indicate that your organization is currently exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that your organization is also classified as a public charity under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that contributions to your organization are deductible under section 170 of the Code, and that you are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,



Janna K. Skufca, Director, TE/GE
Customer Account Services

CACLV Board 2019

<i>First</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Last</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Title/Position</i>	<i>Board Position</i>	<i>Community Affiliation</i>
Wayne		Barz	Ben Franklin Technology Partners	Manager/Entrepreneurial Services	President	RTCLF Board, Allentown Enterprise Zone, LVEDC Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Council
Marion		Berger	N/A			WWNP resident
Kim		Capers	Capital Blue Cross	Chip Outreach Coordinator		Communities In Schools, Healthy Kids Healthy Allentown, African American Business Leaders Council, American Heart Assoc., Lehigh County Community college Foundation Board of Directors, Lehigh Valley Health Networks Board of Associates Executive Committee, and Minsi Trail Boys Scouts Executive Board of Directors and Governance Committee
Zachariah		Cobrinik	N/A	N/A	Vice President	L.C. Humane Society, Center for Animal Health and Welfare, Governor Wolf Elementary School, Meals on Wheels for animals.
David		Delp	N/A	N/A	Secretary	SBHS & Pawnee Street Block Watch Group
Linda	A.	Faust	N/A	N/A		Association for Community Health Improvement, Society of Certified Research Associates, Northern Lehigh Future Focus, Chamber of Commerce, American Trakehner Association, Therapy Dog Association, Health Forum Fellowship, and American Society on Aging. Volunteer at LVH ER
Mike		Gausling	Originate Ventures	Managing Partner		Chairman for LVIP, Co-founder of Orasure, Desales Board of Trustees, Lehigh University V-Series adjunct professor
Lidia		Gonzalez	Lidia's Mobile Notary and Tax Services	Business Owner		CADCB Board, Housing Opportunity Movement Inc., LVDLCS PTO
Mark		Hartney	County of Northampton	Community & Economic Development Administrator	Chair of Board Development	
Maryann		Haytmanek	Northampton Community College	Project director New Choices	Chair of PD&E	
Roger	J.	Hudak	N/A	N/A		CACDB Planning Committee, HCC Commission of Historic South Bethlehem, Artsquest Outreach Educational Committee, Sands Stakeholders Group, Concordia Lutheran Church Bethlehem Church Council Member, and Lehigh University Community Planning Committee
Patricia		Jackson	Michael F. Yates & Company, Inc.	Manager-Compliance & Administration		COA HARB, Upside Allentown Steering Committee, Upside Allentown Physical Enhancements Subcommittee, CADCA Board of Directors - Member, New Covenant Full Gospel Church of Grace in Allentown - Executive Pastor
Patricia	A.	Johnson	Lehigh University	V.P. for Finance & Administration	Treasurer and chair of Finance Committee	
Frank		Kane	County of Lehigh	Chief of Staff		Renew Lehigh County, Lehigh County Affordable Housing Trust Fund, and Allentown Sports Fest
Allyson		Lehr	City of Bethlehem	Housing & Community Development Planner		
Diane		Martin	Martin Guitar	Co-Owner	Chair of Personnel Committee	NCC Foundation, Martin Charitable Foundation, The Swain School Board of Trustees, Martin Board of Directors
Susan		Master	MCS Industries	Children's book author		L.C. Humane Society, Center for Animal Health and Welfare, Governor Wolf Elementary School, Meals on Wheels for animals.
Shalanda		Riddick	Visit Vans Transportation	Owner		
Courtney		Robinson	City of Allentown	City Councilperson		City of Allentown Councilperson
Randy		Soriano	N/A	N/A		Borough of Fountain Hill
Sandra		Vulcano	City of Easton	City Council President		Easton Area Dem Committee, Volunteer Two Rivers Landing, Chair of PA Federation Dem. Women, Greater Easton Development Partnership Board, NCC Alumni Association Board, Co-Chair of Student Outreach Committee, Southside Easton Civic Association, and City of Easton Council
Robin		Zmoda	Pen Argyl Borough	Borough Manager		Episcopal Apartments, Slate Belt Region



Ferry Street Apartments

#educationforabetterfuture