



Chester County  
**FUND for WOMEN and GIRLS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Contact: Grants Manager**

**ARE YOU A CHESTER COUNTY GIRL WHO WANTS  
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR OTHER CHESTER COUNTY GIRLS?**

West Chester, PA -- May 22, 2013 That is precisely the question the **Chester County Fund for Women and Girls** has asked of more than 100 high school girls during the past nine years. The Fund is currently accepting applications for its **award-winning Girls Advisory Board (GAB) program**. Applications are available online starting **May 22nd** at [www.ccwomenandgirls.org/girls-advisory-board/](http://www.ccwomenandgirls.org/girls-advisory-board/) and will be accepted until **Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup>**. The Fund is looking for high school girls entering their sophomore or junior year in the fall of 2013. Girls must live in Chester County to be admitted into the program and can participate for up to two years in GAB.

One of only 11 in the nation, the Girls Advisory Board is a unique girls grantmaking program in which 20 local girls gain the opportunity to award \$25,000 in grants to nonprofit organizations that help other young women in Chester County. During the past nine years, **GAB has awarded \$170,000 to agencies who through innovative services target the needs of women and girls** faced by issues such as poverty, illiteracy, violence, homelessness, mental illness, teen pregnancy and substance abuse. From September to December 2013, GAB members will learn about and discuss community needs, create their own grant application, review proposals, conduct site visits and work together as a group to award grants to the organizations they feel best address their identified priorities.

**Nearly every public, private and parochial high school in Chester County** has been represented on GAB. During the past nine years, girls have helped the Fund for Women and Girls raise awareness of the issues girls and young women face daily in communities across the county. The Girls Advisory Board:

- has awarded **57 grants** to organizations working on behalf of girls. These grants have helped organizations across Chester County start new projects, provide training and leadership opportunities, and reach out to diverse populations.
- was awarded the **Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy** award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals' Greater Philadelphia Chapter. This award has previously recognized youth philanthropy projects such as Alex's Lemonade Stand and Youthadelphia.

Applications will be accepted via the Chester County Fund for Women and Girls' website at [www.ccwomenandgirls.org/girls-advisory-board/](http://www.ccwomenandgirls.org/girls-advisory-board/) until Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Lisa B. Stokes, Grants Manager, with any questions about the application process at [lisa@ccwomenandgirls.org](mailto:lisa@ccwomenandgirls.org).

The Chester County Fund for Women and Girls is a grantmaking and education foundation dedicated to addressing the needs of women and girls in the county. For more than 16 years, the Fund has raised awareness about the critical needs of women and girls, and has awarded \$1.9 million to 57 non-profit organizations. To learn more about the Chester County Fund for Women and Girls visit [www.ccwomenandgirls.org](http://www.ccwomenandgirls.org).

###