



JOHN & CATHY BELCHER CAMPUS

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CR-47-2016 (DR-1)  
Attachment A  
Project Summary

**DATE:** May 9, 2016

**TO:** Alexis Revis Yeoman, Public Information/Legislative Affairs  
Prince George's County Dept. of Housing & Community Development

**FROM:** Ben Marcantonio, President & CEO, Hospice of the Chesapeake, Inc.

**SUBJECT:** Request for County Council Resolution Supporting 2017-2018 State of Maryland DHCD Application for Community Investment Tax Credits

**Our request: Resolution supporting Community Investment Tax Credit Application**  
Hospice of the Chesapeake, Inc. intends to apply for a 2017-2018 allocation of Community Investment Tax Credits in the amount of \$45,000 from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. The tax credits would be used to stimulate funding for our priority initiative, *Support for At-Risk Families in Prince George's County*, to create a safety net of comprehensive care and bereavement support services that address the unmet needs of individuals, children and families who are living with or affected by chronic, life-limiting illness or are coping with grief due to loss. It is a requirement of the application process that jurisdictions that we serve adopt resolutions in support of our proposed efforts.

The greatest benefit of the Community Investment Tax Credits Program is that it creates a highly attractive incentive for donations from current and new donors.

Because the CITC application deadline is July 1, we would greatly appreciate having the approved resolution in hand by mid-June, if at all possible.

**Who we are: Our services and history**

For more than 37 years, the mission of Hospice of the Chesapeake has been to improve the quality of life for those in our community experiencing advanced illness or bereavement. We are an independent, community-based 501 (c)(3) nonprofit committed to caring for *all* who need our services, regardless of age, race, ethnicity or one's inability to pay for services. In 2015, Hospice served over 2,600 patients. Our staff of 230, which includes physicians, nurses, social workers, and chaplains, works alongside over 400 specially-trained volunteers to provide more than 440 patients per day with *Hospice Care*, which includes medical, spiritual and psycho-social care as well as family and caregiver support.

We also provide a broader array of services that include:

- *Chesapeake Palliative Medicine*, serving those living with chronic advanced illness;
- Our *Chesapeake Kids' Program*, providing perinatal and infant loss support to young families, pediatric hospice and palliative care services for ill children, children's camps for grieving children and a new school/community outreach program to educate teachers and support community members experiencing loss that may include traumatic loss due to suicide and substance abuse; and
- The *Chesapeake Life Center* grief support center offering a wide net of services to 2,000+ community members each year, helping people of all ages through individual and group support, healing arts and other therapies for those facing losses of all types – past, current, or future.

Hospice of the Chesapeake's growing list of community partners includes Anne Arundel Medical Center, Baltimore Washington Medical Center, Johns Hopkins Hospital, University of Maryland Medical Center, Prince George's Hospital Center, Doctor's Community Hospital, Holy Cross Hospital, Washington Adventist, Washington Hospital Center, Southern Maryland Hospital and Children's Hospital in DC, and a full network of assisted living and nursing home facilities and medical providers.

**Our mission: Serving the community**

Hospice of the Chesapeake's mission is *caring for life throughout the journey with illness and loss*. We care for all in need, regardless of inability to pay for services, and have a long tradition of caring for low-income and at-risk residents in the areas we serve. Each year, Hospice of the Chesapeake provides \$2 million in services to communities in Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties, which includes with unreimbursed clinical care, family support services and education. In this past year, in Prince George's County, we served nearly 750 hospice and palliative care patients and provided bereavement and psycho-social support for an additional 700+ individual and families. Philanthropic donations and fundraising provide support for the costs not reimbursed by Medicare or other insurances.

**CITC Proposal: Support for At-Risk Families in Prince George's County**

The need for hospice end-of-life care and family/community support in Prince George's County is extensive and growing. Some of this need can be explained by our "aging population" – but, there are also things specific to the Prince George's community - gaps in healthcare delivery, high incidences of advanced complex illness and a lack of information and resources – which make it a high-risk population. There are many patients, family members and caregivers who could greatly benefit from our services, but who remain unreached and unserved due to a lack of awareness/understanding of the services available to them and/or the inability to access those services. Plus, many are unable to pay for the full extent of hospice and palliative care services and the end-of-life bereavement counseling and supportive services that we offer, as many are not covered by Medicare or other insurances.

To assist these families, HOC has defined our ***Support for At-Risk Families in Prince George's County*** as a strategic priority to better serve those most in need. Funds raised from the CITC Program will help Prince George's County residents in the following ways:

- 1) Increase awareness of Hospice of the Chesapeake's clinical and community support services through new community-based partnerships and education programs,
- 2) Create an improved continuum of care through a strengthened medical referral network, and increased physician presence,
- 3) Offer free and reduced-cost hospice, palliative care and bereavement support services for uninsured and underinsured patients and community members, and
- 4) Provide volunteer support services to patients and caregivers in need,

We thank you in advance for your consideration of our request and we hope that the Prince George's County Council will support Hospice of the Chesapeake by creating and passing a local resolution approving our efforts to better serve the community.

For additional information about this request, please contact Lynne Davidson, Director of Major Gifts/Campaign at [ldavidson@hospicechesapeake.org](mailto:ldavidson@hospicechesapeake.org) or 443-837-1527.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.