



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Fostering Hope Receives \$20,000 Grant from the Connelly Foundation to Support Youth Experiencing Foster Care in the Greater Philadelphia Region**

Pottstown, PA - October 18, 2025 - Fostering Hope, a volunteer-run nonprofit dedicated to empowering youth experiencing foster care and restoring dignity to every child and family they serve, has been awarded a \$20,000 grant over two years from the Connelly Foundation. The general operating support will strengthen Fostering Hope's ability to provide essential resources and compassionate care throughout the Greater Philadelphia region.

"Fostering Hope is honored to receive support from the Connelly Foundation. This partnership will enhance our ability to serve the foster care community in Philadelphia and stands as a meaningful endorsement of our mission," said the Board of Directors of Fostering Hope in a joint statement. "The Connelly Foundation's longstanding reputation for helping Philadelphia communities thrive makes their belief in Fostering Hope especially significant. The legacy of John and Josephine Connelly's generosity continues to inspire us—their lives are a testament to what it means to give with purpose and compassion."

Fostering Hope runs programs that meet the urgent needs of youth experiencing foster care in the Philadelphia area. Through initiatives like Foster-Share Closets, Dignity Duffles, Bags of Hope, and Fostering Phones, the organization provides clothing, hygiene products, cell phones, and personal care items to maintain dignity and stability during transitions.

In 2024, Fostering Hope supported more than 4,200 youth and families impacted by foster care across southeastern Pennsylvania, with the majority of referrals coming from Philadelphia and surrounding counties. Working closely with county child welfare offices, the organization ensures that each youth referred receives timely, compassionate assistance that meets both practical and emotional needs.

The Connelly Foundation's grant will help Fostering Hope sustain these dignity-centered services by maintaining stocked Foster-Share Closets, purchasing essential new items like car seats and pajamas, and coordinating volunteers to ensure equitable access for all families served.

"Fostering Hope's model reflects the spirit of community compassion that the Connelly Foundation strives to support," said Jennifer Carroll, Senior Program Officer for Human Services at the Connelly Foundation. "Their work uplifts youth experiencing foster care, offering not only resources but also a message of belonging and dignity."

Since its founding in 2018, Fostering Hope believes that every youth experiencing foster care deserves to feel valued, cherished, and equipped to thrive. The organization remains committed to partnering with the Philadelphia community to meet basic needs with empathy and to transform the foster care experience through connection and dignity.

**About Fostering Hope**

Fostering Hope is a volunteer-run, donation-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization serving the foster care community throughout the Greater Philadelphia region. Through advocacy, comprehensive support, and resource distribution, Fostering Hope empowers youth experiencing foster care, nurtures families, and works to restore dignity to every child experiencing transitions within the system. For more information, visit [www.fosteringhopepa.org](http://www.fosteringhopepa.org) or email [info@fosteringhopepa.com](mailto:info@fosteringhopepa.com).

**About the Connelly Foundation**

Inspired by its Catholic heritage, Connelly Foundation's mission since its founding in 1955 is to improve the quality of life in the Philadelphia region by supporting charitable organizations in the areas of education, human services, arts and culture, and civic renewal that strengthen resilience and help people to flourish. The work of the Foundation is principally driven by its founders' John and Josephine Connelly's personal charitable principles, with an emphasis on strengthening Catholic education, and providing help and opportunity to those in need. Learn more at [www.connellyfdn.org](http://www.connellyfdn.org).