

BEYOND THE BASKET:

Tips for spreading holiday cheer year-round



Gratitude Grants



- \$2,000 grants available to Lodges that meet the GER's per-member goal for giving to the ENF. Lodges where more than 15 percent of its members donated at least \$10 to the ENF in 2015-16 qualify for a bonus of \$500.
- For local, charitable activities that serve community members.

Beacon Grants



- \$2,000 grants available to every Lodge.
- For an ongoing, charitable, Elks-driven community project that is new the first time the Lodge applies.
- CANNOT be a donation of funds or supplies, must have an active component.

Promise Grants



- \$2,500 grants available to the first 500 Lodges that apply with a qualifying Elks-led youth event.
- Provide an opportunity for Elks to be positive role models for youth in need.
- CANNOT be a donation of funds or supplies, must have an active component.

Freedom Grants



- \$2,000 grants awarded to the 180 Lodges whose projects are judged to best serve the needs of veterans and/or active-duty military members.
- Meaningful Elk involvement is strongly encouraged, and increases chances of approval.

Impact Grants



- \$2,500 to \$10,000 grants to run Elks-led service projects in the community.
- CANNOT be used as a large donation of funds or supplies.
- All Lodges welcome to apply to this competitive grant



Holiday Grant Projects

Some fast facts:

- Already, 362 grant projects have been approved for holiday activities in 2016-17.
- That's 32% of grant activities happening in November and December for holiday related charitable projects.
- Most popular grant activity: holiday food baskets, followed by children's Christmas parties.



Holiday Grant Projects

**According to the United Way,
nationally, the demand for
volunteer opportunities at the
holidays often exceeds the need
for volunteers.**



Holiday Grant Projects

Some things to think about:

- Hunger exists year-round. So does homelessness.
- It's possible to give too much at one time—and create holiday waste.
- Holidays are popular times to donate time and money. Grant funds may not be needed after all.



Wichita, Texas, Lodge No. 1105



Holiday Grant Projects

Harness holiday spirit after the holidays

- Use the holidays as a kick-off
- Make connections that last
- Do what you can to stand out
- Educate membership and the community



Atascadero, Calif, Lodge No. 2733



Holiday Kick-Off

This should be the start of giving, not the end

- “Christmas basket” projects can be monthly, quarterly.
- An already existing toy drive can stretch into the summer for school supplies.
- Social activities for seniors, youth or people with disabilities can be run frequently on a smaller scale.



St. George 'Dixie', Utah, Lodge No. 1743



Make Connections

Partner on a Christmas project, then ask what else is needed

- Draw on your partner organization for advice on future events.
- Find out what time of year they get the least amount of support.
- Make real, personal connections with those you are serving.



Statesville, N.C., Lodge No. 1823



Stand Out

Find the Lodge's niche—be creative!

- Christmas in July anyone?
- Try not to repeat or overlap services.
- Take into account members' schedules and talents.
- Seasons of service schedule.



Kingman, Ariz., Lodge No. 468



Seasons of Service



- Learn more about Elks Scholar Service Days at elks.org/scholars
- Learn more about official seasons of service months, weeks and days at <http://ysa.org/act/programs/seasons>



Educate Everyone

Inspire others to serve year-round

- Provide data on your holiday cause. Use your partners to illustrate a year-round need.
- Share personal stories of impact from holiday events.
- Remind volunteers how great it feels to give their time—and send personal invitations for upcoming events.



Tempe, Ariz., Lodge No. 2251



Apply for a Grant!

Use a CIP grant to fund projects outside of the holiday season!

- The Beacon Grant was built to help Lodges do more.
- Don't worry—if you already use the Beacon Grant, think about Gratitude, Promise or Freedom Grant opportunities.
- Go big with an Impact Grant.



Brownsville, Texas, Lodge No. 2876



CIP Resources

Visit:
**[enf.elks.org/
cipresources](http://enf.elks.org/cipresources)**



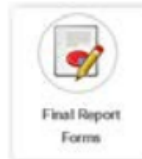
A step-by-step guide to developing a charitable grant project

Answers to frequently asked questions regarding the grant process



Printable calendar of important grant deadlines

Tool to generate a professional news release to share with local media



Links to all CIP grant Final Report Forms and tips for reporting

Archive of recordings for all CIP webinars



Report that tracks grant use of all Lodges

Guide for Lodges that are new to the grant process





Contact Us!

Have questions? Need some guidance? Contact the Lodge Grants office. We'll help you turn your idea into a great project!



elks.org/cip



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