

Beacon Grants

Community
Investments
Program





Important Dates

- Applications will be accepted through January 17, 2023.
- Projects need to be completed, and all funds must be spent, by March 31, 2023.

General CIP Guidelines

Grants should follow IRS-defined charitable categories:

- Relieve the poor, distressed or underprivileged
- Advance education and science, but not through scholarships
- Lessen the burdens of government
- Combat juvenile delinquency and community deterioration
- Lessen neighborhood tensions

Grants may not be used for:

- Fundraisers or memorials
- General community events
- Poster and/or essay contests
- Appreciation meals and/or events
- Youth awards nights or scholarships
- The benefit of Lodge members or families
- Hoop Shoots, State Major Projects, or National Elks Programs
- Salaries for Lodge employees or volunteers
- Projects that have already happened
- Donations to individuals

Beacon Grant Basics

- A \$4,000 grant available to every Lodge that is in grant compliance.
- Ideally, the Beacon Grant funds an active project that can be completed annually.
- Flexibility is still in affect.
 - Donations of funds or supplies to the past partner organization, or another 501(c)(3) nonprofit providing Covid relief, are allowed.
 - Beacon Grants can be split between two projects.



Merging a Beacon Grant

- Beacon Grants can be merged with a Spotlight Grant to make a \$6,000 Beacon Grant.

Merge Spotlight + Beacon

- Beacon Grants can also be combined with the Lodge's Gratitude Grant, or supersized with all three.

☒ Yes! Please combine my lodge's Beacon Grant with a Gratitude Grant to increase our maximum grant request to \$6,000.00.

What Makes a Great Beacon Grant?

- In the CIP, we like to say that Beacon Grants “L.O.A.N. a hand.”
 - Lodge-led
 - Ongoing
 - Active
 - New



Final Reporting

- Be sure to keep your receipts!
- For donation receipts, we need either:
 - A copy of the cashed check, which can be acquired through your bank.
 - A thank you letter from the organization that received the donation (typed on official letterhead, with the amount donated specified).



2021-22 Beacon Grant Examples

- Lexington, Mo., Lodge No. 749 held a book fair for school kids.
- The grant was merged with the Spotlight and Gratitude Grants to make a \$7,500 Beacon Grant project.
- Every student up to the sixth grade was able to pick out a book.
- Also donated more than \$2,000 to a local food pantry.



Oshkosh, Wis., Lodge No. 292

- The Lodge held a shoe giveaway event for 60 children from the local Boys & Girls Club.
- Lodge members assisted with transportation and shoe fittings.



McAllen, Texas, Lodge No. 1402

- This Lodge participated in a large-scale food assistance program.
- It partnered with a group of business students to procure and distribute Thanksgiving turkeys to families facing food insecurity, and held canned food drives.
- A local car dealership donated \$20,000 to the project, and local school districts participated in the food drives.



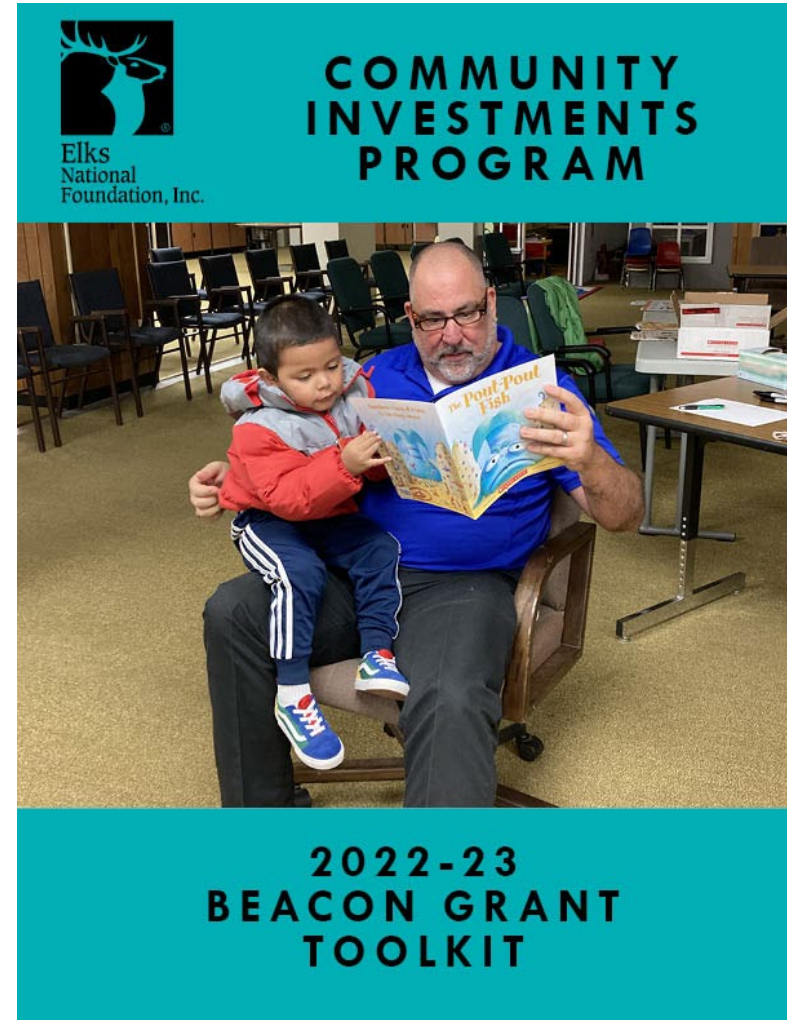


Staying in Compliance

- A Lodge can be out of compliance for past due Final Reports for any grant.
 - Final Reports are due 30 days after the project end date. The Lodge becomes out of compliance an additional 30 days after the due date.
- If a Lodge misuses its grant funds, it is ineligible to apply for new CIP grants for a period of time commensurate with the abuse.
- Lodges that are delinquent on paying their Grand Lodge per-capita and insurance assessment dues are ineligible for CIP grants.
- Compliance status can be found at enf.elks.org/cipreport.

Beacon Grant Toolkit

- Includes
 - CIP general guidelines
 - Beacon Grant guidelines
 - Sample applications from real Lodges
 - Project ideas
 - Final Report information
 - FAQs



Questions?

- The CIP office is here to help you throughout the grant process, from the application to the Final Report.
- We can be reached by phone at 773/755-4730, or by email at LodgeGrants@elks.org.

Thank you for using CIP grants to make a difference in your community!

