

COVID-19 RELIEF

Usually, donating a Spotlight Grant would not be permissible, but the CIP is again adapting a flexible approach. A Lodge can consider a more active use of funds, e.g. purchasing food and supplies and delivering items to a shelter or food pantry. However, donating directly to an organization in the community that is better equipped to serve populations affected by the pandemic will be allowed. The funds must directly support pandemic relief and cannot be split between multiple projects.



Fairview Heights, Ill.,
Lodge No. 664

PROJECT OVERVIEW

With the pandemic affecting millions across the nation, the need for relief continues to be great. This type of relief could be in the form of food, shelter, personal protective equipment (PPE), direct monetary donations, and more. Work with a partner organization to determine the greatest need in your community and use the Lodge's Spotlight Grant to offer support.



STEP 1

Find a Partner Organization

Many communities have seen an uptick in individuals and families seeking support from food pantries, homeless or domestic abuse shelters, and other services. Reach out to food pantries, shelters, and other organizations providing pandemic relief and determine how the Lodge can assist.



STEP 2

Determine Lodge Input

Review your community's local safety guidelines and see if it is safe enough for Lodge members to shop for supplies or distribute supplies the you aim to reach. If not, consider donating the funds directly to an organization. Many nonprofits offer online donations, so consider donating online rather than in person with a check.



STEP 3

Make it Your Own

Lodges can use this time to show up as pillars in the community. Consider posting online or inviting media outlets to the project. Invite the partner organization and constituents to the Lodge for a meal.

As always, send the CIP photos and stories. Use the hashtag #ElksAlwaysCare on social media to see other Lodges stepping up to build stronger communities.