



# Community Investments Program

#ElksAlwaysCare







# Malley's Dream

- “Unite the forces of the Order into a mighty army for the service of mankind”

# What is the CIP?

- Nearly **\$18 million** invested in Elks communities through Lodge grants
- Lodges can receive up to **\$21,000** for local charitable projects
- **20 years** of helping Elks build stronger communities!



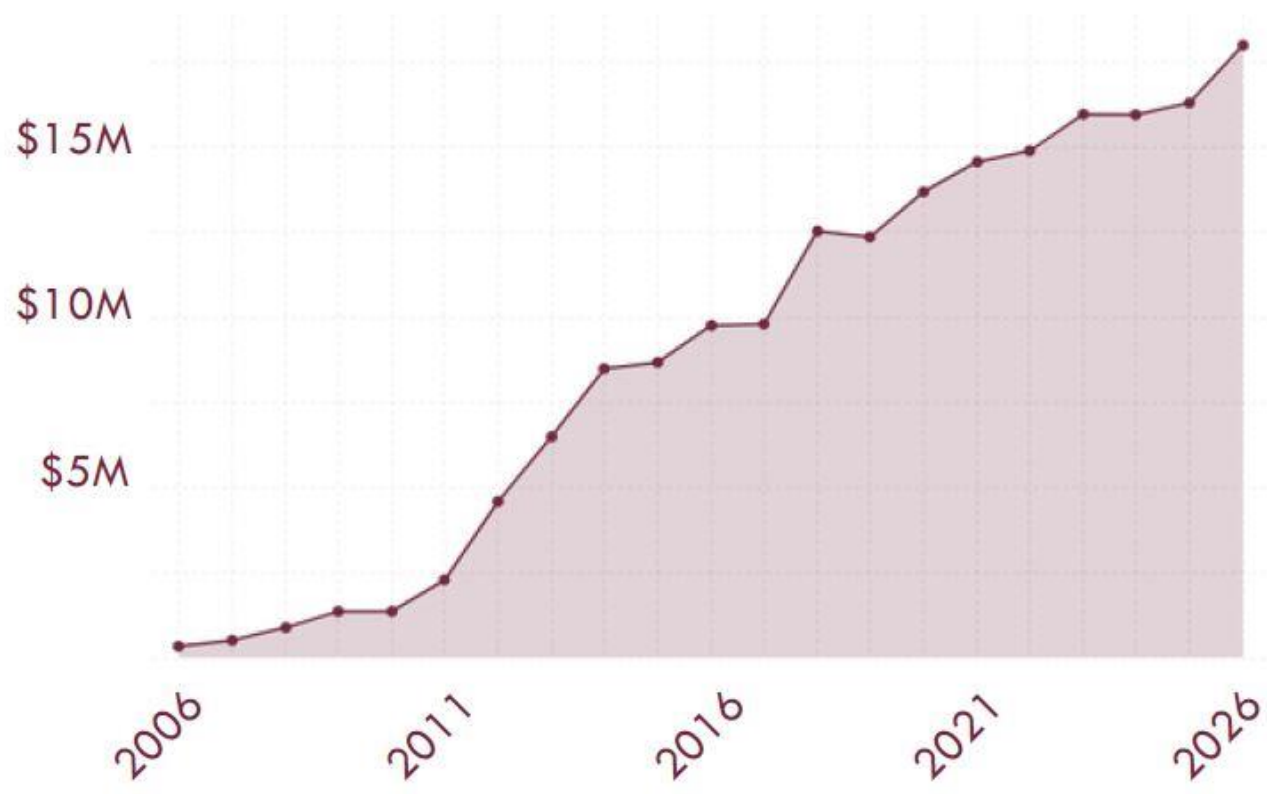


## CIP Ethos

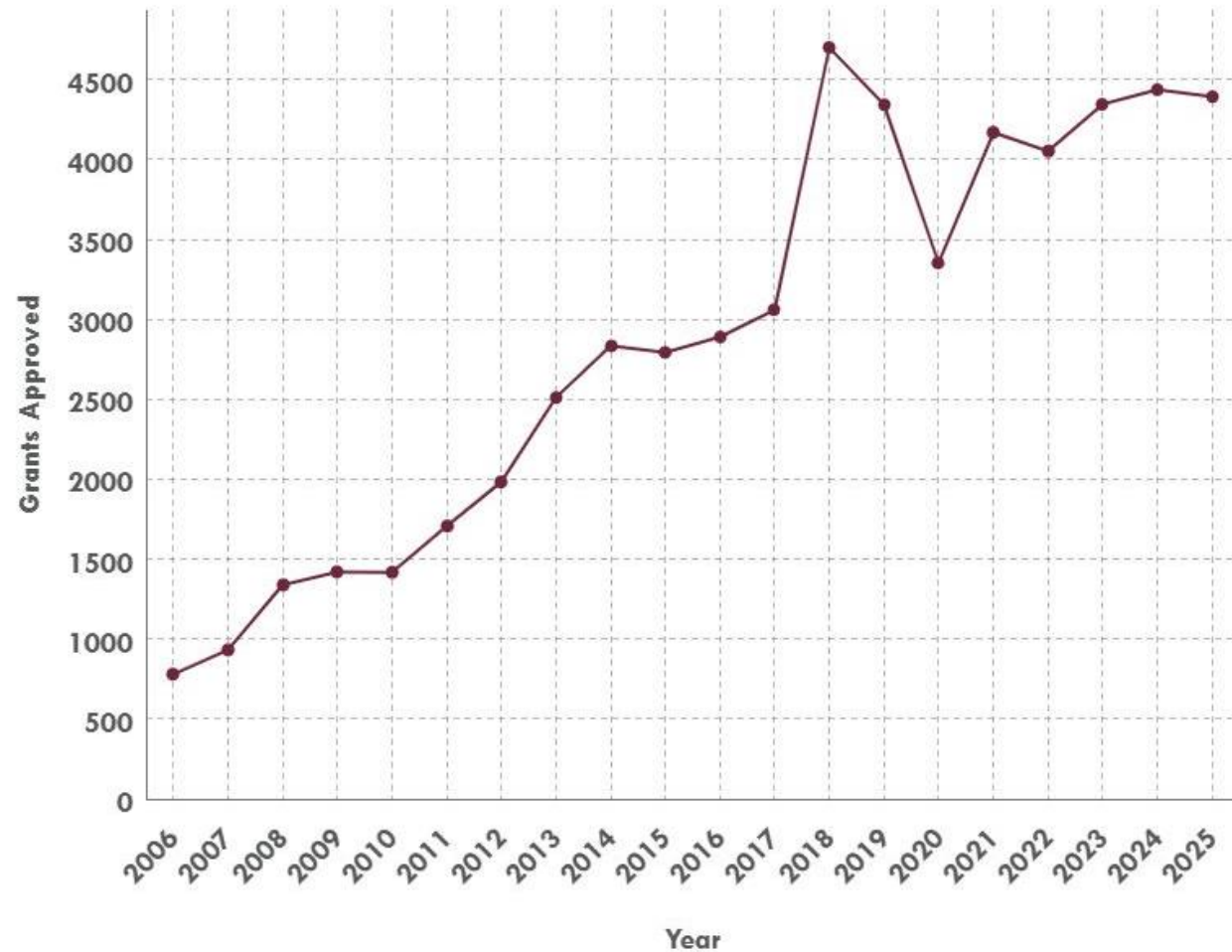
- Energize Lodge membership
- Encourage former members to return to the fold
- Raise the Lodge's profile in the community
- Gain the notice of people who want to be a part of an organization doing great things



# CIP Budget



# Lodge Grants





## 20 Years of CIPerstars

- Nearly **60,000** grants approved
- Nearly **\$190,000,000** budgeted to help Lodges build stronger communities
- Eligible Lodges that received Gratitude Grants have increased **60%** since 2005-06

# Gratitude Grant Basics

- Available to Lodges that have met the Grand Exalted Ruler's per-member-giving goal in the prior fiscal year
- **\$3,000** base grant
- Up to **\$5,000** total







# Gratitude Grant Bonuses

Four **\$500** bonuses available:

- Membership Support Bonus
- Fidelity Club Bonus
- Chair Challenge Bonus
- Fundraising Increase Bonus

# Gratitude Grant Dashboard

## Gratitude Grant Bonus Conditions

### ☒ Per-Member Giving: \$26.90

Congratulations! Your lodge has met the GER's current per-member giving goal for this year (\$5.00/member), which means you're eligible to apply for a Gratitude Grant next year. Your Lodge can also earn up to four \$500 Gratitude Grant bonuses by meeting the criteria described below.

### ☒ Membership Support (Goal: 15%)

Congratulations! 109 members of your lodge have donated this year, which is 64.1% of your membership. Since your donor support exceeds 15% of your 170 members, you have met this criteria.

### ☒ Fidelity Club (Goal: 3 members)

Congratulations! Your Lodge currently has 15 Fidelity Club members. Since your Fidelity Club goal is 3 members, you have met this criteria.

### ☒ Chair Challenge Score (Goal: 550)

Congratulations! Your Chairman Challenge Composite Score is currently 702.000. Since that score exceeds the Composite Score goal of 550, you have met this criteria.

### ☒ Fundraising Increase (Goal: 10%)

Congratulations! Your Lodge fundraising total this year, \$4,572.30, exceeds last year's total, \$1,919.00, by 138.264721209%, which means you have met this criteria.

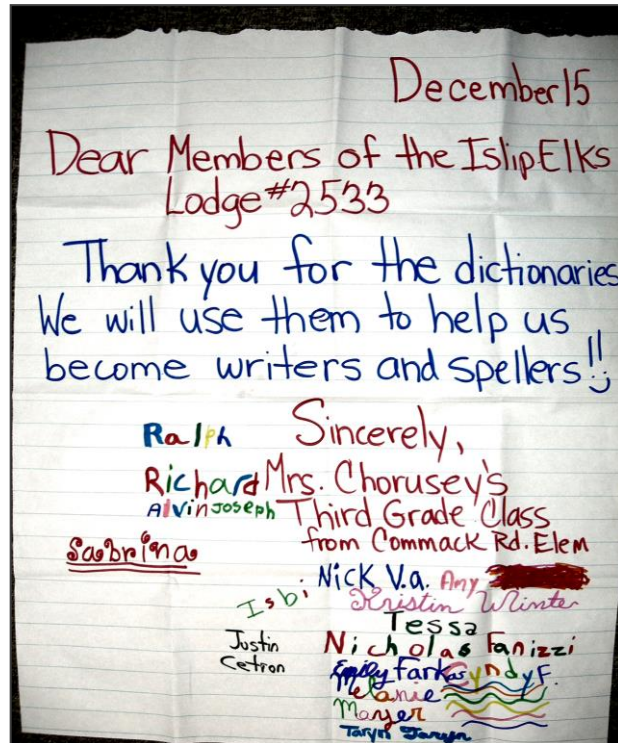


# Gratitude Grant Basics

- Donations of funds or supplies to 501(c)(3) organizations allowed
- Can be split between multiple projects
- Supersize Beacon or Spotlight Grant



# Islip, N.Y., Lodge No. 2533



From 2005

To 2025





# Beacon Grant Basics

- **\$4,000** grant available to every Lodge
- Beacon Grant projects are
  - Lodge-led
  - Ongoing
  - Active





# Beacon Grant Basics

- Active participation is required
- Can be split between two projects



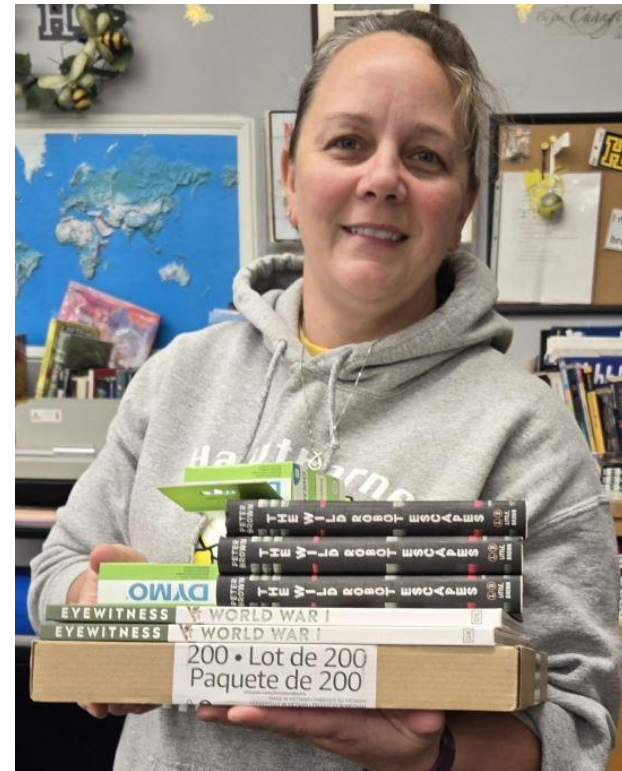
# Sweet Home, Ore., Lodge No. 1972



From 2012



To 2025



# Spotlight Grant Basics

- **\$2,000** grant available to every Lodge
- Focus on issues facing almost every American community
  - *Family literacy*
  - *Veteran homelessness*
  - *Hunger and essential needs insecurity*
- Cannot be split between multiple projects





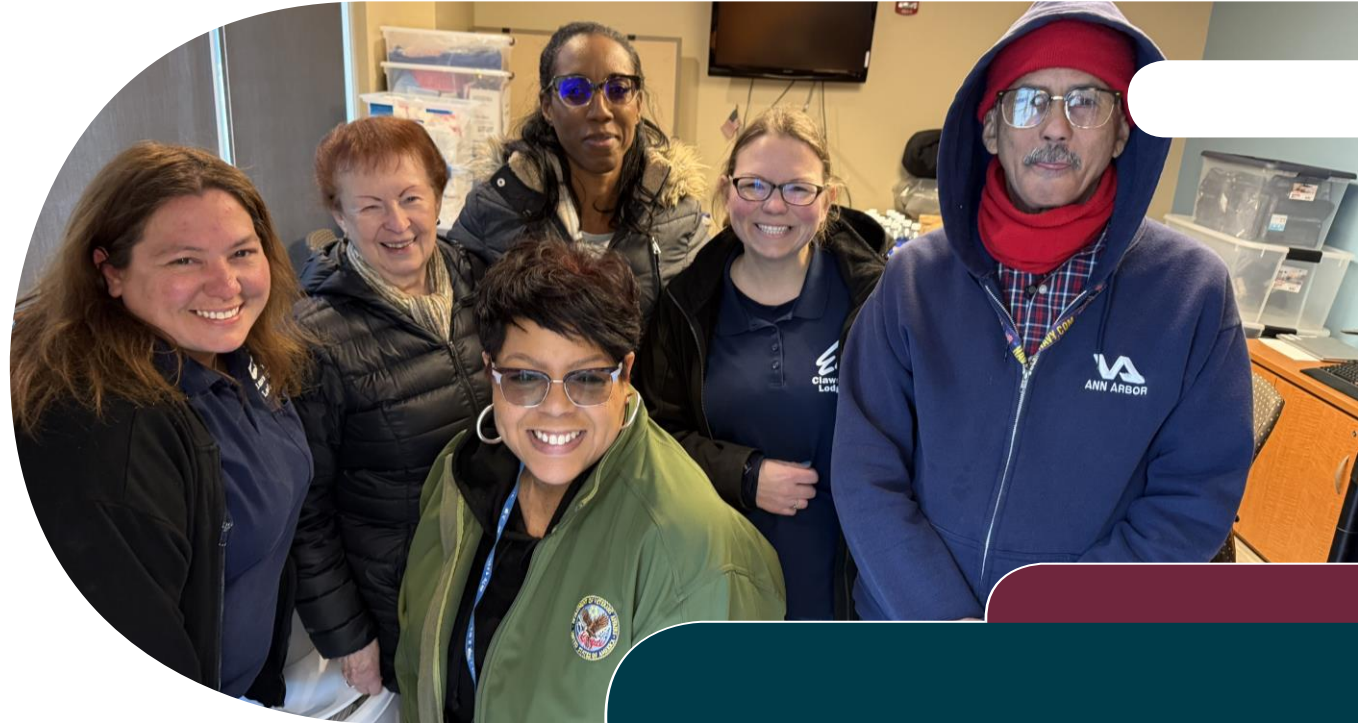


# Family Literacy

- Warm Welcome to the Library
  - Provide coats while introducing students to the resources of the library
- Suds & Stories
  - Entertain children with literacy activities while caretakers do laundry
- Community Baby Shower
  - Host a baby shower with a focus on early childhood literacy

# Veteran Homelessness

- Welcome Home
  - Provide Welcome Home Kits
- Stand Down
  - Host or participate in a local Stand Down event
- Adopt-a-Haven
  - Partner with a shelter or transitional facility specifically for veterans





# Hunger and Essential Needs Assistance

- Provide food or other essential needs to community members
- Essential needs include
  - Food (including pet food)
  - Hygiene products
  - Cleaning supplies
  - Tents and sleeping bags
  - Diapers
  - Winter clothing



# Merging with a Beacon Grant

Merge Spotlight + Beacon

Spotlight Grants can be merged with a Beacon Grant  
for a **\$6,000** Beacon Grant.





# Anniston, Ala., Lodge No. 189



From 2005



To 2025





# Impact Grant Basics

- **Competitive** grant available to Lodges looking to make a significant and meaningful difference in the community
- **\$10,000** available
- Two-tier application process
  - Impact Intent
  - Impact Grant application



# Impact Grant Basics

- Active, Lodge-led projects
  - What Elks are known for in the community
- Partner organizations
  - Must go beyond what organization is already doing
- No donations of funds or supplies
  - Other organizations cannot handle funds



# Bristol County, R.I., Lodge No. 1860



From 2010



To 2025







# Important Dates

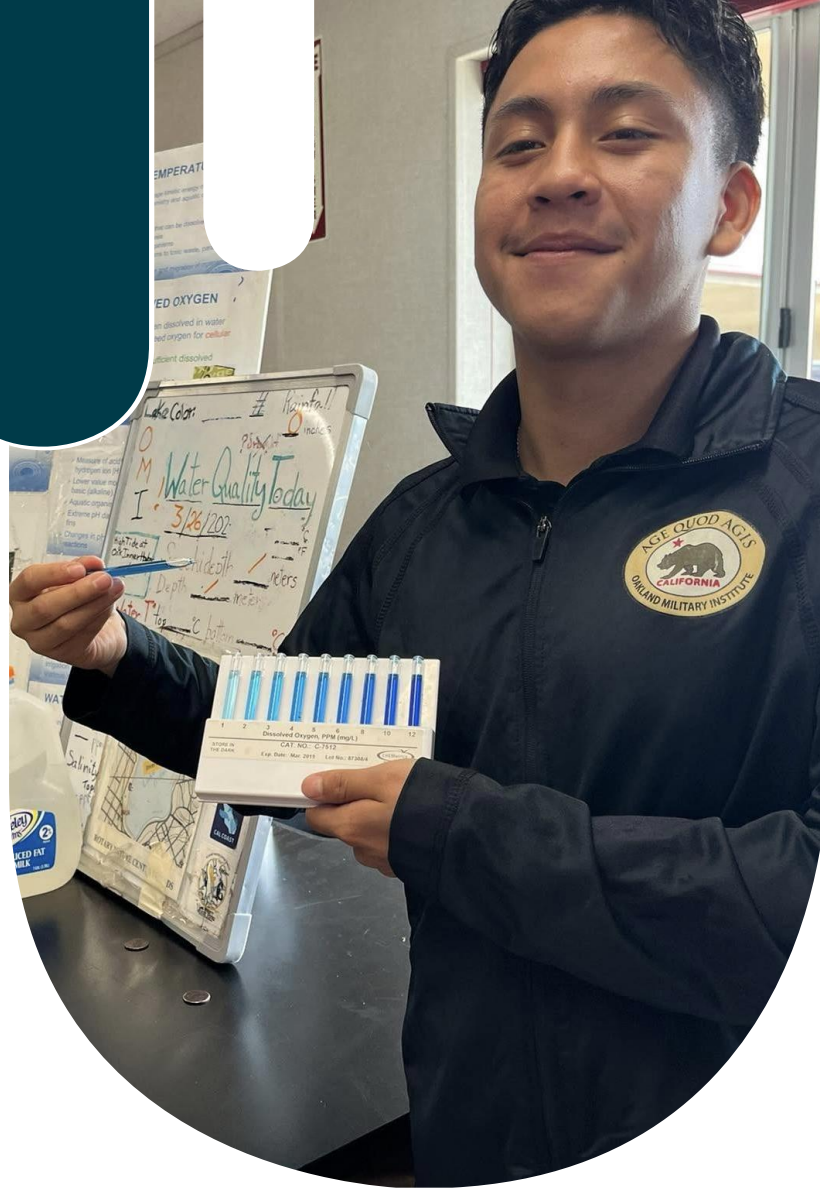
- Impact Intents due **August 15**
- Beacon, Gratitude and Spotlight Grant applications due **January 21, 2026**
- Projects completed by **March 31, 2026**

# Final Reporting

- Brief questions about the project
- Must include receipts for all items purchased and donations made
- Due **30 days** after project end date that is specified in the application







# Out of Compliance

- Overdue Final Reports
  - Final Reports due 30 days after the project end date
  - Out of compliance 30 days after due date
    - Need an extension? Call us!
- Malfeasance
- Delinquent on Grand Lodge dues

# 20 CIP Tips from 20 Years





# Identifying Needs

- Take stock of issues in your community
- Reach out to town representatives, nonprofit organizations, schools, community members and Lodge members
- Create an action plan





# Project Plans

## 20 Project Plans for

- Assisting Individuals or Families with Insufficient Resources
- Serving Veterans
- Serving Youth
- Combatting Food Insecurity



# Harness Lodge Support

- Talk to Lodge members!
  - What causes motivate members?
  - Frequent updates at meetings and in newsletters
- Mobilize Lodge committees
- Invite Elks scholars
  - ENF Scholar Database



# ScholarCIP Initiative

## ENF Scholar Database

Search below for Elks scholars by sponsoring state, sponsoring Lodge, college or major. Prior to 2001, the online list of ENF scholarship winners is incomplete. If you'd like to get in touch with Elks scholars near you, email [scholarship@elks.org](mailto:scholarship@elks.org).

Find an ENF Scholarship Winner!

Sponsoring State

Any State

Sponsoring Lodge

Any Elks Lodge

Program Year

All Years

College

Any College

Field of Study

Any Major

Search





# Preventing Burnout

- Set realistic goals
- Take regular breaks
- Seek support
- Recognize achievement
- Stay connected

# Marketing Projects

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- Reach out to local organizations for partnerships
- Contact local newspapers, TV stations, and radio stations
- Photograph your events
  - Clean off lens
  - Don't crop anyone out
  - Candid shots



# CIP Resources

- Grant webpages
- Grant Toolkits
- CIP Grant History
- Final Report webpage
- Grant webinars
- CIP Participation Report
- CIP Staff



Beacon Grant  
Toolkit



Gratitude Grant  
Toolkit



Spotlight Grant  
Toolkit



CIP Program  
Toolkit



Grants  
Coordinator



Final Reporting



Webinars



Veterans  
Resources



Exalted Rulers



CIP Participation  
Report



CIP Grant History



Grant Compliance



# Connect with Us!

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- CIP Club
- Social media
  - Facebook
  - Instagram
    - @elksinaction
  - #ElksAlwaysCare





## Questions?

- The CIP office is here to help!
- 773/755-4730
- [LodgeGrants@elks.org](mailto:LodgeGrants@elks.org)

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