

Elks National Foundation

20 Project Plans for Serving Youth

Please note: These project ideas are not one-size-fits-all for CIP grants. Please read and understand the guidelines for each individual grant before applying.

- 1. Purchase backpacks and fill them with food supplies to supplement meals for children on the weekends and school vacations.
- 2. Partner with the local library or school to host a reading or education program. View the Warm Welcome to the Library project plan here.
- Distribute sensory kits or install sensory paths at schools for children with autism.
- 4. Host a homework support or mentoring program for students with working parents.
- 5. Teach students how to prepare simple healthy meals or snacks.
- Partner with a music program to teach lessons, host events, or provide rehearsal space.
- 7. Host an educational field day for the local Boys and Girls Club or YMCA.
- 8. Create a safety day program teaching children proper bike etiquette, how to cross the street, or what to do in case of a fire. Watch how Bremerton, Wash., Lodge No. 1181 teaches disaster preparedness here.
- 9. Host an afterschool sports league for children with disabilities.
- 10. Create packages of essential clothing, hygiene items, or bedding for children entering the foster care system.
- 11. Take students shopping to be fitted for a new pair of shoes. Read how Elgin, Ill., Lodge No. 737 has implemented this program here.
- 12. Sponsor weekly art classes for students.
- 13. Help local high school students with resume writing and interview skills and provide interview clothing.

- 14. Visit a local children's hospital and purchase art kits, puzzles, or other activities to do with them.
- 15. Start a resource closet, complete with hygiene kits, at a local school.
- 16. Renovate public spaces to make them accessible for children with disabilities.
- 17. Host a health awareness day for students, including eye examinations.
- 18. Build and deliver beds for children without one. Read an in-depth project plan here.
- 19. Distribute Welcome Home Kits for children aging out of the foster care system to help make their new house a home.
- 20. Create a nature clean-up and recycling day for an elementary school class.

