

## Class of 2024 Impact Grant Recipients

**Allegheny, Pa., Lodge No. 339** (Year 9) will continue the *Yellow Glove Project*, which fills the gap food stamps leave for local families.

**Ames, Iowa, Lodge No. 1626** (Year 3) will bring the community together through its project, *OneAmes*, providing biweekly events to connect people experiencing homelessness with the community at large through educational programming and medical assistance.

**Augusta, Maine, Lodge No. 964** (Year 3) will give high school students an edge when it comes to career choice with Elks serving as mentors to teach essential job skills and cultivate potential career paths through the *Edge Program*.

**Blue Springs, Mo., Lodge No. 2509** (Year 2) will install carbon monoxide, fire detectors and necessary safety equipment, and provide CPR classes to the community through its project, *Saving Our Citizens and First Responders*.

**Brainerd, Minn., Lodge No. 615** (Year 7) will continue the *Mark Munson Memorial School of Rock and Open Mic Venue*, a summer camp music program and open mic nights for teens.

**Bremerton, Wash., Lodge No. 1181** (Year 5) will promote literacy and prepare elementary school students for natural disasters in an area that sits on two fault lines through *Reading for Readiness*.

**Bristol County, R.I., Lodge No. 1860** (Year 16) will continue *East Bay Cares*, a food and supply project for area food pantries and other social service organizations.

**Caldwell, Idaho, Lodge No. 1448** (Year 10) will continue the *Elks Care about Foster Care* project, which supports children in the foster care system.

**Casa Grande, Ariz., Lodge No. 1957** (Year 2) will build cooling stations and providing information and goods to combat heat stroke to individuals experiencing homelessness through its project, *Casa Grande Homeless Assistance and Heat Relief*.

**Chattanooga, Tenn., Lodge No. 91** (Year 3) will help veterans stay safe and warm in their homes by assisting with home repairs through its project, *Home Sweet Home*.

**Cheyenne, Wyo., Lodge No. 660** (Year 3) will continue *Operation Brotherly Love*, which will provide meals, support and resources to people experiencing homelessness in their community.

**Cocoa, Fla., Lodge No. 1532** (Year 2) will provide art therapy to individuals recovering from PTSD or traumatic events through its project, *Our Painted Hearts*.

**Coolidge-Florence, Ariz., Lodge No. 2350** (Year 8) will continue *EFELT (Elks Feeding Empty Little Tummys)*, its weekend meal program for youth.

**Danielson, Conn., Lodge No. 1706** (New) will implement monthly reading programs, activities, and a "Little Free Library" initiative, ensuring children receive both books and healthy food to take home through *Turn the Page on Hunger and Literacy*.

**Davenport, Iowa, Lodge No. 298** (Year 5) will support elementary school students monthly with winter clothes, school supplies, educational activities, and literacy programs through *Kids at Madison School Matter*.

**Dover, Del., Lodge No. 1903** (Year 9) will continue the *Elks 1903 Pantry*, a mobile pantry for individuals experiencing homelessness.

**El Paso, Texas, Lodge No. 187** (Year 7) will continue *TTP Community Outreach Campaign*, a program designed to raise awareness for and package and distribute hygiene items to local nonprofits.

**Elmwood Park-Paterson, N.J., Lodge No. 60** (New) aims to reduce Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and address post-partum depression by distributing Sleep Safe boxes containing educational materials and essential items to new parents living below the poverty line through *Jacquelyn Wishes You Sweet Dreams and a Safe Sleep (SIDS Prevention & Post-Partum Depression Education)*.

**Elwood, Ind., Lodge No. 368** (Year 5) will promote literacy and combat hunger among local students through *Read & Feed: Fiction, Food and Fun*, a project utilizing food-themed books and corresponding dinners.

**Erie, Pa., Lodge No. 67** (Year 6) will continue *Comfort Care 4 Vets (CC4V)*, a project dedicated to providing hygiene items and other non-food essentials to veterans through the Erie V.A. Medical Center.

**Fayetteville-Springdale, Ark., Lodge No. 1987** (Year 10) will continue the *Veterans Impact Grant Project*, which meets the needs of veterans who are experiencing, or have recently exited, homelessness.

**Fresno, Calif., Lodge No. 439** (Year 10) will continue the *Mt. Olympus Challenge*, a school-based program that teaches teens at risk of dropping out the importance of community service.

**Galena, Ill., Lodge No. 882** (Year 2) will provide weekly recreational activities for adults with disabilities through its project, *Big Beautiful World*.

**Gilbert, Ariz., Lodge No. 2848** (Year 5) will provide boxes of food and new clothes to elementary school students through *Caring is Sharing*.

**Grand Island, Neb., Lodge No. 604** (Year 8) will continue the *Veterans Food Pantry*, which provides critical items to veterans transitioning out of homelessness.

**Greater Pine Island, Fla., Lodge No. 2781** (Year 6) will continue *the Elks Senior Housing Partnership* project, which helps older community members stay in their homes safely through home updates, ramps and hurricane preparedness support.

**Groton, Conn., Lodge No. 2163** (Year 5) will run *Donation Station* in partnership with Groton Human Services to provide needed household items like paper towels, dish soap, and laundry detergent for people experiencing homelessness and families.

**Hackensack, N.J., Lodge No. 658** (Year 3) will expand upon past Spotlight Grants to support family literacy and utilization of library programs through *Hackensack Elks Little Library Operation*, or *HELLO, Boxes*.

**Hackettstown, N.J., Lodge No. 2331** (Year 3) will work with the local Hispanic community to provide youth enrichment programs, translation services, and adult ESL resources through *Conexiones Hispanas*, or *Hispanic Connections*.

**Hamilton, Ohio, Lodge No. 93** (New) will address food insecurity among vulnerable seniors by employing a systematic approach to efficiently shop, box, and deliver food through *Food Security for our Butler County Seniors*.

**Hattiesburg, Miss., Lodge No. 599** (Year 2) will renovate the homes of people with disabilities through its project, *Sense of Security through Modifications*.

**Hickory, N.C., Lodge No. 1654** (Year 13) will continue the *Helping Hands* project, which provides meals to a soup kitchen.

**Hopkins, Minn., Lodge No. 2221** (Year 12) will continue *Teaming Up for Teens*, a support program for teens experiencing homelessness.

**Huntingdon, Penn., Lodge No. 976** (Year 2) will provide care packages and build ramps for veterans living below the poverty line through its project, *Huntingdon Elks Veterans Relief Program*.

**Kerrville, Texas, Lodge No. 2081** (Year 10) will continue to support community members with mental illness by hosting events and providing supplies through the *Bridging the Gap* project.

**Kingman, Ariz., Lodge No. 468** (Year 6) will help veterans and their families move into permanent housing through *Operation Turnkey*. The Lodge will provide vital home supplies and mentorship throughout the year.

**Laughlin, Nev., Lodge No. 2872** (Year 9) will continue its reading literacy program with a mobile incentive store, *Read to Succeed*.

**Lynnwood, Wash., Lodge No. 2171** (Year 2) will create a learning center and provide support for families living under the poverty line who have infants and toddlers through its project, *Lynnwood Elks Early Childhood Recourse Center*.

**McAllen, Texas, Lodge No. 1402** (Year 8) will continue the *Elks Enrichment Programs for Youth*, a series of youth summer camps.

**Osawatomie, Kan., Lodge No. 921** (Year 5) will keep up *Tri-Ko and Us*, a project supporting adults with disabilities through monthly social activities and improvements to a local disability support organization's facilities.

**Pendleton, S.C., Lodge No. 2861** (Year 2) will provide classes on parenting, life skills, sexual education, and personal growth to teenagers in the Medicaid Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Services program through its project, *Enhanced MAPPS Project*.

**Plainview, Texas, Lodge No. 1175** (Year 7) will sustain the *Elks 1175 Center*, a safe facility for veterans transitioning out of homelessness to stay and receive services.

**Plant City, Fla., Lodge No. 1727** (Year 5) will assemble the *Weekly Everyday Blessings (WEB) Squad* to provide weekly meals, several holiday events and support to a local foster care program.

**Port Townsend, Wash., Lodge No. 317** (Year 7) will continue the *Elks 317 Supply Shop* to meet the immediate needs of people experiencing homelessness in their community.

**Portsmouth, N.H., Lodge No. 97** (Year 2) will combat military suicide and depression by fostering relationships with those in service at the local naval base through its project, *Liberty Investments Nurture Kinships, or LINK*.

**Princeton, N.J., Lodge No. 2129** plans to bridge language gaps through its *Bridging Lingo through ELL* (English Language Learner) initiative, by providing TEFL Certificate Programs, course materials, supplementary resources, and technology assistance to empower parents in participating actively in their child's education.

**Putnam, Conn., Lodge No. 574** (Year 2) will provide a Food Share Box and care packages filled with nutritional recipes to individuals experiencing food insecurity with its project, *Elks Care, Food Share*.

**Red Wing, Minn., Lodge No. 845** (Year 5) will keep up *HeART (Hope for At-Risk Teens)*, a project that supports teens in their area with cooking classes, childcare supplies, winter clothing, school supplies, hygiene items and a food pantry.

**Santa Ana, Calif., Lodge No. 794** (New) will launch the *Empowering Women in Need: Elks' Compassion in Action* program to support unhoused women and children by conducting events including wellness days, career planning workshops, baby showers, and literacy parties.

**Santa Maria, Calif., Lodge No. 1538** (Year 3) will host *Veteran Stand Downs & Lunches* to serve as a place for veterans to socialize, eat, receive supplies, and obtain information on services provided at the local, state and federal levels.

**Santa Monica, Calif., Lodge No. 906** (Year 8) will continue *Operation Veteran Support*, a program designed to supply veterans transitioning out of homelessness with clothing, shelter and food.

**Saratoga-Wilton, N.Y., Lodge No. 161** (Year 3) plans to protect some of its most vulnerable citizens through programming aimed at preventing domestic violence and sexual assault and will provide support to survivors through *Engaging and Supporting Our Community to End Relationship Abuse and Sexual Assault*.

**South Kingston, R.I., Lodge No. 1899** (Year 10) will continue to help local seniors, families and individuals with disabilities maintain their homes through the *Home Maintenance and Repair Assistance* project.

**South Miami/Coral Gables, Fla., Lodge No. 1676** (New) will empower individuals on the autism spectrum by promoting self-esteem and enhancing social and life skills through job fairs, open mic nights, and other events through *Autism Outreach Program*.

**St. George 'Dixie,' Utah, Lodge No. 1743** (Year 10) will continue to connect and mentor students with the *Youth in Crisis* project.

**Tifton, Ga., Lodge No. 1114** (New) will establish the *Elks Community Outreach Program*, or ECOP, a facility maintenance initiative for local charities and non-profits, aiming to relieve financial burdens, enhance safety, and help non-profits help the community.

**Vero Beach, Fla., Lodge No. 1774** (Year 10) will continue *Kids of Character*, a program that supports a local elementary school with uniforms and a weekly incentive store for good behavior.

**Washington DC-Rockville, Md., Lodge No. 15** (Year 7) will continue its *Elks Fill in the Gaps for Vets* program, which provides material support and social activities to veterans transitioning out of homelessness.

**Wells, Maine, Lodge No. 2738** (New) will establish a monthly Caregiver Support Group, providing emotional, social and material support through educational sessions, caregiver essentials kits, and speakers on diverse topics such as stress management, wellness and elder law through *Elks Caring for the Caregiver*.

**Westerly, R.I., Lodge No. 678** (New) will establish the *Elks Dare to Care Needs Pantry*, providing essential items like food, clothing, hygiene supplies, tents, and sleeping bags, and offering assistance for home repairs, to veterans experiencing and transitioning out of homelessness.

**Wheeling, W. Va., Lodge No. 28** (Year 15) will continue to ensure families with children facing food insecurity are receiving needed support with the *Just for Kids* project.

