



# **IMPACT GRANTS**

## ***Large Scale Lodge Community Service Projects***

Impact Grants are competitive grants intended to help Lodges lead local, ongoing, charitable projects that change the community in a significant and meaningful way. All Lodges are eligible to apply for an Impact Grant of up to \$10,000!

**Requirements:** **Elks involvement and leadership are key requirements in an Impact Grant project**—these grants are designed to set a standard of excellence in community engagement through volunteerism, mentoring and service. Elks must be the driving force in the planning and implementation of the project. Impact Grants require Lodges to take action.

Impact Grant projects must...

- ❖ be charitable and address a local need.
- ❖ have significant Elks involvement, meaning that a substantial number of Elks must actively participate by giving their time and support to the project.
- ❖ be ongoing projects, not one-time events.
- ❖ improve the lives of a population, not simply one individual or family.
- ❖ be practical and results-oriented.
- ❖ have visible Elks identification and leadership

**Charitable Focus:** Keep the following IRS defined categories in mind when planning a grant project: relieve the poor, distressed or underprivileged; advance education, but not through scholarships; lessen the burdens of government; lessen neighborhood tensions; eliminate prejudice and discrimination; combat juvenile delinquency.

**Restrictions:** Impact Grants cannot directly benefit Elks members or Lodge employees. They cannot be used to purchase land or buildings for an Elks Lodge, or improve, repair, renovate or expand current Lodge buildings or property in any way.

Impact Grant projects **cannot**...

- ❖ be a donation of funds or supplies to another organization.
- ❖ pay salaries or personnel costs for another organization.
- ❖ establish or increase a foundation, trust or interest-bearing account.
- ❖ fund a one-time item purchase, such as a vehicle or large piece of equipment.
- ❖ be a small part of a large community capital campaign fund.

**Application Dates:** Impact Grant applications are available online only, starting June 17, 2015 and due by September 4, 2015 at noon Central Time. No exceptions.

**For project planning assistance, examples, sample applications, FAQs, and to access the application, visit the Impact Grant webpage at [www.elks.org/enf/community/impactgrants.cfm](http://www.elks.org/enf/community/impactgrants.cfm).**

Visit our webpage at <http://www.elks.org/enf/community/ImpactGrants.cfm>.  
Questions? Contact the Grants Office at 773 755-4730 or [LodgeGrants@elks.org](mailto:LodgeGrants@elks.org).

## Impact Grants Examples

In 2014, 47 Lodges received Impact Grants to run large-scale service projects in their communities. Read all about the amazing things the 2014 Impact Grant Lodges accomplished.

Elks at **Hilo, Hawaii, Lodge No. 759** built, delivered, installed and planted gardens for 142 community members with diabetes. As a result, 80 percent of those individuals increased their fruit and vegetable intake, improving their overall health.

**Hopkins, Minn., Lodge No. 2221** provided monthly care packages of food, hygiene supplies, and clean clothes to 120 homeless teens in the community each month. Elks also served monthly meals and organized quarterly service projects so the teens can give back.

Through the Bicycle/Recycle Project, **Jackson, Ohio, Lodge No. 466** gave away 196 bicycles to youth and families in need. In return, each person completed a safety course and volunteered with the city's recycling program, which increased by more than 30 percent thanks to the Elks.

**“The support of the ENF for our Veterans Education and Job Training Program has had a tremendous impact in the lives of the veterans enrolled, helping them to better their lives, and those of their families.”**  
- Red Lodge ‘Beartooth’, Mont.,  
Lodge No. 534

**Hightstown, N.J., Lodge No. 1955** held monthly reading parties for low-income youth, which included Elks-read stories, free books for all children in attendance, a nutritious dinner and a craft activity. Since the program began, reading scores for the youth involved have increased more than 56 percent.

**“Because of ENF support, our Lodge has decreased childhood hunger and had an effect on the lives of so many individuals. Our Lodge has found a new purpose, and we are revitalized as a membership.”**  
- Columbia, Mo., Lodge No. 594

Thanks to **Coos Bay, Ore., Lodge No. 1160's** Share Bear Snack Pack project, 73 students each week receive backpacks of food. Over the past 6 years, Elks have prepared more than 91,000 packs and built a program that's set to provide fun and nutritious snacks for at-risk youth for years to come.

Elks at **Watertown, Wis., Lodge No. 666** partner with hospitals, veterans groups, medical centers and senior homes to lend expensive medical equipment to community members in need. This years, Elks helped 161 people, saving them tens of thousands of dollars.

*The Elks National Foundation helps Lodges serve their communities in significant and ongoing ways by awarding Impact Grants of up to \$10,000. Any Lodge can apply for these competitive grants. To find out more about Impact Grants and the Community Investments Program, visit [www.elks.org/enf/community](http://www.elks.org/enf/community).*

Visit our webpage at <http://www.elks.org/enf/community/ImpactGrants.cfm>.  
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