

A vertical photograph of a street signpost. At the top is a black, square-shaped lamp housing with a yellow light. Below it is a wooden signpost. Two green street signs with white text are attached to the post. The top sign reads 'COMMUNITY' and the bottom sign reads 'INVESTMENTS'. The background is a clear blue sky with some light clouds. In the bottom left corner, there are silhouettes of trees. On the left side of the image, there is a large, vertical, semi-transparent watermark that reads 'FORWARD' in a bold, sans-serif font.

# Community Investments Program

Elks National  
Foundation

COMMUNITY

INVESTMENTS

# The Community Investments Program

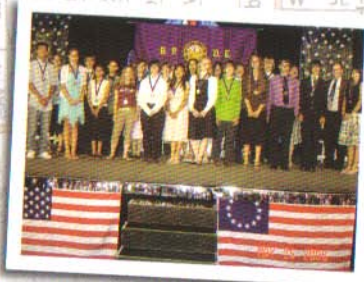
The Elks National Foundation realizes that each town, city and state varies in its make-up, immediate concerns and needs.

We believe that Lodges know the needs of their communities' best.

We want to put the opportunity to address local problems in the hands of the Lodge. That's why we created the Community Investments Program.

Through this program, Lodges have the opportunity to invest directly in their communities and have a lasting impact where Elks live and work. The Community Investments Program allows Lodges to become

philanthropic leaders in their communities, and year after year, Lodges continue to show us that the possibilities are truly endless.



## **Gratitude Grants: The Possibilities Are Endless!**

Gratitude Grants award reimbursement grants to qualifying Lodges that meet the Grand Exalted Ruler's per-capita goal. With a Gratitude Grant, a Lodge identifies and addresses a need in its community. Lodges can do all sorts of great work with Gratitude Grants, like give books to a local school; purchase and distribute food at a homeless shelter; or host a bingo night for seniors and veterans.



## **Promise Grants: Making Time for Young People**

Promise Grants provide Lodges with an opportunity to shape the lives of local youth. The first 250 Lodges that pledge to host a youth event are eligible for this reimbursement grant. Lodges can use the grant to host substance-free parties for teenagers; sponsor outdoor sports, field trips or educational events for grade-schoolers; or host awards nights for kids who participate in community service projects or excel academically.



## **Impact Grants: Stop Dreaming and Start Planning!**

Impact Grants are larger, competitive grants intended to address unmet needs in communities where Elks live and work. Impact Grants provide substantial funding, and give Lodges the opportunity to conceptualize, develop and implement a new program or to strengthen an existing one.

All Lodges are eligible and encouraged to apply, but only a select number of grants will be awarded annually. With an Impact Grant, a Lodge can start a summer soccer camp for kids; collaborate with a local organization that helps support the needs of individuals with disabilities; open a soup kitchen to serve dinner to the homeless; or beautify the community by planting trees, shrubbery and flowers to replace garbage.



## **Lodge Assistance Grants: Charitable Partnerships**

Lodge Assistance Grants help Lodges by allowing businesses that only support charitable 501(c)(3) organizations to support a specific Lodge charitable program or project through a restricted monetary gift to the ENF. By taking advantage of this opportunity, everyone benefits: the business is able to support a local charitable cause; the Lodge is able to expand on its good deeds; and a community need is addressed.

## Lodges know and understand their communities best.

"The fundraisers we've always relied on struggled greatly this year, and as a result, we had to cut back on many donations to local charities. Fortunately, the Gratitude Grant gave us the funding we needed to make our usual contribution to an organization that depends on us for help."

**- Nancy Hulett,  
ENF Chair  
Anniston, Ala., Lodge**

"The kids who participated in our Promise Grant Fishing Derby would rather fish than do drugs. That's our goal, and seeing the kids' smiles is an added bonus that makes our work worthwhile!"

**- Denny Bissell,  
Esteemed Leading Knight,  
Lake Taneycomo, Mo., Lodge**

"We are huge supporters of veterans. We feel it's our duty as Americans to honor and respect those who risked their lives for us, and with the help of a Gratitude Grant, we were able to do so."

**- W. John Filice,  
PER and Secretary  
Gilroy, Calif., Lodge**



The Community Investments Program allows Lodges to become philanthropic leaders in their communities.

# Investing in communities where Elks live and work.

To learn more about the Elks National Foundation and the Community Investments Program grants, please visit our website at [www.elks.org/enf/community](http://www.elks.org/enf/community).



## Elks National Foundation

**Community Investments Program**

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