



Elks National Foundation 2016-17 Impact Grant Application

Your 2017 Impact Grant Application

Status: **Application Approved.**

1. Contact Information

Lodge Name:
Hutchinson, MN

Primary Contact:

Name:
Tammy Lehn

Did your Lodge discuss this project with ENF staff before applying?

Yes

Please list the date of the meeting when this grant was discussed.

Meeting Date: **6/16/2016**

Tell us about your community.

Is your Lodge located in an urban, suburban or rural community? Please check the appropriate box.

Urban Suburban Rural (less than 25,000) Rural (less than 5,000)

2. Project Information

Project Title:

Inclusive Play Park

Application Status:

New application

Identify the community need your project will address. (This is the case for why your Lodge needs Impact Grant funds. Provide data and evidence that your Lodge is working to address an important community issue. Focus on the local aspects of the project.)

We as the Inclusive Park Playground Task Force, want to improve the quality of life for our disabled and fully functional children to adults to enjoy a better quality of play time. When all children play and work together they will increase the understanding of all diverse abilities with everyone making friendships that will last forever. Our Elks Lodge wants to increase the opportunity for all aspects of our community to gather in a place of fun.

How did your Lodge determine the need for this project? What kind of research did the Lodge conduct? Did the Lodge discuss this project with other groups, organizations and individuals in the community? Does the Lodge have any partners in this project?

We want to create a destination in heart of Hutchinson. A destination that allows everyone the opportunity to play, to learn and to explore. Our vision aims to captivate the imagination, bring innovation, and offer inclusion to Elks Park. We had an idea. An idea that everyone, no matter their ability, should be able to play together. At most parks and playgrounds, that idea cannot happen. Surfacing does not allow children of limited mobility to move across the play space. Decks and transfer areas are often not large enough to accommodate wheelchairs and other devices critical for movement. We wanted to change this. We wanted a park for everyone. In recognizing the need for inclusive play in Hutchinson, formed the Inclusive Play Task Force to meet this need within our community. We see inclusive play as a universal right for everyone; that no one should be left out due to their ability. Through extensive research and education, we sought out Landscape Structures and Flagship recreation, leaders in play, to turn our vision into a park for everyone. Allowing all ages to come together, side by side, and play as we all do; that is the vision for Elks Park. When completed, the park will serve as a destination for the citizens of Hutchinson and others to come and play. That's our idea! We hope that you join us! The Elks organization wants to work with our city throughout this project. The Elks has additional goals to add to this park for the next 3 -5 years

How will the Elks specifically address this community need? If the Lodge has a partner in this project, we want to know exactly what the Elks will do, and not what the partner organization will do. (This is your project description.) Be specific, and demonstrate that your Lodge has a plan.

Originally, our plan was to do the Inclusive Park in one complete project. After many hours of our Inclusive Play Task Force volunteers working hard to find the money, it was determined we would break the project into phases. Phase 1: Includes a platform, with sway swing that is wheelchair accessible, a slide and other sensory stimulating equipment. Phase 2: Includes a double zip-line cruiser one wheelchair accessible chair and 1 disc glider. Phase 3: Includes a Poured-and-Place which allows individuals with wheelchairs to access all play equipment. Our end result is to address the needs of our community with challenges to include those with autism. This playground will allow the stimulation, soothing and calming effects that playing with friends provides.

Has the Lodge had any experience addressing this problem in the past?

No, our lodge has not had experience with addressing this problem in the past. Recently, a resident in our community became physically challenged and came to our organization to see if we could create a park that is inclusive to all members of our community. In searching, we found that a park of this nature would serve not just this one citizen but our entire town and outlying communities.

Impact Grants offer the chance to make a significant and meaningful difference in the community. What lasting effects do you think the project will have?

It will provide a safe, fun environment for many in our community who currently cannot. Allowing for the social and physiological benefits from youth to adults. Not only will this playground allow for children to interact, but for parents with disabilities to participate/play with their children. There are many other potential uses, the local Occupational Therapy at our hospital has plans to us in their pediatric program. As this project continues to grow and develop, so will the opportunities and using for this playground for our and outlying communities.

Given your Lodge's description of the project, please break down the project in terms of volunteer activities/duties/committees. How many Elks will be needed to complete each activity? Keep in mind that Elk involvement is integral to an Impact Grant project.

A team of more than twenty members will be involved in this project, which they started it's planning starting April 2015. The committee formed and started the planning, fundraising and communication with local officials to move forward. We have raised enough to start Phase 1 which will be in place by the end of September 2016. We have 15 - 25 members on do the installation and are working with local Reach program to aid in this process. Phase 2 will include the same amount of member to install. Phase 3 is unknown at this time, plans will continue as our community will lead us in the direction they are looking for from this project. We are looking forward to increasing the awareness of this project and to include any new members with this play area. Our community at this time is very excited to include all types of people in the enjoyment of this park.

3. Proposed Goals & Objectives

To improve the quality of life for our disabled and fully functional children to adults to enjoy a better quality of play time.

A. Providing play equipment for all ages to enjoy.

B. By providing a location that is easily found within our community.

C. The items that are being installed in the park could be used for rehabilitation purposes for both the young and the old.

Allowing children to come together, side by side, and play as we all do; that is the vision for Elks Park. When completed, the park will serve as a destination for the citizens of Hutchinson and others to come and play.

A. There will be daycare's, preschools and etc. that would be invited through social media to come and use the current shelter and equipment for their outdoor play.

B. The Elks currently have a website that explains the park and the goals that we have in mind for the future of the project.

C. The greatest thing is the word of mouth is strong in this project! It feels great to know that our community is behind this 100%. It is the funding that is slowing us down on bringing this forward.

The park will serve as a destination for the citizens of Hutchinson and others to come and play.

A. We will look for the enjoyment of the community by using this park on a regular basis.

B. This will be a one of a kind park that is like no other within a 50 mile radius of the Hutchinson Community.

C. This park will be GREAT for family reunions, Community picnic's, and our very own Elks activities. I.E. Soccer shoot, picnics, Drug Awareness programs, etc.

4. Plan for Success

At the end of the year, how will you know the project has helped the problem identified in section 2?

We will know that our project has helped by seeing the citizens of our community enjoying, interacting and playing together. Seeing the smiling faces, the laughter in the air and the socialization of people being able to play together and no one being left out.

What data will you collect to show the project's success? (For example, we will monitor the graduation rate at the high school we are working at. Or, we will improve the reading scores of the children in our education program.)

We have a committee of people from our organization planning on working with the city, the media (both social and news) to monitor the use of the park. Taking pictures and

talking with the people who use the park to get their feed back. From that feedback we will be able to confirm the projects success.

This is an opportunity to raise your Lodge's profile and inspire new members to join a Lodge that's making a difference in the community. How do you plan to promote this in the community as an Elks-led project?

With the use of social, public and local media, we will promote this project as being a Elk's led project. We will make people aware that it takes the presence of people in our community working together to make positive things happen and that we are always looking for law abiding, believers in God who are willing to make that difference. We will put information at the park to allow people to contact us for more information.

5. Budget Information

| Budget Category | ENF Funds | Matching Share | | Total Project Cost |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | | Cash | In-Kind | |
| Staff Salaries & Support | N/A | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Equipment: | \$5000 | \$156000 | \$5000 | \$166000 |
| Materials & Supplies: | \$5000 | \$65000 | \$15000 | \$85000 |
| Travel | \$0 | \$5000 | \$0 | \$5000 |
| Other | \$0 | \$50000 | \$0 | \$50000 |
| TOTAL | \$10000 | \$276000 | \$20000 | \$306000 |

Budget Narrative

This park will be done in Phases. Phase one is in process to begin in September of 2016. We have raised \$35,0000 to date with other organizations. Our Local Elks has donated \$22,000 of this monies. QTY DESCRIPTION UNIT PRICE EXT. PRICE 1 PlayBooster System - Design #97511 \$39,066.00 TuffTimber Boarder & Stakes TBD 1 Surfacing - Drainage Aggregate, Fabric & EWF TBD 1 Concrete for Footings (103 cf) \$ 1,500.00 1 Installation - Hybrid Community Build \$ 3,600.00 *Surface Drilling *Equipment Placement *Community Build Supervision *Final Inspection 1 Mobilization \$ 500.00 City & In-kind will provide - Excavation, concrete flat work,

Freight \$650.00 Subtotal \$ 42,972.04 Sales Tax N/A Total \$ 45,316.04

The equipment for this park will last 15 plus years with our any type of replacements needed. Each piece will be put in place with great care.

Phase 2 will include two zip lines for the park. Currently we are waiting for more definite numbers from our vendor.

Phase 3: Includes a Poured-and-Place which allows individuals with wheelchairs to access all play equipment. Currently we are waiting for more definite numbers from our vendor.