

Promise Grant Application – Brainerd Lodge #615

**Elks National Foundation 2013-14
Promise Grant Application**

Your Application

1. Contact Information

Lodge Name: Brainerd, MN	Lodge Number: 615
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Describe in detail your Lodge’s charitable youth project

“The SHOP”: Brainerd / Baxter Youth Center. The SHOP is a non profit charitable organization committed to providing community support to all teenagers and young adults as they transition into independence and adulthood. It is a place where adolescent energy is harnessed into creative energy by providing opportunities to explore potential, build lasting relationships and establish personal connections with adults and community. The SHOP is open Wednesday through Sunday 3:00pm – 9:00pm for 9th grade through high school age students who come to hang out, get homework help. Many of these youth are “couch hoppers”, homeless with no place to go after school. Many of them eat at the nearby Soup Kitchen and return to the center trying to figure out where to spend the night. The SHOP has a manager, Nick Sullivan, who provides an adult presence. On average 30 young people attend on any given day, more when a scheduled activity is planned. Offerings include workshops, concerts and dances are made available to these youth usually made up of youth music. There is internet access, video games and snacks. A bicycle repair business has been establish with all work being accomplished by attending youth. These youth also participate in giving back to the community and need continued mentoring and job skill building. It is Brainerd Lodge #615’s intention to provide during the school year, both a bi-weekly meal for youth in attendance and training in the operation of a commercial kitchen. This bi-weekly meal will be in conjunction with our regularly scheduled Thursday night family offering. Nick will assign 2-3 different youth bi-weekly to assist Elk members in the preparation and serving of these meals to the youth at the SHOP. All preparation will take place at the Brainerd Elks Lodge club kitchen with youth meals served at the SHOP. Average cost per meal is \$4.00 and average of 30 meals will be served bi-weekly for an estimated cost of \$2,280. This project will be at the start of 2013-2014 school year and continue through the end of the school year.

How does your Lodge plan to promote the use of this project in the community? This is a chance for your Lodge to reach out to new people in the community and spread the word about your Lodge’s commitment to charity and building community. Doing so may lead to new members.

Promotion of Brainerd Elks #615 will be through Crow Wing County Social Service, local media and community organizations.

Elks participation in this event is required. How are members of your Lodge planning to participate?

At least 4 Elks members will assist in the training of these youth at every meal preparation. During the length of this program it is anticipated that at least 20 different Elk members will participate.

What local concern or need is your Lodge addressing with this youth project?

Mentoring of young people who otherwise do not benefit from adult supervision and instruction during daily periods of inactivity.

Budget: \$2,280

<u>Item</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Food	\$2,280.00
Total Grant Request:	\$2,000.00