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[Elks National Foundation](#)

Elks National Foundation 2017-18 Impact Grant Application

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Impact Grant: Preview Your Application

Status: **Application not Submitted.**

Print Application

1. Contact Information [View/Change](#)

Lodge Name:
Brainerd, MN

Lodge Number:
615

Primary Contact:

Name:
James Runberg

Address:
1205 Lakeview Lane N
Brainerd, MN 56401

Phone Number:
(218) 270-2217

Email:
jrunberg@brainerd.net

Member #:
003901

Project Manager:

Name:
John Stiles

Address:
13870 Cherrywood Drive
Baxter, MN 56401

Phone Number:
(218) 828-6206

Email:
bluejeremiah@yahoo.com

Member #:
004847

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: 6/5/2017

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 [View/Change](#)

Project Title:	Application Status:	Identify the
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Mark Munson Memorial School of Rock New application and Open Mic Venue

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.)

Brainerd Elks Lodge #615 is located in Crow Wing County, which is in the geographic center of Minnesota. Our county has a growing population of youth ages 12 to 18. Many are at risk for being homeless and are staying in a variety of homes while continuing to attend school and/or hold down an "entry" level job. In many ways they struggle to remain in our community. Drug use in the home, neglect, divorce, abuse by parents or stepparents has resulted in widespread mental issues and/or learning problems that many of our children now exhibit. The growing restlessness of our youth and lack of supervised activities is a serious concern in our area. There has been an alarming increase in sex trafficking of young people. (Per investigation by our local Brainerd Police Department, as detailed in the March 2017 published investigation analysis by our local paper The Brainerd Daily Dispatch.) Our lodge is working to support the city of Brainerd and surrounding areas by offering safe programs. We hope to meet the growing needs of our youth by providing intensive support activities. The MMMSoR/Open Mic venue provides a 2 week summer camp for 40-50 youth and then provides an additional 2-3 hours every 2 weeks the rest of the year. Young people of our community who are not involved in athletic programs, but have a talent in music, can get together to perform and listen to music. It will also provide a chaperoned musical event every 2 weeks, for youth who are not talented in music, but enjoy listening to music and would like to listen to their friends play.

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?

Brainerd Elks Lodge members are well aware of the growing youth problems of homelessness, sex trafficking and a general lack of programs in the community to provide safe activities for our youth after school. Our Elks Lodge currently has several projects and events underway that support our youth, but we feel we need another effective way to expand our role in the community for at risk youth. We have discussed the program with other communities that have implemented the School of Rock program, such as Little Falls, MN and St. Cloud, MN. These communities have seen how the program can change the lives of students and provide positive adult exposure as well. The School of Rock programs across the United States have consistently been proven to promote confidence, in addition to furthering the students musical abilities. The Elks have partnered with our local school districts Community Education

department and The Crossing Arts Alliance, which is the Brainerd lakes area arts and music organization. The Crossing Arts Alliance is a 501C3 organization.

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.

This past summer was the first time the School of Rock was held. It was a trial run to see how much interest there was and if other students want to get involved. They heard how much fun it was from those that participated and saw how much fun the final concert was. The Elks contribution to this program will be to provide help with the summer camp in areas such as registration, instruction, providing food and snacks and moving equipment. The final summer camp concert requires volunteers in the areas of promotion, ticket sales, ushers, food and beverage sales and moving equipment. Volunteers are also needed to help supervise, chaperone and instruct the Open Mic venue. This is in addition to yearly financial support. Some of the instructors and assistants at the School of Rock are Elks. We would expect Elks, with some musical background, would become more involved in the Open Mic sessions during the year.

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

We are involved in many other youth programs. Our current involvement includes a community program called "The Shop". "The Shop" is a place youth can gather after school in a supervised setting. Once a month our Elks members organize a meal that the youth can prepare and cook together and then serve to the 40 to 50 youth that attend these suppers. We also deliver burgers and fries once or twice a month to help with the lack of food in the home these youth may experience. Grab and Go snacks are provided as well as basic hygiene items. Fruits and vegetables are also provided to meet nutritional needs as some of the youth do not get exposure to these types of food. Christmas presents were purchased as well. This program runs year round. We are also involved in several of the Elks youth programs such as the Hoop Shoot, Americanism Essay Contest, Soccer Shoot, Drug Awareness Poster Contest, Drug Awareness Trailer and Drug Awareness literature distribution, the Scholarship Program and the Antlers program. The Elks are a co-sponsor of the Brainerd Police Departments Safety Education.

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?

Our objective is to have a meaningful impact on our youth by providing an ongoing, sustainable and reliable program. The School of Rock was started this past summer and based upon the reaction to the end of the school concert, it will continue to grow and provide a place for students that are not interested in sports to find their place. It is a place where the student that is a bit shy can blossom and grow. The students gain confidence in themselves while advancing their music education. It also provides a regular musical event they can look forward to. Teaching music to our children is something they will retain and can use for the rest of their lives. Additionally, we hope to gain new members for the Elks lodge by having more exposure within the community.

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.

The summer camp is 6 days long and requires volunteers for registration, instruction, buying, preparing and delivering food and moving equipment during the week. This year 13 Elk members were involved with the summer camp. As participation in the camp grows, more volunteers and instructors will be needed. The summer camp final concert requires volunteers for ticket sales, ushers, equipment handling and food and beverage sales, along with promotional duties. The Open Mic venue will be scheduled every 2 weeks for the entire year. Each Open Mic session will need 3-5 Elk volunteers to help supervise, chaperone and instruct the participants. This would involve over 100 members. Some Elk members with musical backgrounds will be involved in several different aspects.

3. Proposed Goals & Objectives [View/Change](#)

To support a school and performance venue which provides a program of music directed at non-athletic and at risk kids.

- A. Provide financial support to purchase equipment for the Open Mic venue.
- B. Provide volunteers for both the School of Rock and Open Mic.
- C. Network with local band and choir directors to identify those students who would benefit from the School of Rock.

To provide an experience which promotes self confidence and self esteem.

- A. Brainerd Elk members would work closely with students and volunteer teachers, provide noon lunches and help move equipment for the students.
- B. Elk members would work as chaperones.
- C. We would report our progress to the entire membership thru our newsletter and bi-monthly meetings and to the public through the Brainerd Daily Dispatch with photographs and articles.

Develop positive interaction with adults, respect for others, learning to work in a team setting as a band coming together to learn and play music.

- A. We would accomplish this by working closely with the students in their music endeavors.
- B. Daily conversations about good things happening in their lives and in class.
- C. Summarize goals reached at the end of each day of the school.

4. Plan for Success [View/Change](#)

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

Enrollment numbers and attendance in the MMMSoR will be one measurement of success. Final surveys completed by the students and parents will be another way. Watching how the students grow and become more confident in themselves will be the true test of success. This will be a program that will allow students to come out of their shell and realize that they are capable of doing more than they ever thought possible. Weekly attendance and evaluation questionnaires at the end of the Open Mic will be taken and evaluated at both the participant and attendee level.

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.)

To clearly demonstrate the success of the MMMSoR and Open Mic projects, we will track each activity as noted above. In summary, the data we gather will come from ongoing surveys completed by the Elk volunteers, instructors and the young people involved in the School of Rock and Open Mic sessions. Additional information gathered to show the projects success will come from tracking volunteer hours provided by Elk members and non-Elk or community members in both programs. Also, tracking the amount and type of donations from the Brainerd Elks Lodge and from individual Elk members. Private parties, community members and corporate donations may also be received.

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?

The Brainerd Elks has an active weekly email blast as well as a monthly newsletter, The Elkorama. We will promote all activities pertaining to the Mark Munson School of Rock and Open Mic nights on both of these. We will also contact our local radio stations to provide interviews on air to promote the events as well as educate the public on the Elks programs. Brochures and posters will have the Elks logo prominently displayed and be placed in public businesses.

5. Budget Information [View/Change](#)

Budget Category	ENF Funds	Matching Share		Total Project Cost
		Cash	In-Kind	
Staff Salaries & Support	N/A	\$20895	\$0	\$20895
Equipment:	\$5000	\$3000	\$0	\$8000
Materials & Supplies:	\$5000	\$3690	\$0	\$8690
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$10000	\$27585	\$0	\$37585

Budget Narrative

The Impact Grant would be used for the purchase of equipment to be used for the Open Mic sessions. We would not be able to hold these sessions without readily available equipment. This would include:

\$5,000.00 for equipment: \$2,000.00 - PA system: mics, stands, monitors, cables \$500.00 - Guitar amp \$1,000.00 - Drum set \$750.00 - Keyboard \$750.00 - Keyboard amp

We would also allocate money from the grant for materials and supplies.

\$5,000.00 for materials and supplies: \$300.00 - Snacks and food for the 6 day camp \$500.00 - Design posters, programs and tickets (For the final concert held at the end of camp) The students in camp are divided up into different bands, they name their band and have a poster made. \$150.00 - Insurance \$800.00 - Promotion, advertising, posters, ads in the newspaper \$1,700.00 - Video production, photography (Promote the programs throughout the community and online) Each student receives a video at the end of camp as part of their registration fee. \$800.00 - T-shirts (Camp fees include a t-shirt for each student) \$500.00 - Open Mic advertising, radio spots, etc. (Advertise the Open Mic night schedule and purpose) \$250.00 - Equipment rental for School of Rock summer camp

Expenses not covered by the grant: \$13,750.00 - Instructors for summer camp \$5,625.00 - Open Mic janitorial services (\$225/session x 25 sessions) \$1,250.00 - Open Mic director salary \$270.00 - Summer camp janitorial service \$500.00 - Guitar amp \$500.00 - Bass amp \$75.00 - Name tags and lanyards for participants \$100.00 - Daycamp classroom rental \$450.00 - Equipment rental \$2,680.00 - Crossing Arts personnel, accounting, etc. \$385.00 - Community Education fees \$2,000.00 - Enclosed trailer for storage and transport of equipment

These additional expenses would be paid from camp tuition, scholarships, private donations, the Legacy Fund grant, \$2.00 ticket charge for the Open Mic sessions and financial support from the Brainerd Elks Lodge.

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Submit

If you're completely finished with your **Impact Grant application**, you must submit it for consideration.

Once submitted, you can no longer edit your application.

If you have questions before you submit, contact us at LodgeGrants@elks.org or call 773/755-4730.

Once submitted, you can no longer edit your application.

By submitting this application, you certify that you have discussed the contents of this Impact Grant application and its contents at a Lodge meeting, and have the Lodge's full permission to submit this on behalf of the Lodge.

I agree to these terms.

Submit Impact Grant Application to the Elks National Foundation