



# Elks National Veterans Service Commission Freedom Grant Application

Contact Information

Grant Description

Budget

Preview Application

## Freedom Grant: **Preview Your Application**

Status: **Application not Submitted.**

Print Application

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

Lodge Name: Hopkins, MN

Lodge Number: 2221

#### Primary Contact:

Name: Gretchen Peterson

#### Secondary Contact:

Name: Guy Saffell

Address: 6649 Harlan Dr  
Eden Prairie, MN 55346

Address: 5117 39TH AVE S  
Minneapolis, MN 55417

Phone Number: (612) 889-2915

Phone Number: (612) 722-1948

Email: info@hopkinselks.org

Email: kgsd3@aol.com

Member #: 004208

Member #: 4181

### 2. Grant Description [View/Change](#)

Category: Food Pantry/ Distribution, Other

Audience: Hunger Issues, Veterans/Military

**Describe your Lodge's Freedom Grant project. How is your Lodge serving veterans and/ or active duty military personnel with this grant? (Do not list current Lodge programs unless this grant expands those programs.)**

We want to use the grant to fund two separate but related projects that address the hunger challenges and isolation challenges of homeless veterans. We have started a Welcome Home Kit program to provide move in kits to veterans. Through this program, we have been introduced to a number of veterans and have heard their stories and their challenges. One of their challenges is their feeling of isolation. They also have a need to connect with other veterans who better understand their struggles.

We want to use some of the money (see budget) to fund a bus trip for the homeless veterans we have recently served to view the Traveling Vietnam War Memorial that is coming to our area. The trip will afford these veterans an opportunity to bond and connect with veterans in a similar situation. It will provide veterans who are unlikely to visit Washington DC an opportunity to see the memorial.

The remainder of the money we want to use to augment the Welcome Home Kits to provide a basic set of groceries

to get them started when they move into permanent housing. Moving from a shelter, the street or life in their car is a high anxiety process for many veterans. They greatly appreciate having one less thing to worry about when moving into new housing.

**Which of the five areas of increased need is this grant project addressing? Please choose one of the following five categories; employment; homelessness and housing; military families; health; or educational support.**

veteran homelessness and isolation

**How will Elks be meaningfully involved in this project?**

Elks will be involved in coordinating the bus trip, providing transportation to and from the Lodge for the veterans as they often don't have transportation, escorting the veterans on site at the memorial, participating in a motorcycle escort for the bus trip and more.

Elks will also be involved in the shopping for and delivery of the groceries to the veterans as they move into housing.

**What does the Lodge expect to accomplish with this project?**

Provide an easier transition for the veteran from homelessness into permanent housing.

Provide an opportunity to bond and connect not only with other veterans but also Elks members. Sometimes a simple conversation and the knowledge that someone cares goes a long way to reduce the feeling of isolation for these veterans.

Provide veterans an opportunity to honor those who lost their lives in the Vietnam War.

**Anticipated date of project completion:** 07/31/2017

**3. Budget [View/Change](#)**

Item	Estimated Cost
Bus Trip to Vietnam Memorial	\$790.00
Groceries - homeless vets	\$2,500.00
<b>Total Grant request:</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
 <b>Total cost of event:</b>	 <b>\$3,290.00</b>

**Budget Narrative**

We expect approximately 20-30 veterans to participate in the bus trip to the Vietnam Memorial. We are allocating \$300 of grant money for the trip and Elks members would share in the remaining cost to make this happen.

The remaining grant money would be used to buy a week or two of groceries per veteran. We are expect to serve at least 10 veterans / month if not more. Thus, \$1,700 of grant money will be used. Fundraisers will be required to fund the remaining monies.

[Return to Dashboard](#)

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

Once submitted, you can no longer edit your application unless it is opened for follow-up\*\* by the Lodge Grants Office.

*\*\* Please note: It is very common for the ENVSC to follow-up with Lodges to ask for more information. Please be prepared for this. When your Lodge receives a follow-up email, it opens up your Lodge's application for editing. Everything you already entered will still be there. Simply add the requested information, and submit the application again.*

If you have questions before you submit, contact us at [vets@elks.org](mailto:vets@elks.org) or call 773/755-4736.

**Once submitted, you can no longer edit your application.**

By submitting this form, you agree to complete the Final Report Form that will be sent to you upon approval, and send all grant-related receipts. Failure to return the Final Report Form and receipts will render the Lodge ineligible to participate in future grant offerings. If for some reason the Lodge needs to cancel the Freedom Grant event described on this form, the Secretary is required to notify the Elks National Veterans Service Commission Grand Lodge headquarters in Chicago as soon as possible so that we may award the Freedom Grant to another Lodge.

I agree to these terms.

**Submit Freedom Grant Application to the Elks Nation**