



NATIONAL GRANGE

Elevating rural interests since 1867

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National Grange awards \$40,000 to make direct community impact

40 Rural Life Initiative grants given to Granges nationwide



WASHINGTON, DC (March 27, 2026) - Today, the National Grange announced 40 Community and Pomona Granges as recipients of their latest round of Rural Life Initiative (RLI) grants. This round of grants, titled “Bridging the Gaps,” was designed for Granges to think outside the box in finding ways to make an impact in their local communities.

More than 80 applications were submitted by Community and Pomona Granges in 21 states, with projects ranging from children’s fairs to senior health fairs, food drives and distributions to agricultural events, and everything in between. Now in its third round of competitive grantmaking, the RLI team noted that Granges submitting applications are thinking more creatively and writing strong proposals.

“We are looking forward to seeing these forty projects make a direct, tangible impact in their communities,” said National Grange President Christine Hamp. “Each of these projects reflects the unique needs of the areas these Granges serve, helping address gaps that often exist due to limited resources, bureaucratic hurdles, or economic challenges. Each project is also designed to bring communities together and make them stronger through collaboration, events, service, and educational opportunities—all of which are at the core of what the Grange stands for today.”

\$1,000 grants were awarded to each of the following Granges:

- Bachelor Valley #667 (CA)
- Baileyville #1991 (PA)
- Bayneville #1810 (KS)
- Beaver Falls #554 (NY)
- Butternut Valley #1533 (NY)
- Caledonia #9 (VT)
- Champion #18 (NY)
- Chester-Delaware Pomona #3 (PA)
- Columbus #58 (NJ)
- Copake #935 (NY)
- Corriher #627 (NC)
- Durham #460 (CA)
- Eagle #1 (PA)
- Ewing #2082 (OH)
- Five Mile Prairie #905 (WA)
- Frogpond #111 (OR)
- Fruitland #999 (WA)
- Goodwill #939 (VA)

- Greenhorn Community #384 (CA)
- Harraseeket #9 (ME)
- Humboldt #501 (CA)
- Kirkland #684 (NY)
- Liberty #1780 (PA)
- Long Beach #667 (WA)
- Long Branch Community #2072 (PA)
- Lummi Island #925 (WA)
- Merced Colony #527 (CA)
- Otter Creek #1493 (KS)
- Penns Valley #158 (PA)
- Perry County Pomona #69 (PA)
- Pleasant Ridge #135 (ID)
- Pleasant View #1459 (KS)
- Prosperity #315 (WA)
- San Juan #966 (WA)
- San Poil #684 (WA)
- Sunbeam #2 (MN)
- Vassalboro #322 (ME)
- Warren #110 (NJ)
- Whelan-Ewartsville #114 (WA)
- Whitman County Pomona #2 (WA)

Launched in 2024, the Rural Life Initiative supports locally driven projects that strengthen rural communities, enhance quality of life, and build long-term resilience. Through community events, educational programming, and wellness resources, the Initiative helps communities address local needs, reduce disparities, and sustain a strong rural identity. Since its inception, more than \$200,000 has been granted to State, Pomona, and Community Granges nationwide.

“The range of projects and events proposed through these grants shows that Granges across the country are eager to give back to their communities, helping ensure they continue to thrive for generations to come,” said Carolyn Weems, a member of the Grange Advocacy Board of Directors. “As we read through the grant applications, our review team often found ourselves wishing we could fund every idea that was proposed. We hope those not funded in this round will still carry out their projects to help address a need in their communities, and we look forward to supporting even more ideas in the future.”

“We believe in investing in the future of rural and small-town America,” said Hamp. “We look forward to being able to accept more applications for another round soon.”

Future opportunities will be announced on the National Grange’s social media and in the Grange Today! newsletter. Additional information is available on the National Grange website at <http://www.nationalgrange.org/rural-life-initiative>.

About the Grange

Founded in 1867, the National Grange is the nation’s oldest rural community organization, dedicated to strengthening individuals, families, and communities through service, education, advocacy, and fellowship. With 1,400 local chapters in rural, suburban, and urban areas across the United States, the Grange empowers its members to address local needs, influence policy through grassroots action, and build values that strengthen communities.

Learn more at www.nationalgrange.org.

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