Rotary Opens Opportunities

District/Governor's/Rotaract Grant Final Report 2020-2021

This report must be completed and uploaded on matchinggrants.org within 30 days after completion of the project but no later than 2 years after the date of approval of the project. For scholarships, the report is due 30 days after payment of funds.

District Grant # (from matchinggrants.org) __P-4590_____

Rotary Club: _____Foothills – Fort Collins_____

Project Title: _____Holiday Baskets 2022_____

Project Description:

1. Is this a scholarship governor's grant report? Yes __ No _X_ (If yes, go directly to line 16)

2. Briefly describe the project. What was done and where did the project activities take place? Explain how the beneficiaries and other community members were involved?

   Our Christmas Basket program reaches out to partnering agencies such as Neighbor to Neighbor, Catholic Charities, United Way, Project Self-Sufficiency and others, to identify well deserving families who are in need of food during this season. We work with the Larimer County Food Bank to see what they have for us to distribute as well. This year we served 80 families with an exceptional number of volunteers and hours. This is the most baskets ever delivered to date, however with inflation and high cost of food. This year, families are in need more than ever.

   To fund this annual event, we ask for donations from our club, and donations from our local grocery store in the form of fabric grocery bags. Below is a list of what we included in the Christmas Baskets. Each year the basket varies based on the availability from the food bank, whatever we don't get from the food bank we purchase at a local grocery store.

   Items included:

   Fabric reusable grocery bags with handles (4 of them) to carry food; ham/turkey; potatoes; flour; sugar; milk; cans of vegetables; butter; cheese; eggs; gravy; cans of fruit; apple juice; peanut butter

   Volunteers:

During the weeks prior to the Basket Delivery date, we had volunteers that help with logistics and planning. There was a prep day in which we compile all the groceries for transport, and then distribution. The food was delivered to the families in need by our Rotarians and their families. The distribution of the meals usually takes less than 2 hours per volunteer. The breakdown of activity includes:

Prep Day:

The day prior to the distribution, all the food was picked up from the food bank and grocery store. We met at a local business where we have space for putting together the food baskets for distribution. We had 20 volunteers get all the food compiled together into each of the baskets (grocery bag) in a couple of hours.

Distribution Day:

Our club distributes the Christmas Baskets the weekend prior to Christmas. We had our delivery volunteers meet at the business where the baskets are put together. Each delivery volunteer received an address/map for their basket delivery, which included approximately 5 baskets per volunteer. The entire distribution was done within a few hours, with the Christmas meal delivered to the recipient's front door.

Our club members and families look forward to participating in this great project for our community each year. The charities we work with have repeatedly told us that without this program, many families will not have a meal for the holiday, and this reminds them that the community has their back. The families look forward to this for the holiday.

3. How many Rotarians participated in this project?
   38 volunteers across 3 teams of Rotarians. In addition, we had 23 volunteers which were friends and family of Rotarians assist. ___

4. What did they do? Please give at least two examples.

Volunteers:

During the weeks prior to the Basket Delivery date, we had volunteers that help with logistics and planning. There was a prep day in which we compile all the groceries for transport, and then distribution. The food was delivered to the families in need by our Rotarians and their families. The distribution of the meals usually takes less than 2 hours per volunteer. The days included:

Prep Day:

The day prior to the distribution, all the food was picked up from the food bank and grocery store. We met at a local business where we have space for putting together the food baskets for distribution. We had 20 volunteers get all the food compiled together into each of the baskets (grocery bag) in a couple of hours.

Distribution Day:

Our club distributes the Christmas Baskets the weekend prior to Christmas. We had our delivery volunteers meet at the business where the baskets are put together. Each delivery volunteer received an address/map for their basket delivery, which included approximately 5 baskets per volunteer. The entire distribution was done within a few hours, with the Christmas meal delivered to the recipient's front door.

5. How many non-Rotarians benefited from this project?
   336 benefitted. We calculated this based on a family of 4, and the delivery of 84 meals, benefitting 336 non-Rotarians. ___

6. Who are the beneficiaries and what is the expected long-term community impact of this project?

This project addressed food scarcity issues going on in Fort Collins. With the increase of food costs and transportation we delivered food directly to the door of members most at risk in our community. The long-term community impact is to feed the hungry and spread holiday hope throughout the community.

7. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was their role?

This project is made possible with the partnership of the following organizations in our community:

a. Foodbank of Larimer County. **This organization provided half of the food, area to pack the food, and warehouse space to store the items overnight. Staff was also a**vailable at all times during our processing, to support any logistical issues that arose.
b. **Safeway**, Lemay Avenue, Fort Collins. We always partner with this local grocery store to support a very large order of items which are not available from the Foodbank.
c. **Neighbor to Neighbor, Care Housing and Childsafe** non-profit organizations. These organizations assist in locating those persons most at need in our community, so that we know which locations to which we should deliver the groceries.

8. Income:

Income Source	**Amount**
Donations from club members	2468.38
District Grant	2460.00
Total Project Income	4928.38

9. Expenditures: (number receipts starting with 1 and indicate a receipt # (s) for each expenditure) (Do not include travel expenses)

If international project convert amounts to US dollars	Receipt # (s)	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount
Safeway – Groceries	1	1869.78	1869.78
Foodbank – Butter purchase	2	170.40	170.40
Donation to Foodbank	3	2888.20	2888.20
Total project expenditures		4928.38	4928.38

10. Please explain any variance of more than 5% between the budgeted amount and the actual amount including the reason for the variance and why the alternative was chosen.

Originally, we planned $3500 for this project as we could not anticipate the amount of donations which would come in to the club. We have done a great deal of projects lately, and were unsure of donation commitment as a result. We had a resounding amount of donations and volunteers. Our Food Bank also had many items to donate, which saved us from buying too many groceries. Despite increasing our coverage of the meals, we only had to pay $1869.78 for groceries. We thought it would be much higher with the increase in costs. In addition, our local Safeway donated cloth bags for our project. This saved us about $1000 dollars. Given our partnership with Food Bank, we donated back to them in kind for the remaining dollars, to help offset costs in them helping us to pull off this project.

11. Project score (5=strongly, 4=agree, 3= neutral, 2=disagree, 1=strongly disagree)

	Project Score	Comments
The overall project was successful	5	
The grant process worked well	5	
My interaction with partner clubs was good	3	N/A in this case
We achieved the results we expected	5	

12. Did you upload photos in your project on matchinggrants.org under the Photos tab? (If not, please do so)

13. What worked well on this project and why?
Organization. We also had a lot of volunteers. We have been running this project every year for years, but the most recent person running the project has done this for 3 years. As a result, we keep making improvements to the process. Our partners were well oiled in helping to pull this off, especially the Larimer County foodbank which were top notch in their support for this project.

14. What did not work well and how would you suggest improving it?

We packed too many baskets for one delivery, and had to recall the food and redirect once we realized the error. This was just a small snafu but it caused us to react for a few meals and buy more groceries to fill the gap until we found what happened with the extra groceries. The bonus was that the food was then redistributed, and it resulted in the foodbank receiving more donations back in food, which we had just purchased.

15. How was this project publicized?
Primarily through Facebook, Clubrunner, word of mouth, email, and presentations to the club.

16. Scholarship Governor's grant only N/A

a. Name of scholarship awardee _____

b. Current school _____

Project Inventory

Please list all items provided in this grant that are over $500 in value and are not expendable.

Item Purchased	Date of Purchase	Cost	Initial Destination/ Location	Comments
N/A				

By signing this report, I confirm that to the best of my knowledge these District Grant funds were spent only for eligible items in accordance with Trustee-approved guidelines, and that all the information contained herein is true and accurate. Receipts for all grant-funded expenditures are attached. I also understand that all photographs submitted in connection with this report will become the property of RI and will not be returned. I warrant that I own all rights to the photographs, including copyright, and hereby grant the District, RI and TRF a royalty free irrevocable license to use the photographs now or in the future, through the District and the world in any manner it so chooses and in any medium now known or developed. This includes the right to modify the photographs as necessary in the District's and RI's sole discretion. This also includes, without limitation, use on or in the web sites, magazines, brochures, pamphlets, exhibitions and any other promotional materials of the District, RI, and TRF.

Please attach all receipts or an invoice and a copy of the check used to pay the invoice. Funds over $100 not used must be returned to the district grants treasurer.

Certifying signature of primary contact Janet Peterson Date: 1/4/2023

Print name Janet Peterson

Upload this report on matchinggrants.org in .pdf format only