

Iowa's Promise Youth Grant Program

sponsored by:

IOWA'S PROMISE
THE ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH



www.iowaspromise.org

In partnership with Iowa State University Extension / 4-H Youth Development

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Iowa's Promise Youth Grant program is an outgrowth of the 1998 Iowa Summit Initiative and its emphasis on youth and community service. Funding for this program is provided by Iowa's Promise, which is part of the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service. The grants are administered by Iowa State University Extension, 4-H Youth Development.

Since the 1998 summit, Iowa has been designated a State of Promise, "Iowa's Promise", by America's Promise—The Alliance for Youth. Research shows that if the Five Promises, as defined by America's Promise, are consistently fulfilled, they can significantly advance the health and well-being of the next generation – increasing the chances of youth becoming successful adults. This grant program has been designed to help youth groups make a connection between their activities and the larger picture of contributing to fulfilling these Five Promises in their community:

- 1. Caring Adults** —Ongoing relationships with caring adults — parents, mentors, tutors or coaches — offer youth support, care and guidance.
- 2. Safe Places** — Safe places with structured activities during nonschool hours provide both physical and emotional safety for youth.
- 3. A Healthy Start** — Adequate nutrition, exercise, and health care pave the way for healthy bodies, healthy minds, and smart habits for adulthood.
- 4. Marketable Skills** — Marketable skills through effective education help youth navigate the transition from school to work successfully.
- 5. Opportunities to Serve** — Opportunities to give back through community service enhance self-esteem, boost confidence and heighten a sense of responsibility to the community.

OBJECTIVE

To encourage local youth groups in Iowa to partner with at least one other community group to plan and carry out a community service or community improvement project and submit a report at completion so other communities can replicate the project.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Any combination of youth groups/community groups in Iowa can apply for grants up to \$250. This can be two or more youth groups (4-H clubs, Scouts, FFA, church groups, community groups, school groups) or one youth group and one adult group (church group, community group, school group). Partnerships may be two youth groups, youth and parents, youth and senior citizens, etc. If a youth group partners with an adult group, preference will be given to those grant applications indicating the youth group is taking the leadership role in the project.

Youth grant recipients from previous year can qualify for a grant this year, but only if it is a totally new or different project and previous grant report was submitted on time.

OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE "IOWA'S PROMISE YOUTH GRANT"

The projects selected for funding will be given their grants as soon as they are approved. Groups must keep receipts to document how the funds are spent. If the group does not spend the entire amount of the grant, the remainder must be returned.

If you don't have access to a camera, please use grant dollars to purchase a disposable camera to take pictures before, during, and after your project and include photos in your final report. Grant money should not be used for refreshments, recognition material, or given as a cash donation for another fundraiser.

Groups should consider the sustainability of the project. This may include planting perennials rather than annuals, assigning groups or group members to care for a planting project, etc.

The intent of the Commission is to fund projects in all parts of the state.

APPLICATIONS

Applications will be available at county extension offices and on the Iowa's Promise Web site: www.iowaspromise.org.

Applications are due in the State 4-H Office by **February 1**. Notification of funding will be in February or March. Projects must be completed and the project report submitted to the State 4-H Office by **December 15**. Community groups are required to find matching funds or in-kind donations within their community. (In-kind donations are donations of time, expertise, equipment, refreshments, or materials and the value of those donations should be listed on the income side of the budget. Mark ** in your budget to indicate in-kind donations.)

A letter of support from the governing/benefiting group of the project location **MUST** accompany the application. This indicates the group has asked for permission to do its project and has been approved. Examples would include the city council for a city park, school administration for a project at a school, board of supervisors for a rural township cemetery, or the director of a nursing home for a project there.

SAMPLE BUDGET

Note: In-kind donations as well as donations of time, money, materials, or expertise are listed because they are part of the expenses of a project.

Proposed Budget: Give expected income and expense for this project.

EXPECTED INCOME*		EXPECTED EXPENDITURES*	
Sources	Amount	Items	Amount
Grant requested (from "Iowa's Promise Youth" Grant program)	\$200	**Plants donated from greenhouse	\$50
Treasury	\$100	Mulch	\$100
Garden Club donation	\$75	Trees	\$200
Bake sale	\$50	Fertilizer	\$55
**Plants donated by greenhouse	\$50	Weed barrier	\$70
**Refreshments donated by club member moms	\$20	**Refreshments--donated	\$20
Total	\$495	Total	\$495

*The two totals must be the same. Mark ** to indicate in-kind donations.

POSSIBLE IDEAS FOR "IOWA'S PROMISE YOUTH GRANT"

- "Adopt" a park, camp, community center, library or children's program at a library.
- Planting and caring for a vegetable garden for a food bank.
- Grow and sell produce for a local farmer's market with proceeds going to a local food bank.
- Planting and caring for a vegetable or flower garden for a nursing home or senior citizen housing.
- Marking trails at a local park or camp.
- General community clean-up.
- Planting and maintaining a butterfly garden at a nursing home, park, or school.
- Building or repairing picnic tables or benches at a park, nursing home, etc.
- Public education activity for drug awareness.

"IOWA'S PROMISE YOUTH GRANT" DATES TO REMEMBER

- February 1:** Application due to:
Iowa's Promise Youth Grant, Extension 4-H Youth Bldg—ISU, Ames IA 50011-3630
- December 15:** Project completed and report submitted to above address
- Upon funding, grantees will be asked to notify the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service of project workdays two weeks in advance so Commissioners might join the project effort.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Sue Bogue (515-294-1533 or suebogue@iastate.edu) at the Iowa 4-H Youth Development Office.

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