

## **Grant Request Summary | Rotary Club of Yelm**

### **What is the mission of our organization?**

The Rotary Club of Yelm was founded in March 2010. As a service organization, our goal is to assist youth in our community. We do that by providing scholarships, leadership awards, student of the month program, a summer lunch program, needs closets at the middle and high school levels and other programs that support our youth. We achieve this mission with money raised from our own fundraisers, donations, business sponsors, and grants.

### **Funding Requested**

We are requesting funds to support our 10 Weeks of Summer Lunch Program. The Rotary Club of Yelm provides weekly food bags for 250 kids in the Yelm and Rainier School District. Each bag contains food, drinks and snacks. We will also do at least one hygiene distribution of toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, deodorant and such. Each bag cost us approximately \$10. We estimate that the 2020 summer program will cost approximately \$27,500 to complete.

This program is outlined in more detail on the below.

### **Measurements**

2020 will be our 4<sup>th</sup> year providing a Summer Lunch Program, the 10 Weeks of Summer. In 2017 we started our 10 weeks of Summer program by distributing 1,600 bags of food to underserved youth in our community. By 2019 we distributed over 2,300 bags. Each year we are finding that there are more and more underserved youth in our community and we expect 2020 to be no exception. When we began this program we had 2 distribution locations and by 2019 we added 2 more distribution locations, including one in Rainier. The community has come together so much for this project and 2019 there were over 100 volunteers that came out to help bag food and distribute the food. We believe that this is a good measure of how it is impacting our community.

The graduation rates of the Yelm community youth is also a good measure. When there is food insecurities student's grades and graduation rates decline. We are seeing them increase and believe this is also the result of the impact we are making within the community.

### **Recognition to donors**

We recognize all our donors on our website, facebook page and on flyers or posters as appropriate. We would continue to give you a shout out on these venues as well as at our weekly packing parties when we prepare the bags. If you would rather remain anonymous, we will support and respect that decision also. We would be happy to share your functions and fundraisers as part of this recognition.

## Grant Request | Summer Lunch Program

The Rotary Club of Yelm (EIN: 26-3374413) has been supporting homeless and underserved children in the Yelm School District for many years. Our main goal and mission of our club is helping youth in our community. We support them with scholarships, student of the month, snack, hygiene and supply programs and much more.

During the past 3 summers we have hosted our 10 Weeks of Summer Lunch food program where during the summer of 2019 we provided over 2,300 bags of food to underserved kids in our community. We did this with 3-4 distribution points in the Yelm and Rainier area and had 210+ bags of food each week for the children to pick up. Each child was given a bag of food, drinks and snacks. We also provide at least one week where we include hygiene items for each family. We have been able to partner with other service organizations and local businesses. The goal was to help the families during the summer months when free and reduced lunches and breakfasts are not served and the Homeless Backpack organization is not running. The cost for this program during the summer of 2019 was just over \$24,000. This project also brings our community together to help out with more than 100 volunteers giving over 1,080 hours of assistance in 2019.

In 2020 we would like to expand our program to feed even more kids as we feel the need will be even greater this year.

## Community Assessment & Impact

We have been working with Yelm High School and the 2 middle schools for several years to provide food, supplies and needed hygiene items for those in need. We also work with Homeless Backpacks, Inc on their weekly food bag distribution. During the summer months these kids do not have the same food opportunities that are available during the school year. Homeless Backpacks does not provide any food bags during these months. ***Our goal has been to help fill this void.***

Our school district area has close to 50% of its kids on free and reduced lunch. So many of the kids in our district don't really want to see the school year end as they will no longer receive their breakfast and lunch.

## Implementation Plan

The Rotary Club of Yelm with the help of businesses and other service organizations will provide weekly food bags for 250 kids in the Yelm and Rainier School District. Each bag will contain food, drinks and snacks and we will also do at least one hygiene distribution of toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, deodorant and such. We estimate that the 2020 summer program will cost approximately \$27,500 to complete.

Any amount that you can donate towards the valuable program will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you so much for your support and consideration of our request!

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