



Project Sustenance

Due to RI State Grange Membership Director: On going project no specific due date

The National Grange's Mission is to strengthen individuals, families, and communities through:

- Service
- Education
- Nonpartisan grassroots advocacy
- Agricultural Awareness

In 2025, National Grange launches "Project Sustenance", a Grange-wide initiative focused on addressing food security and personal sustainability within our communities, including civic engagement. Every Grange is encouraged to participate in this initiative by building or expanding programs that promote self-sufficiency, community sustainability, and access to nutritious food.

To accomplish the work of this charge - Rhode Island State Grange will provide seed grant funding, not greater than \$500 per RI Grange, to execute a "Project Sustenance" Project.

Be relevant! time is in short supply for the DO-er. Grange needs laborers. We are seeking community members who want to invest their time and efforts into building the social capital of the areas served by each of our granges. To attract these individuals, we need to offer them something they value. Something we all value (Grangers and non-Grangers) - historical evaluation informs us this is education.

- Step 1
 - Each Grange must identify a need in your community. Outreach to other local nonprofits serving your same geographic areas, this may be helpful to inform your Grange about what your community needs help with.
- Step 2
 - Pick a modest-sized project that your Grange can execute to help your community effect positive change. This demonstrates the value of your Grange.



Project Sustenance

Rhode Island State Grange Seed Grant Program

- Rule 1
 - Each Grange will choose their own education program/community resource, their membership will vote on it.
 - The voted program will be advised to the State Membership Department with a proposed budget for the program, once approved then the grant funding of up to **\$500** will be provided within two weeks. This grant opportunity provides financial support to Granges to secure educational programs that serve a charitable purpose. Specifically, those that deliver on our mission.
 - Project Criteria: Programs should address one of the three areas of Project Sustenance: food insecurity, community/personal sustainability, and civic engagement. This includes developing life skills like Healthy Eating, Financial Management, and Self-Care, as well as fostering Agricultural Awareness, and empowering Rhode Islanders to understand and use their collective voice in civil discourse to advocate for positive change in Rhode Island. This is Grange Strong. This initiative will work in conjunction with the membership department's contests, which will specifically reward collaboration across internal departments as well as with other community stakeholders.
 - How do we pay for it?
 - Be it resolved that the Rhode Island State Grange Executive Committee on November 29, 2024 approved a request for \$10,000 for the membership year 2024-2025 to be dispensed in grants of up to \$500 for educational programs that serve a charitable purpose. And at the 2025 Rhode Island State Grange Session, You!!! The Rhode Island State Grange delegation voted to spend \$10,000 to renew this Project Sustenance Seed Grange program.
 - \$10,000 for one grant each to Rhode Island's Grange. Grange can work together to multiply their seed grant funding. 15 Community Granges, 4 Pomona Granges, and 1 Junior Grange.



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Rhode Island State Grange Seed Grant Program

- Rule 2
 - The Project Sustenance program must be:
 - Open to the public
 - Free of charge
 - The programs cannot be a part of a Grange meeting in anyway
 - Any received grant monies not spent for the approved/stated charitable purpose be returned to the Rhode Island State Grange by September 15, 2026. This program is administered by the Rhode Island State Grange Membership Department with fiscal services facilitated through the Treasurer of the Rhode Island State Grange. Approved grants will require receipts for all payments rendered. Services and goods provided without receipts will be considered in-kind.
- Rule 3
 - Submit a Program Proposal
 - A complete proposal includes:
 - Brief narrative (1-2 paragraphs) description of the proposed project
 - Budget
 - Project Sustenance RISG Proposal Form
 - Learn more about this membership program at a Question and Answer session on December 13th at 8pm and January 4th at 2pm via Zoom. Every Grange should have at least one representative on the call.