

# FORT WOOD COMMUNITY SPOUSES' CLUB



2026 Community Grants

communityoutreachfwcsc@gmail.com

The Fort Wood Community Spouses' Club (FWCSC) is honored to support programs that strengthen the Fort Leonard Wood region through service, belonging, and community engagement. Each year, FWCSC invests a portion of its fundraising proceeds into local organizations, schools, and national chapter-based groups that directly benefit our military community and neighboring towns, in alignment with the **IRS 501(c)(4) social welfare guidelines**. Our goal is to support initiatives that create meaningful, measurable impact for children, families, service members, and the broader community.

This grant cycle is open to nonprofit organizations, educational programs, and base-affiliated groups requesting support for projects implemented between **May 15, 2026**, and **November 15, 2026**.

Applications must be submitted by **11:59 PM on March 15, 2026**. Incomplete or late packets cannot be reviewed.

Your completed application requires submission of the following materials through the links provided:

- ✓ A completed Community Grant Application <https://forms.gle/UwthtezGbcrLDiB7A>
- ✓ A Signed Letter of Support (if applicable)  
FWCSC requires certain applicants to include a Letter of Support demonstrating organizational approval and capacity to implement the proposed project. **Mid-level supervisors and program leads** must submit a letter signed by their CEO, executive director, or owner. **Teachers or school-based applicants** must provide a letter from their principal or district administrator. Community organizations may include a letter from a collaborating partner agency.  
**Letters must also verify that all FWCSC-funded materials, excluding consumables, will remain the property of the organization or school and will not be used for personal purposes or transferred outside the approved program.**
- ✓ FWCSC Budget Outline <https://fwcsc.com/community-engagement>
  - Please download the Budget Outline Template, complete all associated information, and upload the completed budget in PDF format within your application.

FWCSC no longer accepts itemized lists of specific products and prices. Instead, applicants must submit a **category-based budget** that includes:

- Proposed expense categories (Personnel; Burden, Fringe, Benefits, & Overhead; Rent; Equipment; Supplies; Miscellaneous)
- Estimated cost for each category
- A brief justification explaining how each expense advances project goals

FWCSC maintains a fair, impartial review process for all applicants. All judging is conducted using a standardized rubric aligned with our priority focus areas:

- Youth development and education
- Military family wellness and belonging
- Community enrichment and inclusion
- Volunteerism and service
- Support for vulnerable populations

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2025-2026 Community Grants Program

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All proposals should clearly address:

- The need or problem the project will address
- Who will benefit, and how many military-connected individuals are expected to be served directly
- How funding will be used, with estimates and justification
- Inputs, activities, and timeline
- Expected outputs (numbers served, items distributed, events held)
- Short-term outcomes and evaluation methods
- Sustainability beyond the grant period
- Plans for FWCSC recognition (logo display, event signage, social media, etc.)

Applicants connected to FWCSC members may apply. To ensure impartiality, however, no member of the Grants & Scholarships Committee may represent the applying organization. National-based organizations are welcome to apply, but the funds must be used directly for FLW-connected services. Previous awardees and their organizations will not be considered for funding if the required documentation has not been provided to FWCSC after acceptance of funds.

All funded organizations are required to provide:

- **Receipts and proof of purchase** for all expenditures
- **Returned unused funds** (if applicable)
- **A final impact report** summarizing outputs and outcomes
- **Optional materials** (photos, media, or examples of activities)

Post-funding documentation must be submitted **by November 15, 2026**. Failure to provide required documentation may result in ineligibility for the following grant cycle. FWCSC is committed to working with organizations to help them remain in good standing whenever possible.

All questions from the applicant or organization should be submitted to:

<https://forms.gle/S3ycz3m66rWnQhPw9>

Please allow 5 business days for a response from the Committee. A FAQ & Answers Guide will be posted on [fwcsc.com](http://fwcsc.com) on February 15, 2025.

Respectfully,

Fort Wood Community Spouses' Club Grants & Scholarships Committee