



Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

www.viriniagardenclubs.org

GUIDELINES & APPLICATION

“KEYS TO THE FUTURE” Youth Project Grants

The “Keys to the Future” Youth Project Grants Program, with a simple application procedure, is sponsored by the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. for new or existing youth-centered programs. All VFGC clubs are encouraged to apply for a one-year grant up to \$1000 for the purpose of working with and helping youth realize the rewards and life lessons from gardens and habitats for becoming good stewards of the earth. The scope of these programs may include benefits to the community, environmental awareness/education, plant-to-food connections, outdoor classroom projects, horticulture education, and the social aspects of gardening.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: **SEPTEMBER 15** of each year

Must be submitted by a VFGC member garden club.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please fill out the application form, include a budget and mail to:

Melissa Damiano
VFGC Grants Committee
9436 Park Bluff Terrace
Chesterfield, VA 23838-8957

Phone: 804-796-3287

or email mtdamiano@aol.com

PURPOSE: The purpose of “Keys to the Future” Youth Project Grants is to provide financial support for clubs working with youth on a specific project.

PROGRAM CRITERIA:

In evaluating grant applications, priority will be given to programs that emphasize one or more of these elements:

- number of youth participating/reached
- benefits to the community
- environmental awareness/education
- horticulture educational focus or curricular/program integration
- plant-to-food connections
- social aspects of gardening such as leadership development, team building, community support, or service-learning
- Club member support and participation

FUNDING GUIDELINES

Grants will NOT be provided for:

- projects in which the club does not participate in some aspect
- salaries or benefits of school personnel
- field trips outside Virginia
- political action programs
- Eagle Scout projects
- capital drives and building funds
- scholarships
- endowments
- lawsuits and litigation
- overhead costs
- consumable, one-time use items or giveaways, such as T-shirts, tote bags, food, admission fees, or tuition



**APPLICATION
“KEYS TO THE FUTURE”
VFGC Youth Project Grant**

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

Date: _____

VFGC District: _____

Name of VFGC Club: _____

Garden Club Contact Person submitting application (Name, address, phone number, email):

*This Chairman will email you that your application was received.

New Project: Yes _____ No _____

Beginning date: _____ Expected Completion date: _____

Amount Requested: \$ _____ Amount Club Provides: \$ _____ Total Project Budget: \$ _____

Number of Youth Involved In Project _____ Number Reached by Project _____

Briefly Describe Project, how funds will be used include the following if applicable:

1. What is the youth population you are working with & how will they benefit?
2. Briefly describe the project
3. Approximately how many Garden Club Members will be involved in this project and in what roles?
4. Brief statement of any in-kind or volunteer services, please list organization & their role:
5. Location of Project: Ex. If a garden or greenhouse is to be built/used, where is it located?
6. Does your project require special approval of authorizing groups (i.e. school board)?
7. Description of how the funds will be used. Please provide reasonable estimates. If you have access to wholesale prices, use those in the budget.

NOTE: Grant funds can ONLY be used for the stated project. Unused grant funds MUST be returned to VFGC by May 15 with the Final Report.

Judging is based on the following Scale of Points:

-Scope of Project	35
-Club Member Involvement	35
-Criteria Met (read Guidelines)	10
-Budget complete	15
-Application Form Complete	5

Attach: Project Budget

Mail to: Melissa Damiano, Chairman
9436 Park Bluff Terrace
Chesterfield, VA 23838
Phone: 804-796-3287

Contact Melissa Damiano with questions.

OR Email to: mtdamiano@aol.com