

October 15, 2015

Attn:

Re: 2016 "Give Kids a Hand" Grant

Dear:

The East Lake Washington District of Garden Clubs (ELWD) invites **classroom** teachers in your district to apply for a "Give Kids a Hand" (GKAH) grant that supports student activities in horticulture, environment, and recycling. Grant funds may be used for supplies, equipment, or enrichment activities with \$300 as the maximum available, to be used for the current school year and for a new project or to aid an ongoing project. This grant was developed with the purpose of helping to defray additional costs to teachers that are not covered by school budgets. ELWD is able to offer grants in these school districts: Lake Washington, Issaquah, Northshore, Riverview, Bellevue, and Snoqualmie.

The East Lake Washington District of Garden clubs is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and represents thirteen garden clubs in six school districts on the Eastside of the Seattle Metro area. The District has an educational outreach program, which was established in 1996-97. The "Give Kids a Hand" grant program is funded by donations from ELWD and its clubs and individuals.

The main goal of GKAH is to foster hands-on student opportunities as part of the classroom curriculum. A few of the many projects GKAH has funded include native plantings, vegetable gardens and the study of plant life cycles. One of our teachers said, *"It is a powerful experience for students to sow seed in ground they have prepared, and then see plants grow and flourish with their care."*

To apply, teachers must complete an application with a description of their project, budget, time-line and how funds will be used. Grant applications can be downloaded from <http://elwd.org/awards.aspx>. The deadline is Wednesday, December 9, 2015. Grant recipients will be notified by email by December 11th, and the monies will be distributed prior to January 13, 2016.

We ask for your help in communicating the availability of this grant to ***all*** the teachers in your district. If you have any questions or if there is anything we can do to facilitate this process, please email us at gkah@elwd.org.

Best regards and thank you for you participation,

The Give Kids a Hand Committee

East Lake Washington District of Garden Clubs