

Diocese of Ogdensburg

2026 Respect Life Grant Application

~ Guidelines ~

DEFINITION:

Respect for human life made in the image and likeness of God is the underlying principle of our faith that urges us to affirm life from the moment of fertilization to natural death, in attitude as well as action. Most urgently, respect of human life calls us to protect life that is threatened by forces we oppose: abortion, abortifacients, the death penalty, human cloning, embryonic stem cell research, euthanasia, economic injustice, violence and war.

The Respect Life Grant Fund is made possible by the Diocese of Ogdensburg Respect Life Second Collection held in our parishes in January, commemorating the anniversary date of the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision of 1973 which legalized abortion in our nation. In 2026, this collection will be held the weekend of January 24/25. The purpose of the fund is to support & encourage efforts that affirm & promote the respect of human life from fertilization to natural death.

APPLICANTS

A grant applicant can be a group or organization, established or newly formed (a pastoral council, social ministry committee, school, class, youth group, parish respect life committee, community agency, organization, etc.).

A grant applicant is required not to challenge nor oppose any official Church teaching on any aspect of morality concerning the dignity of the human person. The applicant must use the funds in accord with Church teaching regarding the sanctity of life.

PROJECTS

A project for which an applicant is seeking funds must demonstrate that the project serves to promote awareness of the sacredness and dignity of the human person.

A project must originate or occur within the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

A project which is to be funded must be in accord with the purposes for which federal tax exemption 501(c) (3) status is allowed. Thus only educational efforts will be funded. No grant funds are to be used directly or indirectly for any electoral purpose. No funds are to be used for any lobbying or legislative training.

A project for which an applicant is seeking funds can be a new venture or a fully operational and existing effort although the project must not duplicate an effort already underway. When possible, work collaboratively in the same geographic locations.

- *New Project* funding is intended to support start-up of an effort that will address unmet need(s).
- *Existing Project* funding is intended to help maintain or expand an established effort.

GRANTS

Grants are awarded from available resources, which will vary from year to year and be determined by the amount collected.

The amount awarded in any grant may differ from the amount requested.

Having received Respect Life Grant funds in one year does not affect or guarantee future funding.

Applications for grant funds must be returned by February 28, 2026 to:

John and Colleen Miner

Respect Life Directors

66 Edgewood Road

Saranac Lake, New York 12983

For application assistance, or further information, contact: The Respect Life Directors (518) 524-0774.

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- Please complete the entire application form.
- No other pages will be accepted.
- No cover letter is necessary.
- Send completed applications to:

ATTN: John and Colleen Miner
Respect Life Directors
66 Edgewood Road
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

Name of Parish, Organization or Agency Seeking Grant

Contact Person

Phone Number (include area code)

Street Address

E-mail Address

City / Town / Village

Zip

Is this a request for funds to assist in starting up a new project or is this a request for support of an existing project?

Circle One: New Project Existing Project

2026 Project Name

Funds Requested \$ _____

Project Summary. Briefly (50 words or less) describe the project for which you are requesting funds.

Program Objectives

LIST what needs in the community this project will fulfill. The project should reflect and promote the dignity of human life through awareness, instruction, advocacy, empowerment and/or service. We will also keep the following values in mind when we consider your application: extent of collaboration with other groups with similar goals in your area, emphasis on lay leadership, diversity of those involved, open and respectful dialogue, and engagement in ecumenical and interfaith dialogue and cooperation.

Program Methodology

Describe the specific, measurable methods by which the Program Objectives will be achieved. *For example: "Invitations will be sent to 12 area youth groups to view a Respect Life slide show and discuss Church teaching on life issues. A minimum of 6 presentations will be made."* NOT: "Will make presentations to youth groups."

Proposed Budget

Describe all the expenses of the project for which you are requesting funds, along with all the funding sources, including the requested RL grant. Please include in-kind and volunteer resources.

↓ ↓ ↓ **PROVIDE YOUR INFORMATION** ↓ ↓ ↓

Your Project	Expense	RL Grant	Other Sources
Total project			

What is the total budget of your organization?

Please list your major funding sources from high to low:

<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FREQUENCY</u>
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Program Participants

Identify any other organizations, agencies, or individuals with whom a working relationship will be formed to carry out this project.

Certification

As the responsible party submitting this application, I certify that I have read the Guidelines for applications established by the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Furthermore, I certify that the organization applying for this grant will not publicly challenge or oppose any official Church teaching on any aspect of morality concerning the dignity of the human person, that any grant awarded will be used in accord with the Church's 501(c)(3) status and for educational purposes, and that no grant funds will be used directly or indirectly for any electoral purpose of any lobbying effort or legislative training.

If my organization receives a grant in response to this application, I will provide to the Diocesan Respect Life Office by January 31, 2027, a financial statement detailing in a comprehensive manner the uses of the funding provided by the Diocese.

Signature of Applicant

Title

Date

Pastor Signature

For Committee Use

Date request received: _____

Amount requested: _____

Amount awarded: _____