

Approved Grant Code: FR-04-2025 Teen Prog/Sup-\$2,000

Grant Request to The Friends of the East Greenbush Community

## Teen Programming & Supplies- \$2,000

**What is requested?** Programming, Teen Snacks, RIF Books, Teen Book Boxes, Program Supplies

**Department:** Youth & Family Services

**Requestor:** Jill Dugas Hughes, Director, East Greenbush Community Library

**Date requested:** 2/18/2025

As a crucial community hub, the East Greenbush Community Library recognizes the importance of supporting our teens, especially during the critical after-school hours. To enhance our existing youth and family services, we seek funding to provide nutritious snacks, engaging reading materials, personalized book boxes, and dynamic programming. These services aim to foster a supportive and inclusive environment that promotes health, well-being, and educational engagement among teenagers.

### Program Detail

- 1. Teen Snacks:** To cater to teens who frequent our teen space after school for homework, relaxation, tutoring, or group projects, we offer nutritious snacks. This initiative not only alleviates hunger but enhances concentration and participation, thus enriching our library as a space conducive to learning and interaction.
- 2. RIF (Reading is Fundamental Books):** In collaboration with other UHLS libraries, we distribute books to teens, encouraging them to share these reads with peers. This program fosters a community of shared learning and enthusiasm for reading among teenagers.
- 3. Teen Book Boxes:** Inspired by popular subscription box services, we offer books containing 1-2 library books selected based on individual interests, along with snacks and other supplies. This personalized approach aims to enhance reading enjoyment and continued library engagement.
- 4. Programming & Supplies:** We will continue to provide high quality teen programming for teens. In 2024, we held 77 programs for teens with 1,007 attendees. Regular programs include Anime Club and The Friday Thing. Other popular programs will be provided such as cooking/baking classes, craft/art classes, movie showings and more.

This funding is essential to address wellness needs and support the overall well-being of our teens, as well as provide essential reading material to foster a love of reading. This grant will enable us to provide essential resources and engaging activities that contribute to a positive and productive environment for our teens. Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a meaningful impact on the lives of teenagers in our community!