



## Pi<sup>2</sup> – Participate, Invest and Invite

National Grange Youth Department  
Membership & Leadership  
Development Program



GRANGERYOUTH

Grange growth and a positive Grange experience can be gained with three steps. First – Grange youth and young adults **participate** in subordinate/community, Pomona Grange activities, programs. Second, they **invest** in their friends, family and neighbors – reaching out and learning about their needs and concerns for their homes, schools and communities. Finally, they **invite** them to engage in Grange activities and ultimately joining the Grange.

How do we achieve this?

1. Participate

- a. Engage in subordinate/community and Pomona grange activities by:
  - i. Regularly attend Grange meetings.
  - ii. Lead Grange projects.
  - iii. Serve on Grange committees.
  - iv. Work with other Grange members to develop a plan to reach the community.
  - v. Develop positive relationships with other Grange members.

2. Invest

- a. Community problems can be solved best by being “neighborly” or reaching out to others.
- b. Share your Grange story with others – friends, family, neighbors and others.
  - i. Listen to their wants/needs.
  - ii. What issues are important to them.
  - iii. What do they need to connect with their communities.

3. Invite

- a. Establish opportunities to invite friends, families, others to engage with Grange members.
  - i. Lecturer’s programs with featured speakers on topics of interest to the community.
  - ii. Invite friends, families others to support Grange community service projects.
  - iii. Organize and invite others to social events.
  - iv. Look for opportunities to engage non-Grangers in Grange events.

Taking a deeper look: Participate

Granges are always looking for youth and young adult leaders. Leadership does not require a Grange youth must hold an office or chairmanship, but instead active engagement.

How to participate in your subordinate/community Grange: Speak with your Master/president or other leader in your Grange about areas of interest you have and how you might be able to participate.

Ideas include:

- Teaching a new skill to Grange members.
- Lead lecturer's program during Grange meetings.
- Arrange a "fun" activity for Grange members/youth.
- Organize promotion for your Grange.
- Plan a Grange recognition night.
- Assist membership chair with Grange recruitment.
- Volunteer to serve on a Grange committee.
- Get involved with Grange activities at Pomona, state and national levels.
- Assist with social media, website management for the Grange.
- Assist with community service project.

**Title of Participate Project** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grange:** \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Activity (*check one*): \_\_\_ Community/Subordinate \_\_\_ Pomona  
\_\_\_ State \_\_\_ Other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

When was the activity/event done (date(s), time(s))? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was the activity held? \_\_\_\_\_

Who/What was the activity for? \_\_\_\_\_

Other Grangers leaders involved \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose of activity \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Resources Used (people/materials) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What happened as a result of the activity  
(outcome)? \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluate the activity. Was it successful? Why or why not? Would you change anything?

What did you learn as a result of this activity?

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit to State youth director or National Grange Youth Director**

## **Taking It Deeper: Invest**

The Grange was created as a way for members to connect with others in their community and to debate and develop solutions for issues facing their hometowns. It is just as important today as it was at the time of the Grange's founding.

- Participate in Apathy Not Allowed program and develop a Grassroots Activism project and report to turn into the National Grange. Forms available at [www.nationalgrangeyouth.org](http://www.nationalgrangeyouth.org).
- Develop local youth and/or young adult activities. Ideas include: topics regarding career development, youth “fun” nights, anti-bullying/cyberbullying; etc. Submit a Right on Target report.
- Organize community outreach programs – to address civic problems/challenges.
- Select a National Grange Youth Achievement program, such as Caroline Hall, William Saunders, John Trimble, Youth Leadership project and complete five seals to generate a deeper interest in a key Grange subject area.
- Partner with others outside of Grange with similar interests in a local concern/issue.

**Title of Invest Project** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grange:** \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Activity (*check one*): \_\_\_ Community/Subordinate \_\_\_ Pomona  
\_\_\_ State \_\_\_ Other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

When was the activity/event done (date(s), time(s))? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit to State youth director or National Grange Youth Director**

## **Taking It Deeper: Invite**

Do people in your hometown know what Grange is or is it just that building located on Grange road?

Why does it matter? A group of community leaders met with local government officials asking what they could do to help meet the needs in their communities. The response, be neighborly. Solutions to problems was not going to come from just giving a financial donation, but by engaging their neighbors or “being neighborly.” Is your Grange neighborly? Are you inviting friends, family and others out to attend Grange meetings or events?

Work with your Grange members to create a culture of inviting and engaging with non-Grangers. Develop programs and events and encourage non-Grangers to attend. Ask others if they would be interested in helping with a community service project. Building relationships is key. Grangers build relationships by interacting with others.

Have your Grange “elevator speech” or quick sales pitch ready and include an ask to join. The key is to think from their perspective. Why would they want to join your Grange? If you can answer that question, chances are you will get a new member.

Provide information about the Grange and encourage them to join your membership.

The National Grange has developed several customizable brochures, flyers, and other promotional items to assist your Grange. Make sure the Grange’s webpage is up-to-date. Youth/young adults will Google your Grange to learn more about it. Additional resources can be available with your state Grange.

When building your Youth Committee’s or Grange’s program of work, be sure to include a recruitment/invitation step. Creating an environment of inviting others will help with membership growth. There may be people interested in the Grange, they are just waiting to be asked to join.

As a follow-up, make sure to include an obligation ceremony to welcome members into the Grange. Also work with other local Granges to organize a degree day, so they can participate in the degree work of the order as well.

Make sure to review the Distinguished Grange or Distinguished Youth recognition programs. Both are available on the National Grange website and submit the application. Many of the activities designed for growth qualify as part of this award program.

### **A final thought – Have fun!**

Grange is a great experience and can open a lot of opportunities to its members. But with every step of this program, have fun. Many Grange projects do require time, dedication and participation, but they should be enjoyable. Grangers should be creating great times, making great friends and memories through their Grange experience. That is what Grange is all about.