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News Release

LIGHTING UP CAMP COURAGE

Rockford, Minn. (November 7, 2017) — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) recently provided True Friends Camp Courage with a grant to replace all the lighting at its facilities in Maple Lake with LEDs. Work was recently completed at the facility, which provides camp and respite experiences for children and adults with a variety of disabilities. The switch to LEDs will save True Friends approximately 130,000 kWh each year in energy for an estimated annual energy savings of \$15,400, with an additional \$8,696 savings in equipment/maintenance costs.

“Non-profits are always looking to be more efficient with everything we do,” said Ed Stracke, True Friends President and CEO. “We want to get as many dollars as we can to the programs and not to the overhead. With the support of WH, that makes it very doable for us.”

The grant, which is for non-profit entities through WH’s Conservation Improvement Program, covers 90 percent of the total cost of the project. True Friends will pay the remaining 10 percent.

“At Wright-Hennepin we are always striving and looking for ways to make positive impacts within the local communities and non-profits,” said Ryan O’Connor, Key Accounts Executive at WH. “This particular LED project at Camp Courage will save the True Friends organization not only on the cost of installing these new energy efficient lights, but also on their electric bill.”

Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association is a member-owned, not-for-profit electric utility that provides power to rural Wright County and western Hennepin County. The cooperative has been a corporate citizen to the area since 1937 and currently serves more than 50,000 electric accounts. It is headquartered in Rockford, Minn.

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Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association presented a grant check to True Friends President and CEO Ed Stracke on Thursday, October 26. The grant will pay for 90 percent of the cost of lighting upgrades at Camp Courage in Maple Lake, which has switched all of its lights to LEDs. Pictured (from left) are Luverne Anderson, Operations Manager at Camp Courage, Ryan O'Connor, Key Accounts Executive at Wright-Hennepin, Ed Stracke, President and CEO of True Friends, and Bruce Klein, Head of Maintenance.



This cabin at Camp Courage in Maple Lake is brighter and more energy efficient now that new LED lighting has been installed. Lighting was replaced with LEDs throughout the camp with the help of a grant from Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association. The change is expected to save Camp Courage approximately 130,000 kWh each year in energy.