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News Release

WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE MORE THAN \$58,000 TO HELP LOCAL ORAGNIZATIONS

Rockford, MN (March 23, 2017) — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) members who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) donated grants totaling \$58,100 in February of 2017.

ORU participants allow their electric bills to be rounded up to the nearest dollar. The rounded amount is then used for donations to fund local programs. More than 80 percent of WH's members participate in the ORU program. ORU's board manages the generated money, which is held in a trust fund. Through a selection process and review of guidelines, the board evaluates funding requests on a bimonthly basis.

The ORU trust board approved the following donations on behalf of WH members for February 2017:

- **\$2,000, Alzheimer Association, MN**, funds to support Alzheimer Association programs
- **\$1,000, Boy Scout Troop #358**, funds to update patrol boxes
- **\$200, Buffalo Grad Party**, funds to support a drug-free, all-night party
- **\$3,000, Central MN Mental Health Center**, funds to support programs which keep costs down for clients and for reduced transportation costs
- **\$30,000, Food Shelf Donation**, funds to replenish food supplies during MN Food Share Month in March
- **\$5,000, Pay It Forward Fund**, funds for breast cancer victims to pay for utilities, housing, medical needs, transportation, phones or food
- **\$200, Rockford Grad Party**, funds to support a drug-free, all-night party

- **\$2,500, TreeHouse, Inc.,** funds to support the cost of one van for three months
- **\$200, Watertown Mayer Post Prom Party,** funds to support a drug-free, all-night party
- **\$10,000, Wright County Community Action,** funds to assist Wright County residents who are in crisis and would otherwise not be able to receive assistance through an energy assistance program.
- **\$4,000, YMCA Camp Ihduhapi,** funds to support scholarship for day and overnight camp programs



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to the Alzheimer's Association in the amount of \$2,000 to support Alzheimer programs. ORU Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) and Board Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Chief Strategy Officer Linda Lorentzen.



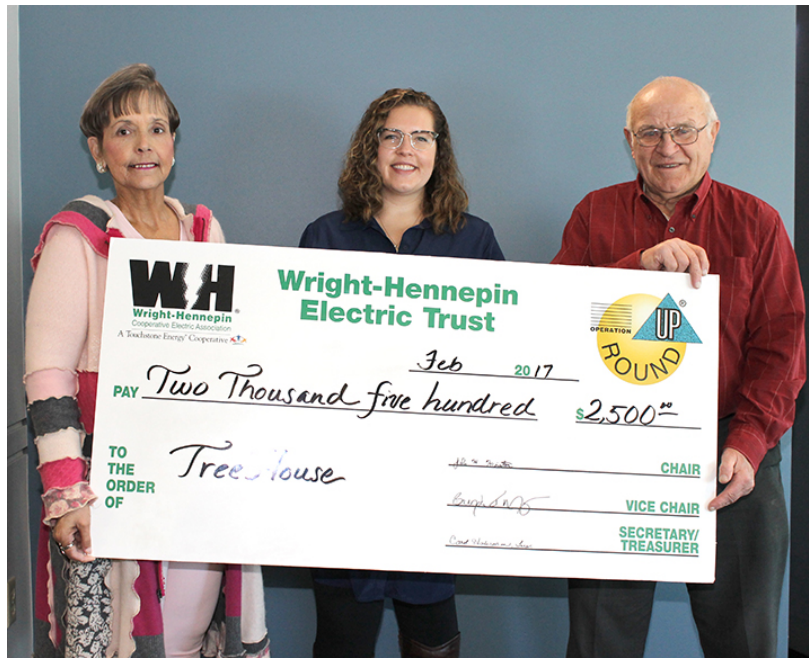
Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Boy Scout Troop #358 of Buffalo in the amount of \$1,000 to update the troop's patrol boxes. ORU Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) and Board Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Committee Member Doug Erickson.



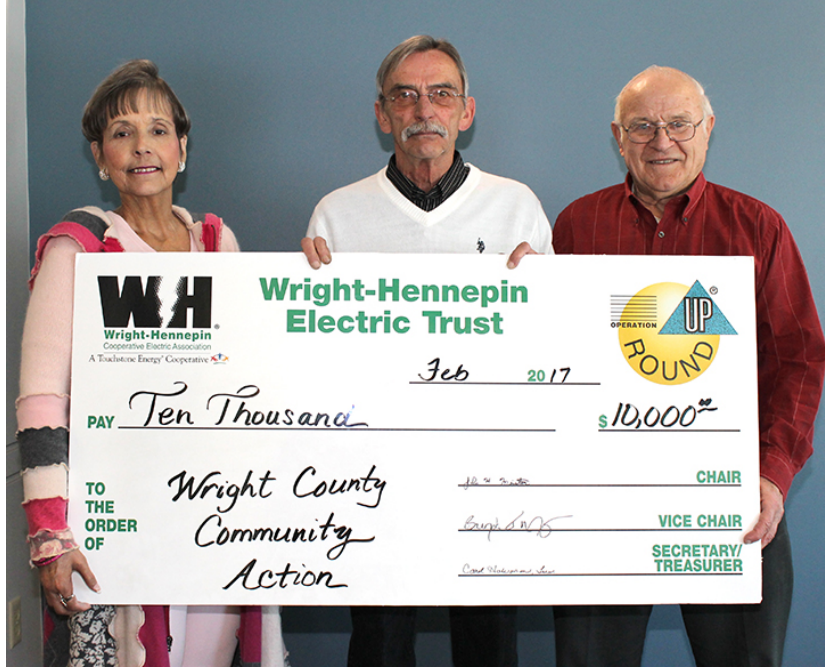
Operation Round Up recently awarded grants totaling \$30,000 to local food shelves. They presented to the following representatives: front, left to right: Shirley Legatt, Waverly; Robin LaFond, Rockford; Susan Chwalek, Clearwater; and Jenny Gray, Monticello. Back, left to right: ORU Board Director Tami Odenthal; Carmen Pouliot, Elk River; Margaret Florek, Maple Plain; Ann Maass, Wayzata; Fred Naaktgeboren, Buffalo; and ORU Board Chair John Meister.



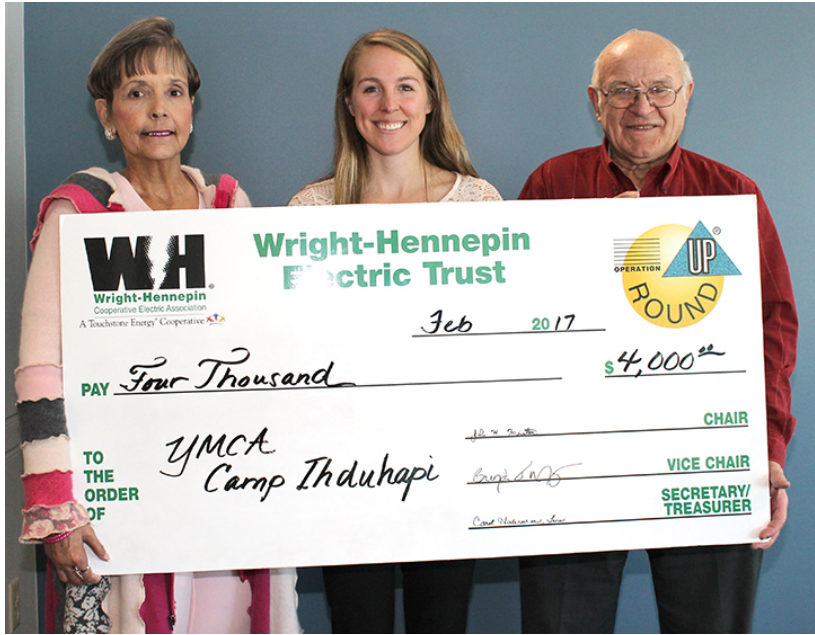
Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Central MN Mental Health Center in the amount of \$3,000 to support programs which keep costs down for clients and for reduced transportation costs. ORU Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) and Board Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Mental Health Practitioner Blythe Gavin (left center) and Clinic Manager Stephanie Barnes (right center).



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to TreeHouse in the amount of \$2,500 to support the cost of one van for three months. ORU Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) and Board Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Christa Troup.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Wright County Community Action in the amount of \$10,000 to assist Wright County residents who are in crisis and would otherwise not be able to receive assistance through an energy assistance program. ORU Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) and Board Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Larry Howard.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to YMCA Camp Ihduhapi in the amount of \$4,000 to support scholarship for a day and overnight camp programs. ORU Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) and Board Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Program Director Jana Graczyk.

For those interested in applying for funds, fill out an application. To receive an application and to see what types of activities Operation Round Up supports – visit WH’s website at <http://goo.gl/ZkLMQr>, send an email to oru@whe.org, or call Lisa and leave a message at (763) 477-3000 extension 6126.

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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