

News Release

WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE MORE THAN \$52,000 TO HELP LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rockford, Minn. (November 20, 2014) — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) members who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) donated grants totaling \$52,650 in October 2014.

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 trust board of directors manages the donated 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 October 2014:

- **\$4,000, Adopt a family Buffalo Rotary,** funds to provide coats and boots for children in need
- **\$750, Ambassador Company**, funds to support "my favorite book" distributions to 1st graders in local schools and churches
- **\$1,000, Annandale Food Shelf**, funds to support the backpack program and the summer lunch program
- **\$5,000, Annandale Youth First**, funds to provide student-to-student mentorship programs
- **\$500, Boy Scout Troop #358**, funds to support an eagle scout project at the Crossroads Animal Shelter
- **\$500, CEAP Quilters,** funds to purchase quilting supplies and machine repairs
- **\$3,000, Christian Benevolence Program**, funds to support families in need in the local area
- **\$5,000, Community Toys for Tots**, funds to purchase toys and gifts for children
- \$5,000, Crisis Nursery serving Wright County, funds to support a crisis nursery

- \$3,000, EquipALife, funds to assist people with disabilities
- **\$1,500, French Lake Sunshine Club,** funds to support local outreach to assist families in need
- \$1,200, Friends of Maple Lake Library, funds to purchase books
- **\$5,000, FYCC**, funds to offset expenses related to setting up a teen gathering space
- \$3,500, Hammer Residences, Inc., funds for the Quality of Life Fund
- \$2,000, Hillside Hope thru Hooves, funds to provide scholarships for clients
- **\$2,000, Relate Counseling Center,** funds to support answering service and on-call counselors
- **\$2,400, Shephard's Care Childcare,** funds to support technology at Christian daycare
- **\$5,000, Toys for Tots of Buffalo,** funds to purchase toys and gifts for children
- **\$300, True Friends Camp Courage,** funds to offset costs for an Auxiliary fundraiser
- **\$2,000, Wright County Blue Star Mothers,** funds to defray costs for shipping packages to deployed military personnel

For those interested in applying for funds, the next application deadline is December 1, 2014. To receive an application, visit WH's website at <u>www.whe.org</u>, send an email to <u>oru@whe.org</u>, or call Lisa Zipp and leave a message at (763) 477-3000 ext. 6126.

WH is a member-owned non-profit electric utility that provides electric power to Wright County and the western part of Hennepin County. The cooperative has been a corporate citizen in this area since 1937 and currently serves more than 46,000 electric accounts. The utility started its security division in 1989 and now provides local home security solutions as well as monitors alarm systems for more than 50,000 customers in 32 states and three Canadian provinces.

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