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## **News Release**

## WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE MORE THAN \$17,000 TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rockford, MN (July 15, 2019) — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) members who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) donated grants totaling \$17,244 in June.

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 awarded the following donations on behalf of WH members in June 2019:

- \$5,500, Kindred Family Focus Wright County Crisis Nursery, funds to support respite care and crisis nursery needs.
- \$2,200, Allina Health St. Michael Clinic, funds to support early literacy program through the Reach Out and Read program.
- \$500, Buffalo Farmers Market Kids POP, funds to support Power of Produce program in Buffalo, where children receive \$2 token to purchase produce.
- \$800, Buffalo Stampede Special Olympics, funds to purchase water bottles, support bowling fees and t-shirts.
- \$1,100, Fishing Klinics for Kids, funds to support klinic during Buffalo Days and other events.
- \$2,000, Faith in Action Greater Sherburne County, funds to offset truck expenses for delivery and staff setup time for the used furniture store.
- **\$3,744, Homeward Bound,** funds to send developmentally disabled people to summer camp.
- \$400, Monticello Community Strings Orchestra, funds to lower tuition costs for students participating in the program.
- \$1,000, My Brothers Keepers, funds to purchase quilting supplies and to cover the cost of maintenance for machines.

Those interested in Operation Round Up funds can find an application and learn more about the types of activities ORU supports by visiting WH's website at http://goo.gl/RHJKz8, sending an email to oru@whe.org or calling Lisa and leaving 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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Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Allina Health St. Michael Clinic in the amount of \$2,200 to support early literacy through the Reach Out and Read program. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Mary Tschida, medical doctor (middle left), Chelsie Steffens, registered nurse (middle right) and Tiffany Tolifson, registered nurse (right).



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Buffalo Farmers Market Kids POP in the amount of \$500 to support Power of Produce program in Buffalo, where children receive a \$2 token to purchase produce. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Philip Hannay, treasurer.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Buffalo Stampede Special Olympics in the amount of \$800 to purchase water bottles, support bowling fees and t-shirts. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Rachael Hartfiel, head of delegation.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Fishing Klinics for Kids in the amount of \$1,100 to support the klinic during Buffalo Days and other events. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Margie Niesen, event programmer (middle) and Jerry Niesen, event programmer (right).



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Faith in Action Greater Sherburne County in the amount of \$2,000 to offset truck expenses for delivery and staff setup time for the used furniture store. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Jason Hammerback, board chair (middle) and Darin Bohlken, executive director (right).



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Homeward Bound in the amount of \$3,744 to send developmentally disabled people to summer camp. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Kristine Morin, development associate.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Monticello Community Strings Orchestra in the amount of \$400 to lower tuition costs for students participating in the program. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Michelle Schettler-Stein, co-director (middle) and Jeff Burns, grant writer (right).



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to My Brothers Keepers in the amount of \$1,000 to purchase quilting supplies and to cover the cost of maintenance for machines. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Jeanette Hermansen, volunteer (middle left), Katie Kangas, volunteer (middle right) and Claire Solien, volunteer (right).