



Contact:
Stacie Nielsen
Phone: (763) 477- 3111
E-mail: snielsen@whe.org

News Release

WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE MORE THAN \$40,000 TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rockford, MN (March 20, 2019) — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) members who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) donated grants totaling \$40,800 in February of 2019.

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 February 2019:

- **\$2,500, TreeHouse, Inc.,** funds to support the cost of one van for three months of the year.
- **\$300, Watertown-Mayer Post Prom party,** funds to provide a drug free all-night party.
- **\$2,000, Alzheimer Association, MN-ND,** funds to support Alzheimer Association programs.
- **\$3,000, Can Do Canines,** funds to support an assistance dog.
- **\$1,000, Central MN Mental Health Center,** funds to support programs by keeping costs down for clients, and for reduced cost transportation.
- **\$5,000, Pay It Forward Fund,** funds to help breast cancer victims to pay for utilities, housing, medical, transportation, phone or food.
- **\$6,000, Wright County Community Action,** funds to support their energy assistance program.
- **\$21,000, Food Shelf donation,** funds to support 14 local food shelves.

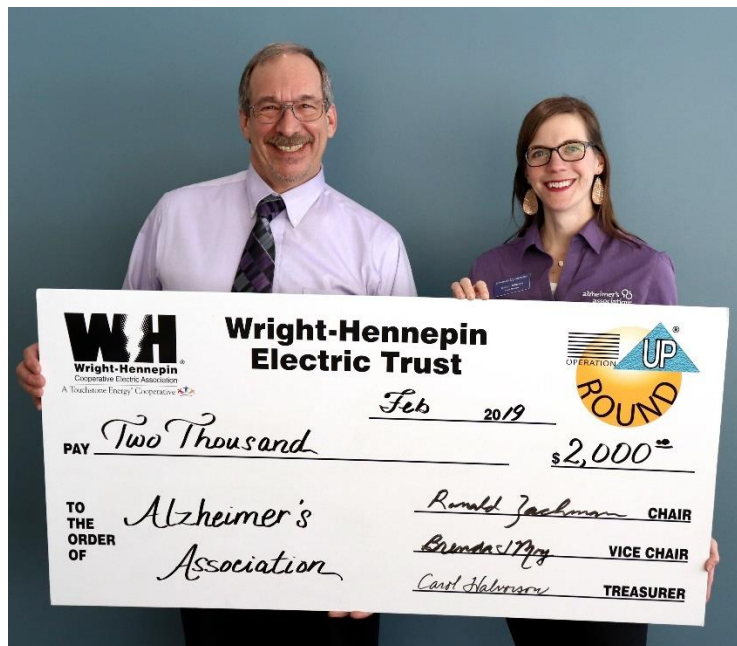
Those interested in Operation Round Up funds can find an application and learn more about the types of activities ORU supports by visiting WH's website at <http://goo.gl/RHJKz8>, sending an email to oru@whe.org or calling Lisa and leaving a message at (763) 477-3000 extension 6126.

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.

-end-



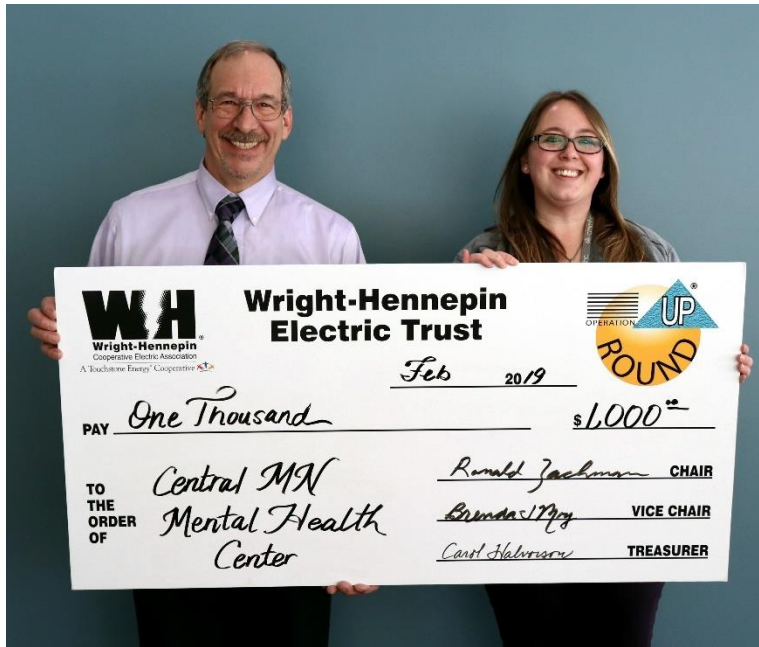
Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to TreeHouse, Inc. in the amount of \$2,500 to support the cost of one van for three months of the year. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Christa Troup, grants manager.



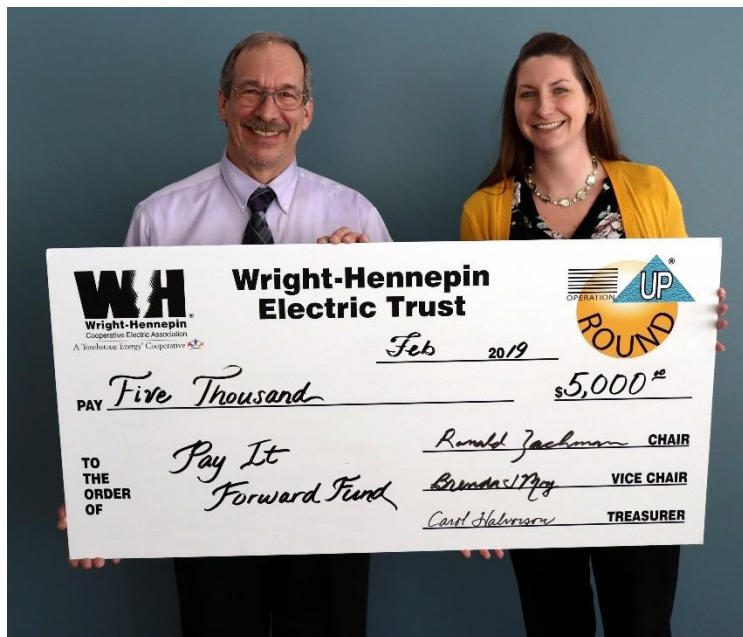
Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Alzheimer Association, MN-ND, in the amount of \$2,000 to support Alzheimer Association programs. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Karen Johnson, grant manager.



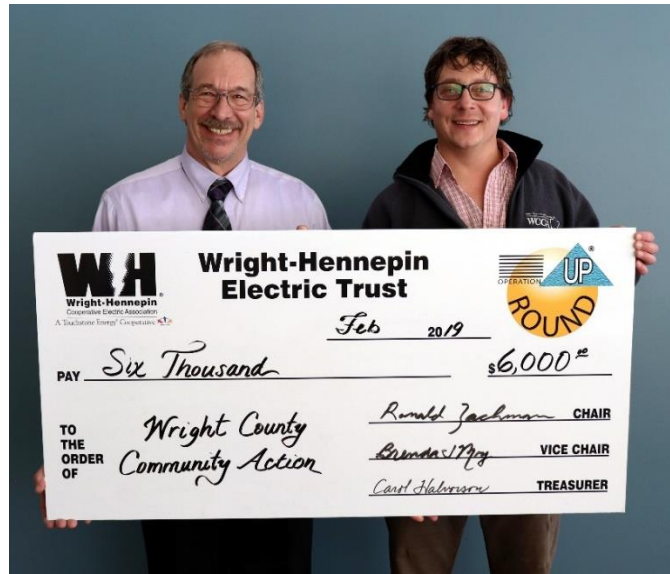
Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Can Do Canines in the amount of \$3,000 to support an assistance dog. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Winona Schultz, development associate, and Quade.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Central MN Mental Health Center in the amount of \$1,000 to support programs by keeping costs down for clients, and for reduced cost transportation. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Nicole Kutz, mental health practitioner.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Pay It Forward Fund in the amount of \$1,000 to help breast cancer victims to pay for utilities, housing, medical, transportation, phone or food. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Jamie Joos, Ridgeview Foundation database specialist.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Wright County Community Action in the amount of \$6,000 to support their energy assistance program. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Jay Brenny, housing manager.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$21,000 to support local food shelves. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman presented the grant to 14 local food shelves. Back (from left): Tammy Prestidge, Waverly Food Shelf; Scott Rosengren, Westonka Food Shelf; Elizabeth Johnson, Maple Grove – CROSS; Fred Naaktgeboren, Buffalo Food Shelf; Ron Zachman, ORU Board Chair; Jeanne and Gary Gardner, Maple Plain Food Shelf; Heather Kliwer, Elk River – CAER; and Sandy McClurg, Monticello Food Shelf. Front (from left): Elroy Dahlin, Cokato Food Shelf; Jean Skomoroh, Annandale Food Shelf; Tammi Olstad, Rockford – RiverWorks; Helen Skutley, Hanover Food Shelf; and Patrick Felker, Wayzata – Interfaith. Not pictured: Clearwater Area Food Shelf and Delano Food Shelf.