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## News Release

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### WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE MORE THAN \$42,000 TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

**Rockford, MN (January 17, 2022)** — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) members who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) donated grants totaling \$42,900 in December 2021. ORU has awarded more than \$4.6 million since it began in 1994.

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. Approximately 90% of WH's members participate in the ORU program and contribute a total of approximately \$19,500 each month. ORU's board manages the generated money, which is held in a trust fund. Through a selection process and review of guidelines, the ORU trust board evaluates funding requests on a bimonthly basis.

The ORU trust board awarded the following donations on behalf of WH members at their December meeting:

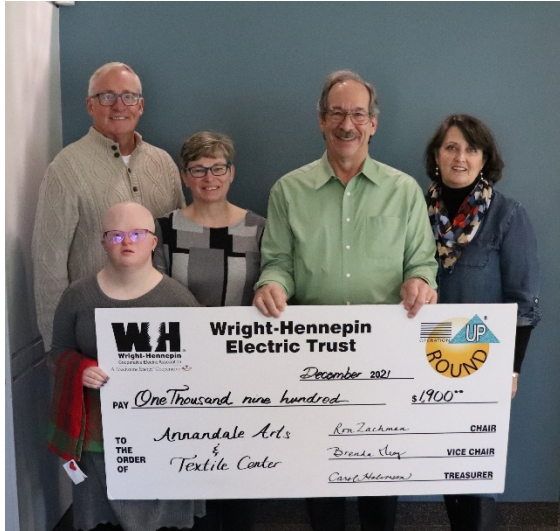
- **\$4,000, Boys and Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities**, funds to support Voyageur, an environmental camp.
- **\$1,500, Boy Scout Troop 219**, funds to purchase canoes and a trailer.
- **\$4,000, YMCA Camp Ihduhapi**, funds to support scholarships for day and overnight camp programs.
- **\$1,900, Annandale Art and Textile Center**, funds to purchase a sewing machine to support the weaving program for individuals with developmental disabilities.
- **\$3,000, Angel Bears of Love**, funds to support the gift of an Angel Bear to children and adults with life-threatening diseases.
- **\$7,500, Children's Home Society of MN**, funds for adoption programming.
- **\$6,000, Freedom Farm**, funds to provide services to girls for Village Ranch in Annandale.
- **\$8,500, Interfaith Outreach and Community Partners**, funds to prevent homelessness through emergency rent assistance and utility payments during financial crisis.

- **\$1,500, My Brother's Keeper**, funds to purchase quilting supplies and maintenance for machines.
- **\$5,000, Rivers of Hope**, funds to support the safety house for families experiencing domestic violence.

Those interested in ORU funds can find an application and learn more about the types of activities ORU supports by visiting WH's website at <http://bit.ly/2Jvv6gv>, sending an email to [oru@whe.org](mailto:oru@whe.org) or calling the Administrator to the Trust, 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 55,000 electric accounts. It is headquartered in Rockford, Minn.

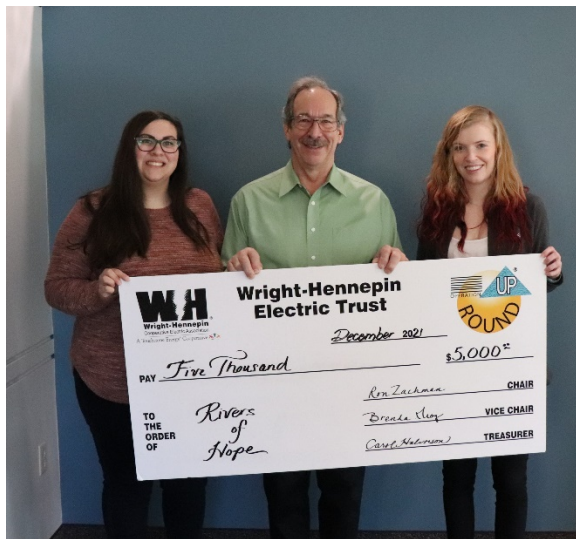
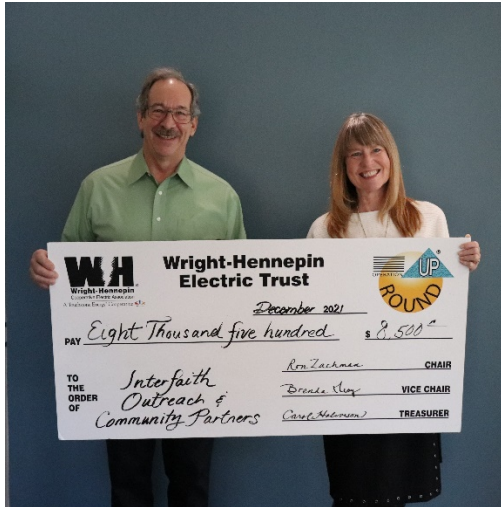
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Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Annandale Arts and Textile Center in the amount of \$1,900 to purchase a sewing machine to support the weaving program. ORU Director Ron Zachman (center) presented the grant to (from left to right) Steve Niklaus, Director; Abby Welter, weaver; Robin Welter, Director; and Diane Nelson, Director of Weaving Center.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Boys & Girls Club of the Twin Cities in the amount of \$4,000 to funds to support Voyageur, an environmental camp. ORU director Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Jessica Daleske, Program Director.



*Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Rivers of Hope in the amount of \$5,000 to support the safe house for families experiencing domestic violence. ORU Director Ron Zachman (center) presented the grant to Hannah-Ruth Patterson, Executive Director (left) and Lauren Minor, Youth Advocate (right).*