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News Release

WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE MORE THAN \$68,000 TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rockford, MN (November 12, 2021) — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) members who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) recently donated grants totaling \$68,150 in November. ORU has awarded more than \$4.7 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 October meeting:

- **\$1,200, Fishing Clinics for Kids**, funds to support clinic during Buffalo Days and other events.
- **\$5,000, Annandale Youth First, Inc.**, funds to provide student-to-student mentorship programs.
- **\$5,000, Crescent Cove**, funds for the respite care program for children with life-threatening conditions.
- **\$10,000, LSS Crisis Nursery**, funds to support parents in crisis and to keep children safe.
- **\$8,000, MN Adult and Teen Challenge**, funds to support the “Know the Truth” drug prevention program.
- **\$3,500, Otsego Lions Gifts Anonymous**, funds to purchase gifts for children in the Elk River/Otsego area.
- **\$5,000, Toys for Tots of Buffalo**, funds to purchase toys and gifts for children 0 – 17 years of age.
- **\$4,150, Buffalo Food Shelf**, funds to purchase a Pantry Saver to streamline food shelf record keeping.

- **\$800, Buffalo Stampede Special Olympics**, funds to support the purchase of sport bags for athletes.
- **\$1,000, Friends of the Monticello Library**, funds to support “Books for Babies” program.
- **\$1,500, French Lake Sunshine Club**, funds to support local outreach to assist families in need.
- **\$700, Minnesota Pioneer Park**, funds to rebuild foundation and stabilize the Blacksmith Shop.
- **\$6,000, Senior Community Services**, funds to support the HOME Program in Wright County.
- **\$7,500, Society of St. Vincent de Paul (St. Michael-Albertville Chapter)**, funds to help families in need.
- **\$10,000, True Friends**, funds to support capital upgrade of exterior improvements of cabins at Camp Courage.

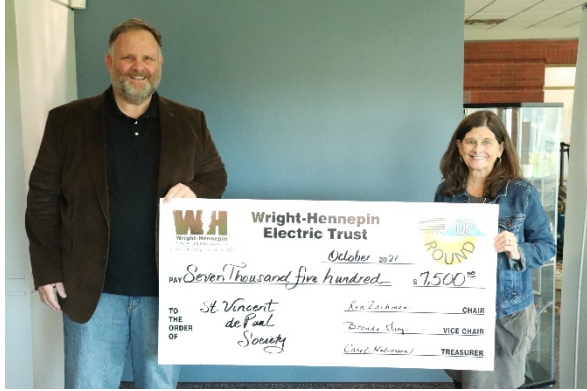
Those interested in ORU funds can find an application and learn more about the types of activities ORU supports by visiting WH’s website at <http://bit.ly/2Jvv6gv>, sending an email to oru@whe.org or calling the Administrator to the Trust, Lisa, and leaving a message at (763) 477-3000 extension 6126.

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 Youth First in the amount of \$5,000 to help families in need. ORU Director Katie Leuer (right) presented the grant to Pam Wurm, Annandale Youth First Coordinator.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to St. Vincent de Paul Society in the amount of \$7,500 to help families in need. ORU director Katie Leuer (right) presented the grant to Rob Van Dresek, President.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Minnesota Pioneer Park in the amount of \$700 to help rebuild the foundation and to stabilize the Blacksmith Shop. ORU Director Katie Leuer (right) presented the grant to (from left to right) Pearl Lieb, Director; Adele Leary, Director; and Bob Ahoren, President.