



**Contact:**  
Jeph Novak  
**Phone:** (763) 477- 3111  
**E-mail:** jnovak@whe.org

## News Release

---

### WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE MORE THAN \$43,000 TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

**Rockford, MN (October 30, 2020)** — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) members who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) recently donated grants totaling \$43,500 in October. ORU has awarded more than \$4.2 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. More than 87 percent of WH's members participate in the ORU program and contribute a total of approximately \$19,000 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:

- **\$10,000, Lutheran Social Service Crisis Nursery Serving Wright County**, 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.
- **\$2,000, Best Christmas Ever**, funds to make long-term impact on families in crisis by providing gifts and ongoing support.
- **\$6,000, Buffalo Rotary**, funds to provide coats and boots for children in need and to support Beds for Kids to purchase mattresses and frames.
- **\$4,000, Senior Community Services**, funds to support the HOME program in Wright County, which provides chore and maintenance services to low-income older adults.

- **\$5,000, Wright County Health and Human Services Special Needs Fund**, funds to provide one-time support to get families back on their feet.

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 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.

**-end-**