

## News Release

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### **WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE \$31,650 TO MANY LOCAL WORTHY CAUSES**

**Rockford, Minn. (December 7, 2011)** — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association's (WH) Operation Round Up (ORU) participants continue to help local organizations and families with recent grants totaling \$31,650.

Funding for ORU is supplied by WH members who allow their electric statements to be rounded up to the nearest dollar every month. The average donation of each participating WH member is \$6 per year with more than 80 percent of WH members participating. Since the ORU program began in 1994, WH members have donated more than \$2.4 million to local worthy causes.

The ORU trust board, which administers the program, approved the following donations on behalf of WH members for fall 2011:

- **\$2,000, ARC United**, to assist with funding the Wright County Sibshop program
- **\$1,000, Hillside HOPE Thru Hooves**, to fund scholarships.
- **\$3,000, PATH Crisis Nursery**, funds to support PATH's programs.
- **\$4,000, Buffalo Rotary Foundation**, funds for Silent Santa program.
- **\$5,000, Community Toys for Tots**, funds to purchase toys for children in Monticello, Minn. and the surrounding area.
- **\$300, Rockford Special Olympics**, funds that will allow children to participate in events.
- **\$250, Camp Friendship Auxiliary**, funds to assist with sending kids to camp.
- **\$500, CEAP Quilters**, funds to purchase batting for quilts.
- **\$1,000, French Lake Sunshine Club**, funds to help the needy in the area.
- **\$3,000, Hammer Residences, Inc.**, funds to support Quality of Life program.

- **\$2,600, MidWest Region Wheelchair Sports**, funds to support athletes by providing athletic wheelchairs.
- **\$9,000, Salvation Army**, funds to support HeatShare program.

All funds generated for ORU are placed in a trust fund. A trust board, which is appointed by the cooperative's board of directors, independently administers these funds. Donations are made to local civic organizations or worthy causes through an application and selection process. The trust board uses special guidelines and policies when choosing recipients.

For those wishing to apply for funds, the next application deadline is November 20, 2011. To receive an application, or for more information about guidelines and policies, visit WH's website at [www.whe.org](http://www.whe.org), send an email to [info@whe.org](mailto:info@whe.org), or call Lisa Zipp and leave a message at (763) 477-3000 ext. 6126.

WH is a member-owned non-profit electric utility that provides electric power to Wright County and the western part of Hennepin County. The cooperative has been a corporate citizen in this area since 1937 and currently serves more than 46,000 electric accounts. The utility started its security division in 1989 that provides local home security solutions as well as monitors alarm systems for more than 50,000 customers in 32 states and three Canadian provinces.

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