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News Release

WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE MORE THAN \$55,000 TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rockford, MN (March 14, 2018) — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) members who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) donated grants totaling \$55,500 in March of 2018.

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.

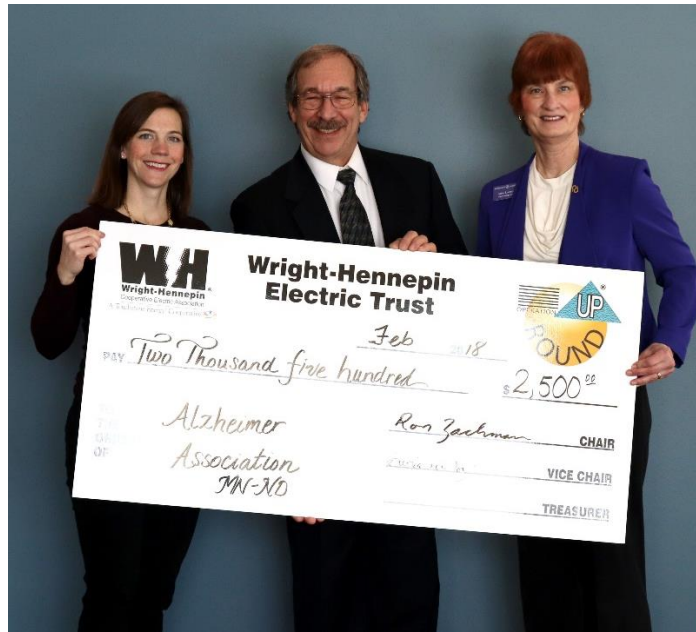
The ORU trust board awarded the following donations on behalf of WH members in March 2018:

- **\$2,500, Alzheimer Association MN-ND**, funds to support Alzheimer Association programs.
- **\$33,000, Area Food Shelf Donation**
- **\$3,000, Central MN Mental Health Center**, funds to support programs which maintain low costs for clients, and for reduced transportation cost.
- **\$6,000, Can Do Canines**, funds to support an assistance dog.
- **\$500, Monticello Graduation Party**, funds to support a drug and alcohol free all-night party.
- **\$5,000, Pay It Forward Fund**, funds for breast cancer victims to pay for utilities, housing, medical, transportation, phone and/or food.
- **\$700, Rockford Area Historical Society**, funds to purchase a new computer and software for digitization of collections.
- **\$2,500, SOAR Regional Arts**, funds to support the production of the Steel Magnolias performance.
- **\$2,500, TreeHouse Inc.**, funds to support the cost of one van for three months of the year.

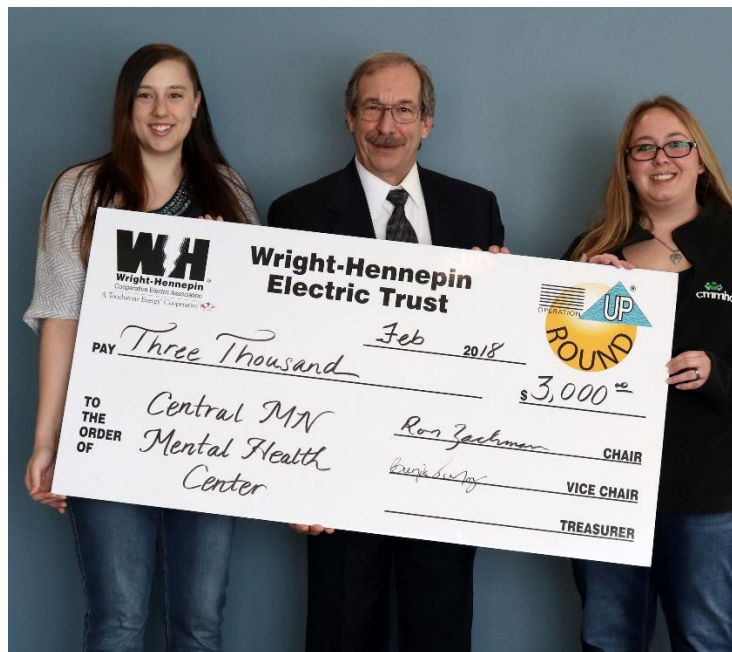
For those interested in applying for funds, fill out an application. To receive an application and to see what types of activities Operation Round Up supports – visit WH’s website at <http://goo.gl/RHJKz8>, send an email to oru@whe.org or call Lisa and leave a message at (763) 477-3000 extension 6126.

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.

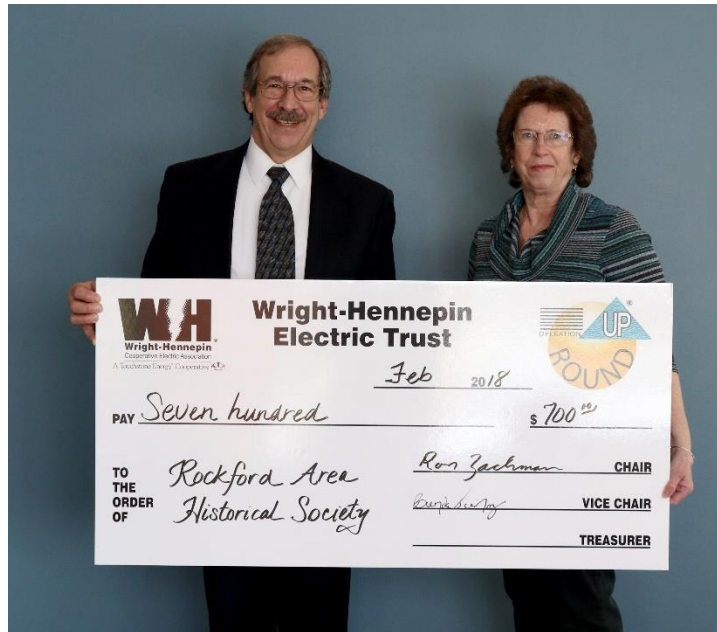
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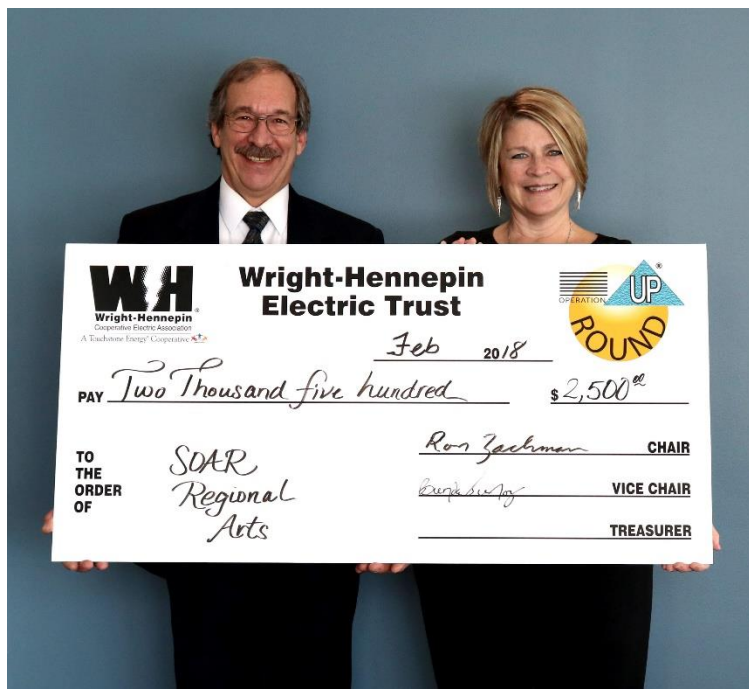
Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to the Alzheimer Association MN-ND in the amount of \$2,500 to support Alzheimer Association programs. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (middle) presented the grant to (left) Karen Johnson, Grant Manager, and (right) Linda Lorentzen, Chief Strategy Officer.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Central MN Mental Health Center in the amount of \$3,000 to support programs which maintain low costs for clients, and for reduced transportation cost. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (middle) presented the grant to (left) Kayla Levtzow, Therapist, and (right) Nicole Kutz, Mental Health Practitioner.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Rockford Area Historical Society in the amount of \$700 to purchase a new computer and software for digitization of collections. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Bonnie Maue, Treasurer.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to SOAR Regional Arts in the amount of \$2,500 to support the production of the Steel Magnolias performance. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman (left) presented the grant to Debbie Bishop, Vice President.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Area Food Shelves in the amount of \$33,000. ORU Board Chair Ron Zachman presented the grant to 14 local food shelves. Back (from left): Jeanie Pilarski, Co-Chair of Delano Food Shelf, Sandy McClurg, Executive Director of Monticello Food Shelf, Pastor Rob Edwards, Board member of Cokato Food Shelf, Ron Zachman, ORU Board Chair, Ron Ducommun, Volunteer of Westonka Food Shelf, Fred Naaktgeboren from Buffalo Food Shelf, Elizabeth Johnson, Director of Maple Grove CROSS Food Shelf and Patrick Felbker, Food Shelf Manager of Wayzata Interfaith Food Shelf. Front (from left): Margaret Florek, Manager of Maple Plain Area Food Shelf, Tammi Olstad, Manager of Rockford Riverworks Food Shelf, Jean Skomoroh and Nita Cherry, both Managers of Annandale Food Shelf and Carmen Pouliot, Executive Director of Elk River CAER Food Shelf.

Not pictured: Clearwater Area Food Shelf and Hanover Area Food Shelf.