



News Release

WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE MORE THAN \$52,000 TO HELP LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rockford, MN (November 19, 2015) — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) members who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) donated grants totaling \$52,200 in October 2015.

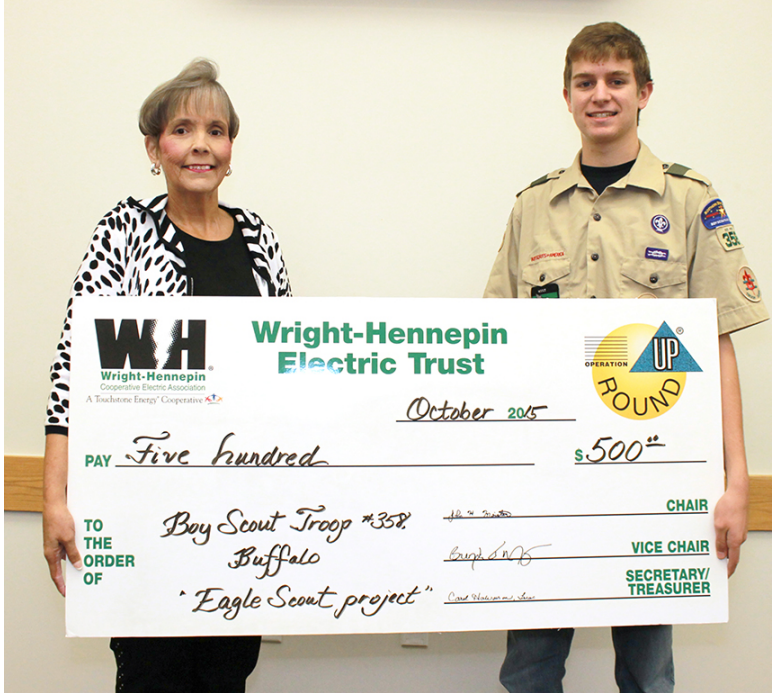
ORU participants allow their electric bills to be rounded up to the nearest dollar. The rounded amount is then used for donations to fund local programs. More than 80 percent of WH's members participate in the ORU program. ORU's trust board manages the generated money, which is held in a trust fund. Through a selection process and review of guidelines, the board evaluates funding requests on a bimonthly basis.

“As a locally-owned member cooperative, we feel a special obligation to give back to the communities we serve,” said Donald Lucas, director of District 8. “The board is also pleased to see so many of our members taking part and supporting the ORU fund. This is a true example of neighbors helping neighbors and the cooperative spirit.”

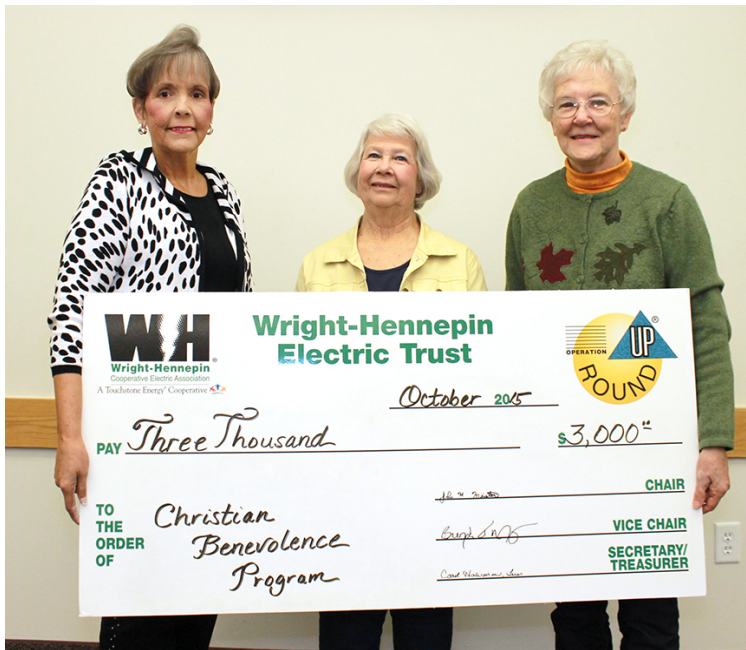
The ORU trust board approved the following donations on behalf of WH members for October 2015:

- **\$200, Annandale Grad Party**, funds to support an all-night safe party
- **\$500, Boy Scout Troop #358**, funds to support a local eagle scout with a project for the Buffalo Police Department
- **\$4,000, Buffalo Rotary**, funds to provide coats and boots for children in need
- **\$500, CEAP Quilters**, funds to purchase quilting supplies and machine repairs
- **\$3,000, Christian Benevolence Program**, funds to support families in need
- **\$5,000, Community Toys for Tots**, funds to purchase toys and gifts for children

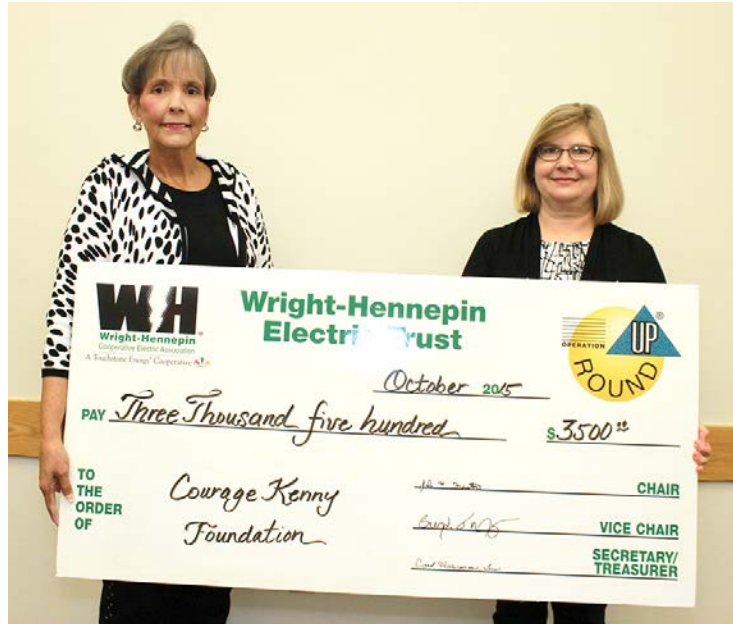
- **\$3,500, Courage Kenny Foundation,** funds to support full and partial scholarships for children with disabilities
- **\$1,500, French Lake Sunshine Club,** funds to support local outreach to assist families in need and to celebrate the birthdays of residents of Annandale Care Center
- **\$700, Greenfield Historical Society,** funds to support historical society
- **\$3,500, Hammer Residences, Inc.,** funds for the Quality of Life fund
- **\$5,000, Hartleys Safe House,** funds to support a battered women's shelter and services
- **\$10,000, Love, INC,** funds to support a mentoring program
- **\$3,500, Monticello Special Olympics,** funds to offset expenses for facilities, equipment, uniforms, and competitions
- **\$1,000, Open Doors for Youth,** funds to support a homeless resource center for local youth
- **\$3,000, Second Chance for Life Foundation,** funds to assist patients in need of heart transplant
- **\$5,000, Toys for Tots of Buffalo,** funds to purchase toys and gifts for children
- **\$300, True Friends – Camp Friendship,** funds to offset dinners costs for an Auxiliary fundraiser
- **\$2,000, Vinland Center,** funds to support the Winter Walkabout for behavioral health care center for adults with disabilities



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Boy Scout Troop #358 of Buffalo in the amount of \$500 to fund an Eagle Scout project. ORU Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) presented the grant to Eagle Scout Eric Olson.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to the Christian Benevolence Program in the amount of \$3,000 to support families in need. Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) presented the grant to Co-Chair Judy Eckhoff (center) and Treasurer Ruth Oestreich.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to the Courage Kenny Foundation in the amount of \$3,500 to support full and partial scholarships for children with disabilities. Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) presented the grant to Manager of Development Rose Adams.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to the French Lake Sunshine Club in the amount of \$1,500 to support local outreach to assist families in need and to celebrate the birthdays of residents of Annandale Care Center. Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) presented the grant to Treasurer Frieda Gunderson.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to the Greenfield Historical Society in the amount of \$700 to support the historical society. Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) presented the grant to Vice Chair Bonnie Pool (left center), Treasurer Rick Storck (right center) and member Joyce Storck.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Hammer Residences in the amount of \$3,500 to support the Quality of Life fund. Board Director Tami Odenthal (left) presented the grant to resident and House Captain Travis Nitzberg (center) and Director of Major Gifts Angela Bernhardt.

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/ZkLMQr>, 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, non-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 almost 50,000 electric accounts. It is headquartered in Rockford, MN.

-end-