



**Wright-Hennepin**

Cooperative Electric Association

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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## News Release

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### **WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE MORE THAN \$22,000 TO HELP LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS**

**Rockford, Minn.** (May 22, 2014) — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) members who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) donated grants totaling \$22,050 in April 2014.

ORU participants allow their electric bills to be rounded up to the nearest dollar each month. 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 of directors 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 approved the following donations on behalf of WH members for April 2014:

- **\$6,000, American Cancer Society**, funds to support six Relay for Life events in Wright and Hennepin Counties
- **\$200, Annandale All Night Grad Party**, funds to provide a safe all night graduation party
- **\$500, Boy Scout Troop #571**, funds to build gardens at Grandview Middle School as a part of an Eagle Scout project
- **\$1,000, Community Aid Elk River (CAER)**, funds to provide Kidz Kitz for summer food program
- **\$1,000, Community Health Foundation**, funds to support Hospice walk
- **\$1,300, Fishing Clinics for Kids**, funds to support prizes used at the Buffalo City Days and to help build a new trailer for the organization

- **\$2,000, Homeward Bound**, funds for a summer camp scholarship
- **\$200, Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted After Prom Party**, funds to provide a safe prom party
- **\$2,000, Love INC—Big Woods**, funds to support the school supply program
- **\$200, Maple Lake Prom Party**, funds to provide a safe all night prom party
- **\$600, Monticello Community String Orchestra**, funds to help lower costs to individuals
- **\$3,000, Rivers of Hope**, funds to support the 24-hour crisis phone line
- **\$1,350, RiverWorks Community Development**, funds for supplies and dinner for the 1,000 Hearts Crow River Serve Day
- **\$200, Rockford All Night Grad Party**, funds to provide a safe all night graduation party
- **\$2,500, SOAR Regional Arts**, funds to purchase materials and supplies for the upcoming production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to the American Cancer Society in the amount of \$6,000 to support six Relax for Life events. ORU Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Relay Specialist Breanne Foster (left).



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Boy Scout Troop #571 in the amount of \$500 to build gardens at Grandview Middle School. ORU Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Scout Master Christopher Herdegen (left).



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Community Aid Elk River (CAER) in the amount of \$1,000 to provide Kidz Kitz for a summer food program. ORU Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Associate Director MaryJo Buettner (left)



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to the Community Health Foundation in the amount of \$1,000 to support the Hospice Walk sponsorship. ORU Chair John Meister (middle) presented the grant to Vice President of Funding Development Dave Kiel (left) and Event Director Megan Leonard (right).



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Fishing Clinics for Kids in the amount of \$1,300 to purchase prizes and a trailer. ORU Chair John Meister (far right) presented the grant to (left to right) Board Member Jerry Niesen, Board Member Margie Niesen, Executive Planner Judy Wedell and Founder Jim Wedell.



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Homeward Bound in the amount of \$2,000 to fund a summer camp scholarship. ORU Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Development Director Kristine Burdick (left).



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Love INC. in the amount of \$2,000 to support the school supply program. ORU Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Director of Development Tom Kunz (left).



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to the Monticello Community String Orchestra in the amount of \$600 to help lower costs to individuals. ORU Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Project Director Jeff Burns (left).



Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to Rivers of Hope in the amount of \$3,000 to support the 24-hour crisis phone line. ORU Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Executive Director Lori Woodward (left).





Operation Round Up recently awarded a grant to RiversWorks Community Development in the amount of \$1,350 to fund supplies and dinner for the 1,000 Hearts Crow River Serve Day. ORU Chair John Meister (right) presented the grant to Executive Director Denise Kesanen (left).

For those interested in applying for funds, the next application deadline is June 1, 2014. To receive an application, visit WH's website at [www.whe.org](http://www.whe.org), send an email to [oru@whe.org](mailto:oru@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 and now 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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