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News Release

WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS DONATE MORE THAN \$27,400 TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rockford, Minn. (August 28, 2024) — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) members who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) donated grants totaling more than \$27,400 in August. ORU has awarded more than \$5.1 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 supporting local programs. Approximately 90% of WH's members participate in the ORU program, contributing a total of almost \$20,000 each month. ORU's board manages the donated money, which is held in a trust fund. Through a selection process and review of guidelines, the ORU trustees evaluate funding requests on a bimonthly basis.

The ORU trust board donated the following on behalf of WH members at their August meeting:

- **\$5,000, Annandale Youth First**, funds to provide student-to-student mentorship programs.
- **\$5,000, Pay It Forward Fund**, funds for breast cancer victims to pay for utilities, housing, medical, transportation, phone, or food.
- **\$4,418, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of St. Cloud**, funds to purchase a reach-in freezer.
- **\$3,500, MN Firefighter Initiative**, funds to provide trauma support for firefighters in case of a death.
- **\$3,000, Best Christmas Ever**, funds to support families who have fallen on hard times.
- **\$3,000, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Andrew's Elk River Conference**, funds to support anyone in need with assistance for a variety of needs.
- **\$2,000, Rise, Inc.**, funds to purchase adaptive equipment.
- **\$1,000, CEAP**, funds to support Meals on Wheels.
- **\$500, Rejoice Lutheran Church Backpack Program**, funds to help kids in community who are facing food insecurity.

Those interested in ORU funds can learn more about the types of activities ORU supports and find the grant application by visiting bit.ly/WH-ORU, emailing oru@whe.org, or calling Lisa Zipp, ORU Trust Administrator, at (763) 477-6126.

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 59,000 electric accounts. It is headquartered in Rockford, Minn.

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