

Immediate NEWS RELEASE

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People's Energy Cooperative Trust - Operation Round Up® grants \$24,420 to local organizations

ORONOCO, MN, August 9, 2016 — People's Energy Cooperative's Operation Round Up[®] Trust Board has provided \$24,420 in grants to the following area organizations:

- \$1,220: Choral Arts Ensemble for Christmas concerts venue rental
- \$500: Great River Homes, Inc. for agency picnic
- \$2,625: Pine Island Park Board for new community space
- \$1,000: Byron Public Schools for Grand Challenge Design course
- \$3,000: Stewartville Public Schools for Response to Intervention
- \$995: St. Charles Elementary School for Drums Alive program
- \$2,000: Brighter Tomorrows for winter retreat
- \$3,000: United Way of Olmsted County for Running Start for School
- \$1,000: City of Eyota for Summer Film Series
- \$500: Dover Eyota Music Association for 2016 SE MN a Cappella Festival
- \$1,580: Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestra for technology upgrades
- \$2,500: Rochester Public Schools for The Kindness Project
- \$1,000: City of Stewartville for handicap playground equipment
- \$3,500: Faith in Action for transportation costs

The People's Energy Cooperative Trust - Operation Round Up® fund started in 2002 and has granted a total of \$60,864.92 in 2016 to a variety of charitable, educational, community and youth-related programs and events.

The program is funded by donations made by members of People's Energy Cooperative who voluntarily have their monthly electric bill rounded up to the nearest dollar. Approximately 17,000 members currently participate with the average donation of \$6.00 a year per member, demonstrating that small change can make a big difference.

Applications for funding are considered on a quarterly basis. The funds are held separately from the People's Energy Cooperative operating accounts and are administered through the Board of Trustees comprised of seven People's Energy Cooperative member volunteers.

To be considered for fourth quarter grants in 2016, applications must be submitted no later than September 20, 2016. Program guidelines and applications for Operation Round Up® donations are available at www.peoplesenergy.coop or by calling the Cooperative at (507) 367-7015 or (800) 214-2694.

About People's Energy Cooperative

People's Energy Cooperative is a member-owned electric cooperative celebrating nearly 80 years of delivering retail electric power to its nearly 18,800 member-owners in Olmsted, Dodge, Fillmore, Mower, Wabasha and Winona Counties. People's Energy Cooperative is a Touchstone Energy[®] cooperative and a member-owner in the Dairyland Power system of electric cooperatives that generates and transmits reliable electric power in 62 counties of four states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois).

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