

Immediate NEWS RELEASE

For additional information contact, Gwen Stevens, Director of Member & Community Relations 507-367-7015 or <u>gstevens@peoplesrec.com</u>

People's Energy Cooperative Trust - Operation Round Up® grants \$31,160 to local organizations

ORONOCO, MN, February 9, 2017 — People's Energy Cooperative's Operation Round Up[®] Trust Board has provided \$31,160 in grants to the following area organizations:

- \$1,250: Stewartville Middle School for 3D printers
- \$5,000: City of Oronoco Parks and Trails for the Garden Park project
- \$4,000: Schaeffer Academy for choral risers
- \$1,000: Oronoco Fire Department for a smoke generator for training
- \$8,000: Plainview Area Community & Youth Center and PEM Area Senior Dining to replace the flooring
- \$1,000: Plainview Elgin Millville Drama Booster Club for musical lighting
- \$1,000: City of Plainview for Great River Ridge Trailhead Park historical markers
- \$595: Kasson-Mantorville Community Education for S.M.A.R.T. equipment
- \$403: ALC Child Care Center for new playground equipment
- \$1,000: Honors Choirs of Southeast Minnesota for website development
- \$1,350: All Bout Children (ABC) Daycare for sidewalk improvements
- \$1,450: The Rochester Salvation Army for a community warming center
- \$3,100: The Salvation Army for their HeatShare program
- \$463: Stewartville Community Education for Pre-K basketball hoops and Biddy Basketball Program
- \$1,550: Chatfield Fire Department for a rescue saw

The People's Energy Cooperative Trust - Operation Round Up® fund started in 2002 and granted a total of \$87,377.92 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 second quarter grants in 2017, applications must be submitted no later than March 20, 2017. 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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