

## 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 \$27,279 to local organizations

**ORONOCO, MN, May 5, 2017** — People's Energy Cooperative's Operation Round Up<sup>®</sup> Trust Board has provided \$27,279 in grants to the following area organizations:

- \$1,487: City of Stewartville for Bear Cave Park safety/accessibility improvements
- \$1,000: Zumbro Education District for painting hood fume exhaust system
- \$1,500: True Friends for a custom harness for Camp Courage challenge course
- \$3,000: Rochester Central Lutheran School for gymnasium floor renewal
- \$1,000: American Heart Association for Rochester Go Red for Women Luncheon
- \$1,000: Pine Island Community Education for 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington, D.C. trip
- \$796: Dodge Center Fire Department for rope rescue equipment
- \$500: Dover Eyota Music Ass. for 7th Annual SE MN a Cappella Workshops & Festival
- \$155: Stewartville Public Schools Bonner Elementary for chick incubator
- \$1,220: Celebration of a City for special programming at Rochesterfest 2017
- \$750: Zumbro Watershed Partnership, Inc. for Slow the Flow Campaign
- \$1,235: Elder Network for new conference room furniture
- \$3,000: Dodge County 4-H for new rabbit cages
- \$1,000: Kellogg Fire Department for washing machine extractor
- \$2,186: The Reading Center for Dyslexic tutoring technology upgrade
- \$1,000: Pine Island High School and U of M Rochester for experiential learning program
- \$1,950: Relay for Life of Olmsted County for event t-shirts
- \$1,500: Relay for Life of Rochester Hope Lodge for event t-shirts
- \$1,000: Mazeppa Veterans Honor Guard Inc. for honor guard vehicle
- \$1,000: Kindred Family Focus for Kindred Cares for Foster Families
- \$1,000: History Center of Olmsted County for living history fair

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 third quarter grants in 2017, applications must be submitted no later than June 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 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<sup>®</sup> 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).

###