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## PRESS RELEASE

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## Operation Round Up contributes \$61,950 to 78 local organizations

*Melrose, Minn.* - Stearns Electric's Operation Round Up Program contributed \$ 61,950 to area organizations during its November meeting. Through the Operation Round Up program, Stearns Electric Association gives its member-owners the opportunity to give back to the community by rounding up their electric bill to the nearest dollar.

Since the program's inception in 1993, Operation Round Up (ORU) and Stearns Electric members have awarded over \$2.2 million to local non-profit organizations and community service programs. The round up funds, no more than \$11.88 per year, per member, are placed in a trust fund that is administered by the Trust Board appointed by the Cooperative's elected Board of Directors.

Trust Board members met on November 14 to review applications and funding requests for the third time in 2018. Seventy-eight organizations were selected to receive funds totaling between \$200 to \$1,500 in this round of contributions.

Among the contributions this quarter, 19 area Food Shelves were selected to receive \$1,500 each and nine area gift giving programs were selected to receive \$1,000 each.

The following organizations received funding in November 2018:

Albany Area Schools/Supermileage  
Albany Fire and Rescue  
Albany Food Shelf  
Albany Southsiders 4-H Club  
Avon Area Gift Giving Program  
Avon Food Shelf, Inc.

(more)

member driven. community focused. energy smart.

**WWW.STEARNSELECTRIC.ORG**

*Stearns Electric Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

**OPERATION ROUND UP – PAGE 2**

Bethel Memorial Cemetery Association  
Big Birch Lake Association  
Big Watab Lake Association  
Brooten-Belgrade-Elrosa Food Shelf  
Catholic Charities Emergency Services – Food Shelf  
Catholic Charities Emergency Services – Holiday Gift Giving Program  
Central Minnesota Deer Hunters Association  
Christmas Care Drive – Albany  
Christmas Care Drive – Richmond  
Christmas For a Senior  
Church of St. Joseph Quilters  
Clearwater-Clear Lake Food Shelf  
Daughters of the American Revolution  
Eden Valley Food Shelf  
Feeding Area Children Together  
Freeport Fire Department  
Girl Scouts of MN & WI, Lakes & Pines  
Golden Smiles  
Gradatim  
Hearts & Hands Food Shelf  
Hilltop Regional Kitchen  
Holdingford Food Shelf  
Holdingford Lioness Club “Gifts for Joy” Program  
Honor Quilts  
Individual  
Junior Achievement of the Upper Midwest  
Kimball Food Shelf  
Kinship of Morrison County  
Little Falls School District 482 – Day of Caring  
Long Prairie Food Shelf  
LSS Senior Nutrition Morrison County Sites  
Marines Toys for Tots  
Melrose Area Food Shelf  
Mensingers Pillow Project  
Morrison County Food Shelf  
Morrison County Historic Rural School  
Morrison County Holiday Gift Giving Program  
Mother of Mercy  
Osakis Boy Scouts Troop 426  
Outreach Food Shelf  
Paynesville Area Center  
Paynesville Community Services  
Rocori Area Food Shelf  
Salvation Army Christmas Toy Program  
Sartell Historical Society

(more)

**OPERATION ROUND UP – PAGE 3**

Sartell Police Department Reserve Officer Program  
Sauk Centre Food Shelf  
Sauk Centre History Museum and Center  
Sauk Centre Sports Boosters  
Sauk Rapids-Rice School District Parent Education Night  
Senior Dining/Meals on Wheels Sauk Centre  
St. Joseph American Legion Aux. Post 328  
St. Joseph Area Historical Society  
St. Joseph Community Food Shelf  
St. Paul's Church/Unity Cemetery Board  
St. Stephen Food Shelf  
The Salvation Army Food Shelf  
The Salvation Army S.M.A.R.T Kids Program  
True Friends  
Upsala Fire Department  
Upsala First Response  
Upsala Robotics Program – Team 4480  
Uzone – Drop In and Tutoring Center  
VEXT Robotics (Kennedy Community School)  
VFW Granite Post 428 Aux.  
VFW Post 4847 Aux.  
Watkins Fire Department  
What Would Bri Do, Inc.  
Wreaths for the Fallen

Visit [stearnslectric.org](http://stearnslectric.org) for more information on the Stearns Electric Operation Round Up Program, including a complete list of recipients for November 2018.



Photo caption – Local organizations gather at Stearns Electric Association to accept Operation Round Up funds in November. Pictured from left to right: Gary Winkels, Albany Fire and Rescue; Alli Herold, Junior Achievement of the Upper Midwest; Bruce Wing, Stearns Electric Association Trust Board volunteer; Julie Krumrei, Junior Achievement of the Upper Midwest; Kelly Weller, True Friends; Carol Garlock, Church of St. Joseph Quilters; Bob Ringstrom, Marine Toys for Tots; Rodney Coons, Sartell Police Reserve Program; Delrose Fischer, St. Joseph American Legion Post #328; and Alyssa Burgett, Kennedy Community School

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*Stearns Electric Association is a member-owned electric cooperative. Since 1937, Stearns Electric Association has provided electricity and related products and services to Central Minnesota. Today, Stearns Electric Association serves 26,000 members in six Central Minnesota counties including Stearns, Todd, Morrison, Kandiyohi, Pope and Douglas. For more information about Stearns Electric Association, please visit [www.stearnselectric.org](http://www.stearnselectric.org)*

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