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PRESS RELEASE

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OPERATION ROUND UP CONTRIBUTES \$78,100 TO 81 LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Melrose, Minn. - Stearns Electric's Operation Round Up Program contributed \$78,100 to 81 area organizations during its October meeting. Through the Operation Round Up program, Stearns Electric Association gives its member-consumers 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 nearly \$2.5 million to 4,700 local non-profit organizations and community service programs. The rounded 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 Directors met on October 30 to review applications and funding requests for the third time in 2019. Eighty-one organizations were selected to receive funds totaling between \$100 to \$2,000 in this round of contributions.

The following organizations received funding in October 2019:

Albany Area Schools / Supermileage
Albany Fire Department
Albany Food Shelf
Albany Southsiders 4-H Club
Angel Reins Stable
Avon Area Gift Giving Program

(more)

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Stearns Electric Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Avon Food Shelf
Bethel Memorial Cemetery Association
Big Fish Lake Association
Big Sauk Lake Association
Brooten-Belgrade-Elrosa Food Shelf
Burtrum Bean Bake
CentraCare Health – Paynesville
Central Minnesota Deer Hunters Association
Central MN Mental Health Worker
Central MN Mental Health Center
Chain of Lakes Fire & Rescue Dept.
Catholic Charities Emergency Services – Food Shelf
Christmas Care Drive
Church of St. Michael Quilters
City of Eden Valley – Friederichs Park
Clearwater Area Friends of the Library
Clearwater-Clear Lake Food Shelf
Daughters of the American Revolution
East Side VFW Auxiliary
Eden Valley Food Shelf
Golden Smiles Senior Citizens
Gradatim
Hands of Heart
Heartland Symphony Orchestra
Hearts and Hands Food Shelf
Holdingford Food Shelf
Holdingford Lioness Club “Gifts for Joy” Program
Honor Quilts
Ivy’s Legacy Foundation
Jaguar Kid Connection
Junior Achievement of the Upper Midwest
Kennedy Vex Robotics
Kimball Food Shelf
Let the Sun Shine Run
Long Prairie Food Shelf
Marines Toys for Tots
Melrose Area Food Shelf
Memory Loss Support Group
Mensingher Pillow Project
Morrison County Food Shelf
Morrison County Holiday Gift Giving Program
Mother of Mercy Foundation
Osakis Boy Scouts Troop 426
Outreach Food Shelf

(more)

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Paramount Center for the Arts

Paynesville Community Services (Food Shelf)
Paynesville Elementary School Paw Packs
Project Give-A-Gift
Punkins and Monkeys Preschool
Quiet Oaks Hospice House
ROCORI Action Packs
Rocori Area Food Shelf
Salvation Army Christmas Toy Program
Sartell Historical Society
Sauk Centre Ambulance
Sauk Centre Art Labs
Sauk Centre Food Shelf
Sauk Centre Rotary Club
St. Cloud Area Funsingers
St. Cloud Stand Down
St. John's Community Park
St. Joseph Community Food Shelf
St. Stephen Alano Society
St. Stephen Food Shelf
St. Stephen's Lions Club
Stearns Benton Toward Zero Deaths Coalition
Stearns History Museum
The Salvation Army
True Friends
Upsala FFA Alumni
VFW Granite Post 428 Auxiliary
Watkins Fire Department
What Would Bri Do, Inc.
Wreaths for the Fallen
Young at Heart

Visit stearnselectric.org for more information on the Stearns Electric Operation Round Up Program, including a complete list of recipients for November 2019.

(more)



Photo caption – Local organizations gather at Stearns Electric Association to accept Operation Round Up funds in November. Pictured (left to right):

Matthew Peters, Big Fish Lake Association; Denise, Angel Reins Stable; Brenda Bollig, What Would Bri Do, Inc.; Eric Cheever, Stearns History Museum; Christine, Angel Reins Stable; Ann Sherer, St. Joseph Community Food Shelf; Laurie, Angel Reins Stable; Nick Johnston, St. Cloud Stand Down; Kathy, Angel Reins Stable; Betty Schmidt, Paynesville Paw Packs; Carrie Essig, Stearns History Museum; Bob Behrens, St. Cloud Stand Down; Mary Schaefer, Christmas Care Drive; Jane Schreifels, Avon Food Shelf; Dennis Sowada, Central MN Deer Hunters Association; Joe Christensen, volunteer, Operation Round Up; and Vicki Johnson, Stearns Benton Toward Zero Deaths Coalition.

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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 27,000 members in six Central Minnesota counties including Stearns, Todd, Morrison, Kandiyohi, Pope and Douglas. For more information about Stearns Electric Association, please visit www.stearnslectric.org