

Immediate NEWS RELEASE

For additional information contact, Gwen Stevens, Director of Cooperative Relations 507-367-7015 or <u>gstevens@peoplesenergy.coop</u>

People's Energy Cooperative Trust – Operation Round Up® grants \$22,809 to local organizations

ORONOCO, MN, January 24, 2022 — People's Energy Cooperative Operation Round Up® Trust Board provided \$22,809 in grants this quarter to the following area organizations:

- Bundles of Love Charity \$1,000 for bundles of supplies to mothers and infants in need
- Care Portal / Global Orphan Project \$2,500 to help vulnerable kids in Olmsted County
- Channel One, Inc. \$2,000 for their childhood hunger backpack program
- Childhood Cancer Community \$553 to help purchase supplies for 'Journey Packs'
- Hiawatha Homes Foundation \$1,000 to help purchase new furniture and appliances
- **High Forest Old Settlers Association** \$1,000 to help upgrade the electrical system at the picnic shelter
- **Kasson-Mantorville Community Education** \$500 in support of "What's Going On: Songs from the Vietnam War Era"
- MN Council for the Gifted and Talented Rochester GATEway Chapter \$400 in support of the 2022 Rochester GATEway Science Fair
- Oxbow Park and Zollman Zoo \$1,500 to help replace a refrigerator and washing machine
- **PEM Backpack for Food Program** \$2,000 to help purchase food for backpacks
- Pine Haven Foundation \$553 to help purchase a new AED
- Plainview Area Community & Youth Center \$2,000 to help make an entrance handicap-accessible
- **Plainview Fire Department** \$2,000 to help purchase a digital fire extinguisher training system
- Salt & Light Partners \$1,250 to support their training event
- Stewartville Parks Department \$3,000 for the development of a skate park
- Stewartville Tiger Time \$553 to support Procare and social emotional technology implementation
- Wee Care Learning Center \$1,000 to help with a technology upgrade

The People's Energy Cooperative Trust – Operation Round Up® fund started in 2002 and grants funds 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. Nearly 17,000 members currently participate with the average donation of \$6.00 a year per member, demonstrating that small change can add up to 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 2022, applications must be submitted no later than March 18, 2022. Program guidelines and applications for Operation Round Up® donations are available at <u>www.peoplesenergy.coop</u> or by calling the Cooperative at (507) 367-7054 or (800) 214-2694.

About People's Energy Cooperative

People's Energy Cooperative is a member-owned electric cooperative celebrating over 80 years of delivering retail electric power to its 19,000 consumer-members 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). People's is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

###