

## Immediate NEWS RELEASE

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## People's Energy Cooperative Trust – Operation Round Up® grants \$16,009.44 to local organizations

**ORONOCO, MN, February 8, 2023** — People's Energy Cooperative Operation Round Up® Trust Board provided \$16,009.44 in grants this quarter to the following area organizations:

- Bundles of Love (Rochester): \$1,000 for materials to make baby clothing, baby bedding, and diaper bags
- Byron Robotics: \$500 to help purchase new robotics equipment
- Chatfield Elementary School: \$1,849.04 for tools and supplies needed for their social and emotional learning curriculum
- First FRC Team 2530 "Inconceivable" (Rochester): \$500 to help purchase new robotics equipment
- Franklin Elementary / Montessori and Franklin (Rochester): \$620 to purchase supplies for "Art on the Fly" bags
- Hayfield Community Pantry: \$1,600 to help purchase groceries for holiday meals
- HOPE Ranch Foundation (Chatfield): \$3,000 to facilitate their website revamp
- Othello Cemetery Association (Byron): \$1,000 to help with gravestone restoration
- **Pine Island Panther Preschool:** \$750 to purchase books for early childhood preschool screenings and 'Help Me Grow' home visits
- Plainview Community Center: \$2,190.40 to aid in the purchase of a new refrigerator
- Spark Place of Play (Rochester): \$2,000 to purchase supplies for weekly STEM education programming
- St. John's Lutheran Church (Stewartville): \$1,000 to purchase food for Backpack Food Program

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 2023, applications must be submitted no later than March 20, 2023. Program guidelines and applications for Operation Round Up® donations are available at <a href="www.peoplesenergy.coop/operation-round-up">www.peoplesenergy.coop/operation-round-up</a> 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 85 years of delivering retail electric power to its 20,000 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.

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