



Mora Imagination Library

An ORU grant helped purchase children's books for the Mora Imagination Library. 2018



Mora Fire Department

Members of the Mora Area Fire Department received an ORU grant which helped them purchase breathing masks with attached thermal imaging cameras. 2018



Kanabec County Sheriff's Reserves

An ORU grant to the Kanabec County Sheriff's Reserves helped purchase bullet-proof vests. 2016



Gilman Park and Recreation Association

An ORU grant helped the Gilman Park and Recreation Association raise funds to replace outdated playground equipment. 2017



Mille Lacs County Operation Community Connect

An ORU grant helped provide new winter boots for families in need. 2017



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changing lives*



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PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

Cooperatives were founded on the power of people helping people. We believe Operation Round Up® reflects what cooperatives stand for and demonstrates our commitment to community.

Operation Round Up (ORU) is a program made possible by members who voluntarily round up their monthly electric bill to the next dollar. The maximum yearly contribution from each participant is \$11.88. Contributions are tax deductible.

The added pennies from each participant are pooled and used to provide grants for charitable causes.

Since ORU began, our members have contributed more than \$2 million to improve the quality of life in our communities.



An ORU grant helped the Braham Area Schools Super Mileage team purchase parts for a street legal electric car they built. 2018



Call 1-800-254-7944 to participate in Operation Round Up.



HOW IT WORKS

A trust board, made up of ECE members, meets four times each year to review applications and approve ORU grants. The trust board allocates funds according to general guidelines. Categories include Community Service, Education and Youth, Environment, Emergency Energy Assistance and Disaster Relief.

All funds are used locally, except in cases of unusual disasters.



An ORU grant was awarded to the Brook Park Fire Department to help purchase new gear for the department's firefighters. 2015

TYPES OF PROJECTS FUNDED

The ORU program has provided funds for the purchase of thermal imaging cameras and breathing apparatus for local fire departments, assistance for emergency heating programs, funds for crisis agencies and women's shelters, K-9 units, playground equipment, local food shelves and many other worthwhile causes.

APPLYING FOR A GRANT

If you are a local, charitable, non-profit organization interested in applying for a grant, visit our website for a description of the guidelines and to download an application, or call us to request an application.

SIGN UP TODAY!

You can start making a difference in your community today! Sign up via SmartHub or call 1-800-254-7944.



Find SmartHub on our website or download from your preferred app store.



Members of the Pine Center for the Arts Board of Directors celebrated the receipt of an ORU grant to go toward a new roof on their Pine City building. 2018

Thank you!

Your contributions will make a big difference to our local organizations, which rely on donations to improve the quality of life in our communities.

For a list of recent grant recipients visit eastcentralenergy.com.

