

Federated members fund \$19,195 to 22 local groups through Operation Round Up last fall

Organization	Amount	Purpose
MCW Elementary, Sherburn	\$120	Buy ice packs and thermometer covers for health supplies
HLO FFA	\$250	Supplies to teach younger students about ag industry
JCC Speech/Language Therapy Dept.	\$425	Resources/tools to diagnose & provide student therapy
SW & West Central Service Co-op, JCC	\$450	Fine motor toys for JCC/HLO students' occupational therapy
Lutheran Social Services, Jackson	\$500	Disposable trays for Jackson/Lakefield Meals on Wheels
Caregiver Response Effort & Service Team (CREST), Fairmont	\$500	Toward bingo, boat tour & other social events
MCW Sherburn Elementary	\$500	Toward Kindergarten Round Up meal/activities
HLO H.S. Positive Behavior Interventions & Support	\$500	Supplies/activities to promote positive behavior
Coats for Kids/Family Services	\$500	Toward coats, snowpants, hats & gloves for Jackson County kids
MCW Early Childhood Family Education	\$500	Toward paint and construction paper supplies
Martin County Substance Abuse Coalition	\$600	Narcan distribution boxes for 24-hour access in Trimont & Truman
HLO Ag Education Program	\$600	Student workbooks for the new personal finance course
Des Moines Valley Health & Human Services, Jackson County	\$1,000	Diapers for the Baby Bundle program for eligible families
Alpha Fire Department	\$1,000	Drone to be used for fires & searching for accident victims
Healing Hearts Recovery, Sherburn	\$1,000	For clothing, activities & transportation for medical appointments
South Central Dive Team, Trimont	\$1,000	Toward surface unit to communicate with divers underwater
MCW Elementary	\$1,000	Toward five walkie talkies for administration/special ed teachers
JCC Health Office	\$1,200	Toward eye dr. appointments & glasses for four students in need
Sherburn Fire Department	\$1,550	Replace three broken pagers
Southwest Crisis Center, Jackson	\$2,000	Toward food, clothing, medication, toiletries & housing
Heaven's Table Food Shelf, Fairmont	\$2,000	Food for the monthly community food box program
Heat Share, The Salvation Army	\$2,000	Emergency energy assistance for Federated members in need
Total	\$19,195	



Hear ye! Hear ye! The Fall Operation Round Up recipients received holiday blessings, thanks to Federated members.

The Federated Trust Board received 38 applications totaling nearly \$104,847 in this 62nd round of funding last fall. The Trust Board will meet again in the spring to determine the next round of funding. The deadline for submitting applications is February 13, 2026.


About 73 percent of Federated Rural Electric members participate in Operation Round Up. They allow their electric bills to be rounded up to the nearest dollar. For example, a bill of \$65.75 is rounded up to \$66. The extra cents go to a special trust fund, which is administered by an independent Trust Board that consists of seven Federated members. Since the first round of funding in 1995, \$1,022,446 has been awarded to local organizations and as high school scholarships.

"Operation Round Up is a way for members to help members," said Ruth Dicks, Federated's Trust Board president. "Just a few cents a month, when added with other members' cents, can really add up and do some good in our communities. On average, a member's Round Up contributions amount to approximately \$6 a year, which is tax-deductible."

The Trust Board's policy outlines project categories eligible for funding:

- community service (emphasis on public safety, health care and enhancement of cultural environment)
- community leadership programs
- education and youth projects (social problems and wellness/athletics)
- environmental projects (recycling, environmental education and environmental ag research)
- emergency-energy assistance funds to organizations for distribution
- disaster relief.

Interested organizations may go to www.federatedrea.coop to download the application form and information, e-mail info@federatedrea.coop for an application or call 507-847-3520 and press extension 2224 for Andrea.

The next *Connections* and February electric bills will have the Operation Round Up scholarship details. 

January 26 deadline for Basin Scholarship applications

Federated members: encourage your graduating high school senior or college student with more than a year of schooling to apply for the \$2,500 and \$1,500 scholarships.

Find the application at federatedrea.coop under programs or see your school counselor. 