

Won't You Round Up With Us?

The Who: You! Yes, you, our members. Only you can decide to participate in this program. This program is exclusively for South River EMC members to join together and lift up our community. Working with South River EMC to find a better way to spend your small change can make a big change for someone else.



The What: Operation Round Up is a program to generate and collect charitable donations to improve the quality of life for our community through nonprofit organizations, as well as educational institutions.

The Where: Our community. This campaign is meant to use small change to make a big change in community life. Funds will be given primarily to organizations that serve either the health, safety, educational or recreational needs of citizens within the service area.

The When: Immediately! Operation Round Up began at South River EMC in May of 2008.

The Why: Why not? This is a great way to spend your change right in your own backyard. It could one day benefit you or your friends. It amounts to about \$6 a year from our members, but those numbers add up. Some examples of possible uses of funds could be new equipment for a volunteer fire department, educational materials for a school, lighting for a ball field, emergency assistance for a weather-related disaster, etc.

The How: Each month, the electric cooperative simply "rounds up" the electric bill of participating members to the next highest dollar. For example, if your bill one month is \$81.75, the bill would auto-

matically be rounded up to \$82 and the extra 25x would be deposited in the Operation Round Up fund. An independent board of directors, made up of leaders, will be the ones to distribute the funds raised. Members are automatically signed up, but can drop out at any time.

Now What?

Organizations and educational institutions must complete a very thorough grant application. Appropriately completed applications are reviewed by the foundation board, which may request additional information. The board votes on all grant requests. Nonprofit organizations can receive up to \$5,000 annually, while educational institutions can receive up to \$10,000 annually.

A Few Questions Answered:

Are contributions tax deductible? Yes, your contributions are tax-deductible. Don't forget, your participation is voluntary, but greatly appreciated by those it helps.

Can anyone apply for a grant? No, not just anyone can apply for grants. Organizations must serve people in the South River EMC service area. Schools must have students who live in the South River EMC service area.

Can you leave the program? Yes, you can join or drop out of the program at any time. Members are automatically signed up to participate, but may withdraw by simply notifying the Cooperative. If you had previously decided not to participate and changed your mind, you can sign up by calling the Cooperative office.



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