

\$80,000 SINCE 2002

**2019 Donations
totaled \$9,500**

- Warrens Community Dinner
- Mauston School District
- Compass Learning Center
- n.a.s.a.
- Tomah Area Cancer Support
- Miller Elementary School PTO
- Camp Douglas Elementary School
- Tomah Area Fire Department
- Sparta Boys and Girls Club
- Hope for a Hero, Inc
- Ronald McDonald House Charities of Marshfield, Inc.
- Parenting Place, Tomah
- Pittsville Area Historical Society
- Touched Twice Clinic – Juneau County
- Remembering Jesse Parker, Inc.
- CouleeCap, Inc
- Central Wisconsin Community Action Council, Inc.
- ChallengeScape
- Ecumenical Food Pantry
- Neighbor for Neighbor Food Pantry
- Ontario Food Pantry
- Wilton Food Pantry
- Pittsville Area Neighbors Shelf
- Reedsburg Area Food Pantry
- St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Food Pantry
- Camp Douglas Food Pantry
- New Lisbon Food Pantry
- Community Sharing Pantry
- Wonewoc Union Center Food Pantry
- Elroy Area Food Pantry
- Necedah Food Pantry
- New Lisbon Community Toy Workshop
- Toys for Joy
- Toys for Tots – Tomah
- Mr. Ed’s Community Thanksgiving Dinner
- 19 – pairs of shoes for youth in need
- 6 – Benefits

Help us reach 2,000 PARTICIPANTS!

We are excited to report that participation in Oakdale Electric Cooperative’s Operation Round Up program is close to 2,000 members! Help us reach this milestone mark by volunteering to participate. You can fill out the application form on page 17 and return it to OEC, or you can sign up online by going to www.oakdalerec.com and clicking on Operation Round Up under the News & Community tab.

What is Operation Round Up?

Operation Round Up is a voluntary program in which co-op members agree to have their utility bill “rounded up” to the next whole dollar amount. The difference is placed in a separate fund that is used to support individuals, families, and community service organizations within the areas served by OEC. Total donations now exceed \$80,000.

Operation Round-Up is making a difference!



Operation Round-Up Board of Trustees:

(L-R): Allen Bernhardt, Sandy Chroninger, Pat Christensen, Colleen Woggon, Bonnie Anderson, Sue Rezin, Lillian Jorgensen



**Oakdale Electric
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

MY CO-OP



NEW SHOES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Take a moment to glance down at your feet. What do you see? For many, it is your feet comfortably tucked inside of a pair of gently worn, or new shoes. There's a good chance these shoes might even coordinate with your chosen outfit. Moreover, both feet are warm, dry, cushioned, and protected from the weather elements. If feet could

smile, yours would be grinning from the tip of the toes to the back of the heel, because they look and feel great!

The view for one in five children in the United States is vastly different because their families can't afford shoes.

When this child looks down, he sees shoes that don't fit properly. This child is either squeezing his feet into a pair too small, or slipping in a size too large. The soles are worn down entirely, with strips of duct tape holding the shoes intact. His young feet are cold, wet, and exposed to possible injury. The shoes cause pain, and embarrassment, but this child can't get rid of them, as it's his only pair.

A child's behavior, self-esteem, physical activity, and school attendance can adversely be affected due to not owning suitable shoes.

A recent inquiry to a local school district verified the above statistic to be true locally. Guidance counselors at the

Tomah Cash Store is partnering with Operation Round Up with the New Shoes for the New Year project. Store owner is John Rose (pictured above).



Tomah Area School District expressed the basic need of shoes for their students.

“The number of students in our district in need of shoes is alarming,” stated Samantha Ahler, school counselor at Tomah Area High School. She further elaborated, “I hear from teachers weekly about families going through different hard times.”

Operation Round Up, the co-op’s community support fund that assists those in need, stepped up to help. The

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**–Samantha Ahler,
Tomah Area High School**

seven-member board of trustees approved a donation to provide 19 youth within the Tomah Area School District (TASD) with a gift certificate to select one pair of new shoes, or boots, for the New Year. School counselors were given the responsibility to

select and disburse to the recipients most in need.

“To be successful in the classroom, a student’s basic needs need to be met. Providing proper shoes allows for our students can put their focus on learning.” Ahler said.

Long-standing local business Tomah Cash Store agreed to partner with Operation Round Up by serving as the shopping destination. “Tomah Cash Store was asked to help due to their compassionate service, the variety of shoes and sizes available, and centralized downtown location,” stated Sue Rezin, Operation Round Up trustee member. “The Tomah Cash Store has been wonderful to work with. They



School counselors, Maya Roe and Samantha Ahler, helped identify students who received a certificate for a new pair of shoes.

offered guidance on how to handle the gifting to ensure it runs smoothly.”

“The children we helped fit for shoes are in need. It is the Tomah Cash Store’s honor and privilege to help them pick out new shoes for their New Year,” said John Rose, Tomah Cash Store owner. “Seeing the happy, smiling faces is very satisfying.”

**The power of a new pair of shoes can change a child's life.
And it only took spare change.**

MY CO-OP

YES, I would like to participate in Operation Round Up!

Please round my electric bill to the next highest dollar, with the difference placed in Operation Round Up.



Member Name _____

Member Number _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP Code _____

Email Address _____

Please return this form to Oakdale Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 40, Oakdale, WI 54649



Save More & Spend Less this New Year!

Resolve to Save More and Spend Less by **monitoring your energy usage** through SmartHub.

Usage Explorer

Usage Explorer gives you a detailed look at your past and current usage, all in one place. View your usage and weather trends by month, day, or hour.

Bill Comparison/Usage Comparison

Usage Comparison lets you compare two bills worth of usage history side by side. View the differences between this month, last year, or other combinations to see how your bill varies each month.

Average Usage

Average Usage shows you what your typical or average usage is for your selected time period. For example, see your average usage on each day of the

week (such as Tuesdays), over the course of a year. Or see your typical usage in each hour of the day over the course of two weeks. Discover when you can save the most on your utility bill.

Resolve to save more and spend less this New Year and sign up for SmartHub online. It's OEC's FREE and mobile online payment system.

Click on the signup link and follow the prompts to create your user name and password. Questions? Call, click or visit us at 608-372-4131 or oakdalerec.com.



Bruce Ardel, General Manager

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Deana Protz, Editor



Oakdale Electric Cooperative

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