



SEPTEMBER 2026

REA Members Support Their Communities!

Operation Round Up Distributes **\$14,100** in September!

Through the contributions of Runestone Electric Association's participating members, the Operation Round Up® Trust Board approved **\$14,100** to assist local community programs during its quarterly meeting.

REA's Operation Round Up Trust Board, a voluntary board of seven REA members, reviewed and considered 33 grant applications and distributed funds to 29 projects and programs. Community-based projects and programs have received over \$1.3 million since the program's inception in 2003. On average, participating REA members contributed \$6.50 in 2025. Proof that small change adds up. Best of all, 95% of all funds collected are distributed as grants.

The deadline to apply for the next round of funding is November 6, 2026

Complete the application form at www.RunestoneElectric.com.

The following area organizations shared \$14,100 in grants.

Grant Recipients:

YOUTH

- » Alexandria Area High School Trap League – Supplies (\$300)
- » Boy Scout Troop 491 – camping and projects (\$500)
- » West Central Area School – Intergenerational Connection at WCA (\$500)
- » Grant County Collaborative – Halloween carnival (\$500)
- » Life Connections – Buckle Up Baby! Program (\$1,000)
- » Giving Grayce MN – Youth center support (\$500)
- » Osakis Trap Club – New uniforms (\$250)
- » Vikingland Jr. Shooting Sports – Shooting supplies for kids (\$500)
- » Ashby FFA Chapter – Ashby Greenhouse Project (\$500)

FOOD SHELF

- » Hoffman Kensington Area Food Shelf – AC update (\$750)

Fire Departments & First Responders

- » Brandon Fire Department – Lighting project (\$500)

COMMUNITY

- » Veterans Memorial Honor Guard – Uniforms and supplies (\$1,000)
- » Beyond the Yellow Ribbon of Grant County – Ongoing support for veterans & first responders (\$500)
- » Prairie Community Services, Inc – CPR/First Aid AED instructor certification (\$250)
- » Alexandria Area Branch of AAUW – Project Bookshelf (\$250)
- » West Central MN Communities Action, Inc – Reach Out for Warmth project (\$1,000)
- » Inspiration Peak Post 527 American Legion Millerville – Entryway replacement (\$500)
- » UCAN-United Communities Advocating Nonviolence – Speaker for Domestic Abuse Awareness Luncheon (\$1,000)
- » Elk Lake Area Improvement Association – Safe Roads, Safe Shores project (\$600)

Cemeteries

The following cemeteries received \$300 for maintenance and improvements:

- » Van Loon Cemetery Association
- » St. Petri Church Cemetery
- » Hudson Cemetery
- » Ness Cemetery Association

(Continued on page 2)



SEPTEMBER 2026

Grant Recipients Continued:

Quilting Groups

The following quilting groups received \$300 for supplies:

- » Zion Lutheran Church Quilters
- » Alexandria Senior Quilters
- » Minnewaska Lutheran Church WMT
- » Kongsvinger Lutheran Church
- » Ever Blessed Quilters

Calling all non-profit organizations!

Area organizations are encouraged to apply for Operation Round Up grants. The deadline for the next round of funding is November 6, 2026. Application forms can be completed online at www.RunestoneElectric.com.

Operation Round Up® Group Photo



Some of the organizations receiving REA Operation Round Up grants in September include: Front row l to r - Pete Reishus, UCAN - United Communities Advocating Nonviolence; Cindy Solvie, Prairie Community Services, Inc.; Samantha Warncke, West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc.; Ali Tvrdik, Giving Grayce MN; and Amber Schmitz and Faith Hokanson, Ashby FFA. Back row l to r - Rich Moen, REA Operation Round Up Trust Board Member; Darrel Holverson, St. Petri Lutheran Church Cemetery; Michelle Walker, Vikingland Jr. Shooting Sports; Jeff Parkin, Alexandria Area High School Trap League; Steve Cook, Inspiration Peak Post 527 American Legion; Ken Voigt, Veterans Memorial Honor Guard; Sue Kulbeik, Beyond the Yellow Ribbon of Grant County; and Bonita Oestreich and Eleora Mathiowetz, Ashby FFA.

PAGE 2