

BOONE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

POWER LINE



Happy Thanksgiving!
November 2021



Boone Electric Community Trust Month

Help make a difference!

November is Boone Electric Community Trust month at the co-op. The Trust provides funding to nonprofits, public entities (schools, fire/law enforcements, libraries, etc.) and benevolent groups. You, as a member of the cooperative, can assist the Trust in making a difference in all of the communities we serve.

It's as simple as rounding up your utility bill to the next highest dollar through Operation Round Up. For example, your utility bill is \$87.41, you would round up to pay \$88, with the extra 59 cents going to the Trust. Imagine the good that would happen if all members rounded up over the course of their membership!

One organization that is able to help realize its dream through the Trust is Do Something Right Now. They opened their food pantry, located at 313 Hogan Drive in Columbia, in January 2021. Volunteers were immediately put to work packing food for 150 families. The home also acts as a resource to connect residents with needed assistance.

"Opening a food pantry that would serve those in need was a dream of our organization from the beginning," Executive Director Sue Riley states. "The Trust helped us realize that dream when they supported our application for funding. We are in the process of rehabilitating a house on Hogan Drive in northeast Colum-

bia that had sat vacant for a long time. Between removing the water-damaged sheetrock, flooring and making sure we could fix the areas where leaks were occurring, we just had a hard time finding the funding for everything. It was crucial that the old windows be replaced to avoid more interior water damage. We submitted an application to the Trust for the replacement of windows and were delighted to receive full funding."

"The members of our Trust board do not take their duties lightly," Trust Chairperson Craig Stevenson states. "Each member comes from a diverse background and perspective, which enriches our decision-making. Our decisions are always well-thought through as to what brings value and is beneficial to our communities while maintaining a financial balance for the continuity of the Trust."

The vision of Do Something Right Now is to create a computer room and a tutoring center.

"Not everyone has access to a computer and internet or knows where to find resources to help them," says Riley. "We want to help bridge that gap, but in order to do that we need to get our house turned into a functional space. We have been very blessed with the partners we have found, many who have donated materials and construction knowledge. We know we will make a difference."

Other organizations that have received recent Trust grants include Welcome Home, Harrisburg Lions Club and United Community Builders.

The Board of Trustees appointed by the Cooperative's Board of Directors



Do Something Right Now's Hogan Drive food pantry.

manage the Trust. This volunteer board consists of members and nonmembers from the cooperative's service area. The board meets every other month to research and review funding applications and to determine how funds should be allocated. Current trustees are Craig Stevenson, Kim Stichnote, Cathryn Taggart, Sharon McClure, Maxine Glenn, John Truesdell, Linda Reed Brown, William "Bill" Watkins, and Jennifer Baskett.

You can find out more about the Trust and Operation Round Up at the locations below or by calling 573-449-4181. One-time donations to the Trust are also welcome.



Do Something Right Now Executive Director Sue Riley (left).

Boone Electric Community Trust



BooneElectric.coop (under Community tab)



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