

CONTACT: Whitney Bryant Public Relations Specialist 806.775.7829

DATE: September 16, 2024

South Plains Electric Cooperative Opens Operation Round Up Community Grant Application

LUBBOCK, TX (September 16, 2024) – South Plains Electric Cooperative's Operation Round Up opened their Community Grant application for the fifth year. The Community Grant is available for local non-profit organizations that serve members in the Cooperative's service territory. Each grant is up to \$1,500 and the application period is from September 16-September 27. Applicants can apply online at SPEC.coop/operationroundup.

Operation Round Up was established in 1993 to help communities and individuals needing a hand up, not a hand out. The program's tagline, "neighbors helping neighbors," is at the heart of why South Plains Electric Cooperative exists. Operation Round Up receives contributions from participating cooperative members whose monthly utility bills are rounded up to the next dollar. The average contribution is \$6 per year, but it makes a big impact on the lives of our members and in our local communities. Operation Round Up has dispersed over 2 million dollars since its inception and monies go to local high school students for scholarships, local teachers for mini-grants, house fire victims, volunteer fire departments, various non-profits and individuals.

The Operation Round Up Board wanted to help our community and our members even more after the pandemic hit. They came up with the idea to open the Operation Round Up Community Grant application. Since the program was so successful, they decided to continue to offer the Operation Round Up Community Grant.

About South Plains Electric Cooperative

South Plains Electric Cooperative, a local Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative, serves more than 70,000 connected meters in all or part of 18 counties. When you see Touchstone Energy, you know you are being served with accountability, integrity, innovation and commitment to community. For more information about South Plains Electric Cooperative, visit the Co-op's website at <u>SPEC.coop</u> and follow them on social media.