

October 4, 2021

NEWS

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La Plata Electric Round Up Foundation Board approves \$36,965 in grants to local non-profits in Q3 2021

DURANGO, Colo. – The La Plata Electric Round Up Foundation Board approved a total of \$36,965 in grant funding to local non-profit organizations at its meetings in July, August, and September of 2021. Durango Food Bank, Bear Smart Durango, League of Women Voters, LASSO Horse Rescue, Pagosa Play Place, Silver Spruce Academy, Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA), Four Corners Rainbow Youth Center, 4CORE, and Seeds of Learning received funding as part of these three grant cycles. The board has approved 31 grants so far in 2021 totaling \$96,334. In 2020, the board approved 44 grants totaling \$115,785.

Round Up Foundation grants are made possible, in part, by the generosity of La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) members who choose to round up their electric bill each month to the next highest dollar. \$60,000 in unclaimed <u>LPEA Capital Credits</u> are also provided annually to the La Plata Electric Round Up Foundation Board, on behalf of the LPEA Board of Directors, to support these grants.

Grants are available to registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations in La Plata and Archuleta counties, and usually range from \$500 to \$5,000. Application forms are available at <u>lpea.coop/grant-programs</u>.

LPEA members wishing to round up their bill can sign up on <u>SmartHub</u> or at <u>lpea.coop/round-foundation</u>. The average LPEA member contribution is just \$6.00 annually. Members can also elect to automatically donate more each month if they would like to contribute additional money to local non-profits.

Established in 1997, the La Plata Electric Round Up Foundation is a non-profit, communitysupport fund for organizations and individuals in LPEA's service territory. A local, elevenmember volunteer board reviews applications and allocates funds. 100% of the tax-deductible donations stay in the communities LPEA serves.

LPEA is a member-owned, not-for-profit electric distribution cooperative serving La Plata and Archuleta, with segments of Hinsdale, Mineral and San Juan counties. LPEA is the fifth largest cooperative of 22 in Colorado and aims to provide safe, reliable electricity at the lowest reasonable cost to its approximately 34,500 members. For additional information, contact LPEA at (970) 247-5786 or visit lpea.coop.