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NEWS

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LPEA Announces 2024 Round Up Foundation Grants

Durango, Colo. – (**January 2, 2025**) – La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) Round Up Foundation proudly announces its 2024 year-end impact, reflecting the generosity and community spirit of its members. Through this program, LPEA members round up their electric bills to the nearest dollar, collectively funding grants that uplift local non-profits and provide vital community support.

In 2024, the Round Up Foundation distributed \$177,677 to 50 nonprofit organizations across La Plata and Archuleta counties, advancing initiatives that improve the quality of life for residents. Through the participation of 16,715 LPEA members, 33 nonprofits received \$128,969 in Round Up grants, supporting a diverse range of community programs.

Additionally, Round Up funds contributed \$41,009 to the Community Emergency Assistance Coalition and \$10,221 to the Pagosa Outreach Connection, providing vital emergency assistance to individuals and families in need. Beyond member contributions, unclaimed capital credits were used to fund educational grants, with more than \$62,708 allocated this year to support local education initiatives.

Registered nonprofit organizations in La Plata and Archuleta counties can apply for up to \$5,000 per grant request through the Round Up Foundation. These grants have funded initiatives in education, environmental sustainability, healthcare, and social services, helping to address a wide range of community needs. Application forms and additional details are available at

lpea.coop/round.

LPEA members who wish to participate in the Round Up program can sign up via SmartHub or at lea.coop/round-foundation. On average, members contribute approximately \$7.00 annually — small change that makes a big difference. Members also have the option to donate additional amounts monthly to further support local nonprofits automatically.

"Through the collective power of our members' monthly contributions, we've been able to make a substantial impact," said Carrie Hugus, Community Outreach Specialist with LPEA. "The Round Up Foundation embodies the strength and generosity of our community, and we're grateful to all who participate."

For more information on how to contribute or apply for a grant, visit <u>lpea.coop/round-foundation</u>.

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About LPEA Round Up Foundation

The Round Up Foundation is a philanthropic initiative of La Plata Electric Association, supporting local non-profits and programs that enhance community well-being. Since its inception, the program has empowered countless organizations to create lasting, positive change in La Plata and Archuleta counties.

About LPEA

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 36,500 members. For additional information, contact LPEA at (970) 247-5786 or visit lpea.coop.