



Thank you for your interest in the Boone Electric Community Trust.
This document will provide all the information you need
to get started on your application for funding.

The Boone Electric Community Trust
*Founded to Benefit People and Communities
in the Boone Electric Cooperative Service Area*

Commitment to Community

Boone Electric Cooperative has always been committed to the communities it serves. From the very beginning, Boone Electric was founded with the intention of improving the quality of life of its members.

In December 1997, that commitment was further enhanced through the creation of the Boone Electric Community Trust.

This unique community service program has been designed to enhance the lives of all people in the Boone Electric Cooperative service area.

Trust Administration

A board of trustees appointed by the cooperative's board of directors runs the Trust. This volunteer board consists of members and nonmembers from the cooperative's service area. The board meets bi-monthly to research and review funding applications and to determine how funds should be allocated.

Current trustees are:

District 1 – Arthur Heath, Gina Mills

District 2 – Vonna Foley, Walter Meyer Jr

District 3 – Ellen Kesterson, Paula Boehm

At Large – Jim Spieler, Wayne Behymer, Max Miller

Funding the Trust

Boone Electric's Board of Directors has developed two programs to fund the Trust: Operation Round Up and the donation of unclaimed capital credits.

The Trust also may be funded in other ways. One-time donations, estate planning and other traditional forms of contribution will all be accepted. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent that the law allows.

Operation Round Up

The Trust is being funded in part through a program called Operation Round Up. Boone Electric members may choose to round up their electric bill to the next highest dollar amount each month. The difference in charge goes directly to the Trust. Boone Electric will donate all administrative services and incurred costs, so every penny donated will be used directly for community assistance.

By participating in Operation Round Up each month, the average cooperative member will donate about \$6 per year. This may not seem like a large amount, but if all of our members participate, thousands of dollars could be raised every year. All participating cooperative members will receive a summary of their donations to Operation Round Up each year for tax purposes.

Unclaimed Capital Credits

At Boone Electric Cooperative's 1997 Annual Meeting, members voted to fund the Trust through unclaimed capital credits.

Each December, Boone Electric mails capital credit checks to its members. Each year, however, some are returned as "undeliverable" because members have moved and left no forwarding address. The cooperative attempts to locate these members for two years. If, after this time, they have failed to establish contact, the capital credits are labeled "unclaimed." The bylaw change in 1997 now allows the unclaimed funds to be given to the Boone Electric Community Trust.

The cooperative does have a policy, however, that allows previous members to claim the capital credits owed to them even after the capital credits have been deemed "unclaimed." The previous member must simply contact the cooperative.

Each year, unclaimed capital credits total \$50,000- \$100,000. This amount, along with donations from Operation Round Up, is available to fund a number of valuable community assistance projects.

Guidelines for the Disbursement of Funds

- The Trust makes grants to organizations to assist them in carrying out their charitable, public service and philanthropic activities for the benefit of persons living within the Boone Electric Cooperative service area. Individuals are assisted through the Voluntary Action Center.
- The Trust does not fund capital projects, day-to-day operating activities, endowments or religious organizations.

- Funds are to be expended for the purposes for which they are granted.
- Grants are made as one-time grants; however, this does not preclude the Trust from considering applications from an organization in a subsequent year for the same project or activity should the need be ongoing.
- The Trust will give preference to requests for grants that are matched with funds or with in-kind services by the applicant.
- The Trust has set no minimum or maximum amounts for grant requests. The Trust anticipates having approximately \$100,000 to disburse each year.
- The Trust will expect organizations receiving a grant to report within the year on the use of funds and to provide a final report when the funds are completely expended.

While the Trust will consider requests for any charitable, public service or philanthropic purpose, it invites applicants to submit requests for the following current priorities:

Community Development

Projects or activities that improve social services, recreational activities, personal or group development.

Education

Projects or activities that provide educational opportunities.

Economic Development

Projects or activities that create new jobs or expand economic opportunities.

Environment

Projects or activities that improve the environment.

Health

Projects or activities that improve health services or health practices.

Research

Projects or activities that plan or evaluate the effective delivery of services from nonprofit organizations.

Rural Development

Projects or activities that improve the quality of life for residents in rural areas.

Youth Development

Projects or activities that contribute to the well being, growth and development of youth.

In addition, each year the Trust may award up to twelve \$2,000 scholarships. Scholarships are awarded to one graduating student from each of the public high schools in the BEC service area. Four at-large scholarships are also available to students from private schools, home schools and nontraditional backgrounds. The application deadline is March 15.

To Apply for Funding

- Submit one typed application form to the Trust Coordinator at Boone Electric Cooperative.
- Organizations may submit applications at any time during the year. The following is a list of the months the board will meet and the application deadlines:

Meetings Held 2nd Wed. of Month

January
March
May
July
September
November

Applications due by 5:00 p.m

December 1st
February 1st
April 1st
June 1st
August 1st
October 1st

The Trust may request additional information from an applicant as it considers the application. Organizations that apply for funding will be notified in writing when a decision about the application is reached.

Send correspondence to:
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