

POWERLINES

Over \$30,000 to local schools on behalf of Operation Round Up



Discovering the density of matter, creating drone videos and taking a virtual journey to the moon are only a few of the projects funded by 2024 Bright Ideas Grants from Coweta-Fayette Electric Membership Corporation (CFEMC) on behalf of Operation Round Up (ORU).

After receiving 55 applications, a panel of retired educators reviewed and awarded \$30,320 in grants to 26 projects in Coweta County, Fayette County, Heard County and South Fulton County.

CFEMC employees traveled to each winner’s classroom to present them with their award, check and appreciation for the hard work and dedication they provide for the future of our area students.

“Our teachers are a vital part of what makes our communities thrive,” said CFEMC President and CEO Chris Stephens. “We are proud to partner with them to fund these innovative projects that will impact today’s students for an even brighter tomorrow.”

Designed to assist teachers with innovative projects that may not be covered by traditional school funding, the grant program is open to Pre-K through 12th grade teachers in the CFEMC service area for all subject areas.

The Bright Ideas Grant program has awarded over \$545,584 directly funded through the ORU Trust. The Trust administers the ORU program in which the cooperative’s members volunteer to “round up” their power bills to the nearest whole dollar. The change goes directly to the Coweta-Fayette Trust, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to making life better for our community.

2024 Bright Ideas Grant Recipients

Coweta County: Amber Adams, Newnan High School; Kathy Brown, Arnco-Sargent Elementary; Kara Bryant, Arbor Springs Elementary; Paula Corley, White Oak Elementary; Brandi Dabbs, East Coweta High School; Charles Davenport, Lee Middle School; Carrie Debilzan, Newnan High School; Julimar DeLeon-Viera, Evans Middle School; Abbey Delfosse, Welch Elementary; Cristy Fogle, Arbor Springs Elementary; Symony Griffiths, Arbor Springs Elementary; Melissa King, Welch Elementary; Charlotte McDonald, Carolyn Barron Montessori; Jillian McDonnell, Arnall Middle School; Allison Marie Morris, White Oak Elementary; Natalie Springfield, Northside Elementary; Amanda Stripling, Evans Middle School; Mary Thompson, Welch Elementary; LaWanda Watson, Evans Middle School; and Madison Williams, White Oak Elementary.

Fayette County: Ansleigh Baxter, Kedron Elementary; Sheila Chaves, Whitewater Middle; Lynn Murphy, Liberty Tech Charter; and Vanessa Van Den Heuvel, Kedron Elementary.

Heard County: Mallory Treadwell, Heard County Middle.

Fulton County: Tunisia Frye, Landmark Christian School.



SCAN HERE TO WATCH A VIDEO OF THE AWARDS!

President's message

As we approach the close of 2024 and the Christmas season, I want to reflect on the past year and share our plans for the future. At Coweta-Fayette EMC, our commitment to providing reliable and affordable energy remains unwavering, and your support has been instrumental in our journey.

Maintaining Affordable Energy

We have worked diligently to keep your energy costs low in a year marked by economic challenges. Our rates continue to be among the most competitive in the region, thanks to strategic planning and effective management. For instance, members using 1,000 kWh or more each month pay over \$0.04 per kWh less than Georgia Power customers. This achievement is a testament to your Board's financial stewardship and our long-term power agreements.

Enhancing Reliability

Reliability is at the heart of our mission. Our dedicated team works tirelessly to ensure that your homes and businesses remain powered, even as we have faced severe weather and other challenges. The approval of our new 3-year work plan means many of our service areas will see upgraded lines and the integration of more devices that allow us to segment lines, offering the ability to feed electricity from different locations during outages and potentially reduce downtime.

Community Engagement

Our commitment to the community is reflected in every aspect of our operations. This year, your Operation Round Up (ORU) program awarded a total of \$204,745 to local charities, including Coweta FORCE, Fayette Senior Services,

Inc., and Newnan-Coweta Habitat for Humanity among others. We supported local law enforcement with advanced search and rescue drone technology grants. Additionally, we sponsored two outstanding students on the Washington Youth Tour, awarded over \$30,000 to deserving teachers as part of the Bright Ideas grant program, and awarded \$60,000 in college scholarships to 30 deserving students.



Chris Stephens
CEO

Looking Ahead

As we move into 2025, we will continue to be a voice of reason and advocate for policy that promotes reliable and affordable energy. We are also committed to maintaining the infrastructure required to ensure that we can continue to serve you efficiently and effectively, even as our area continues to grow. We also look forward to enhancing our community engagement through events such as the Operation Round Up Golf Tournament and the Clay Shoot, as well as our Community Listening Events. These events are important to us because they allow for open communication and a chance for us to hear and understand your needs and expectations.

Season's Greetings

As we celebrate the holiday season, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you. Your trust and support are the foundations of our success. May your Christmas and holiday season be filled with joy, warmth, and light.

We look forward to serving you in the coming year and building a brighter, more reliable future for our community.



Make a difference in 2025, one penny at a time



Did you know that just by rounding up your CFEMC power bill each month, you can make a direct impact on countless students, charitable organizations and more right here in your own community?

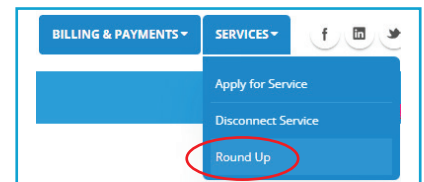
How does it work? For example, if your bill is \$65.50, it would be rounded up to \$66. A bill of \$59.99 would only be rounded up to \$60. All these pennies are collected from members and placed in an interest-bearing account and managed by an independent board of directors, the Coweta-Fayette Trust Board.

On average, each member donates just \$6 a year, and 100 percent of these funds are donated to charitable organizations through an application process. CFEMC does not keep any of the money collected.



Just a **\$6** average annual cost per participating member
Equals **\$6.1** million distributed to our communities & schools over 30 years,

Helping out is as easy as scanning the code below or a few clicks on your online account!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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