



THE PEOPLE FUND

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



EXECUTIVE Report

A few cents can make a big difference



Phil Caskey
President/CEO

We are richly blessed with two worlds here in North Central Ohio. Our rural region may not be as densely developed or populated as a metropolitan area, but business, intellectual, cultural, and educational opportunities are all around us. The other part of our daily equation is that we live in an area where natural beauty abounds. We don't have to go far to find fresh air, and for many of us, walking in the woods or biking down a country lane are everyday activities.

According to the American Community Survey, an ongoing effort of the US Census Bureau, rural areas cover 97 percent of the nation's land, but contain just 19.3 percent of the nation's population. The data also indicate that those who live in rural areas are more likely to own their homes, live in the states of their births, and have served in the US military.

What that survey can't quantify, though, is kindness. Those who live in our neck of the woods know that great big hearts are common here. We are uncomfortable if our neighbors are hungry, unable to afford extraordinary maintenance on their homes, lonely, ill, or have some other type of distress.

Notable evidence of those huge hearts is Consolidated Cooperative's charitable initiative, The People Fund, borne of the mission of the Cooperative – making life better for our members and communities. The People Fund was established in 2002 by the Cooperative's generous members who participate in Operation



RoundUp® by "rounding up" their gas or electric bills to the nearest dollar. Those extra cents go directly into a special fund administered by the Consolidated Electric Foundation Inc.'s board of directors.

The People Fund helps those who are unable to obtain assistance through other channels, and benefits individuals, non-profit agencies, and community activities. Over the past 17 years, The People Fund has awarded more than a million dollars to our neighbors in need, almost \$100,000 of that in 2018.

The average amount contributed by participating members in 2018 was \$6. While that may not seem like much, Operation RoundUp® is yet another example of the power of human connections; we can accomplish great things when we work together. That idea is what brought us together as a cooperative in the 1930's, and it is what continues to make us successful in enabling the growth and prosperity of our members and communities.

Thank you to all our members who support The People Fund through donations to Operation RoundUp® – and in other ways. Thanks, also, to the foundation's board of directors for their commitment to manifesting these donations into meaningful grants that contribute to the quality of life in our communities. Everyone involved in The People Fund and Operation RoundUp® is making a difference in the human condition and helping to transform our rural region from great – to even greater.

Respectfully,
Phil Caskey, President/CEO

Year In Review Highlights

Beneficiaries of the charitable program, The People Fund, are our neighbors who need various types of assistance. Unable to obtain help through other avenues, The People Fund is often their last resort. The fund's board of directors has approved grants for families devastated by natural disaster or illness, for community outreach programs, and for local organizations such as fire departments and schools.

A complete list of grants awarded in 2018 is below. The People Fund and your contributions are making life better for everyone in the communities Consolidated Cooperative serves. Last year, in 2018, almost \$100,000 was granted to our neighbors in need.

First Quarter

- People Fund Emergency Resource Council – Needy families, \$852
- Individual in need – Furnace \$3,848
- Individual in need – Heat pump, \$1,719
- Individual in need – Bed, \$905
- Individual in need – Furnace repair, \$440
- Individual in need – Septic system, \$1,301
- Recreation Unlimited – Camperships for 10 campers, \$8,200
- Individual in need – Handicap ramp, \$1,498

Second Quarter

- Individual in need – Roof, \$4,640
- Individual in need – Roof, \$8,035
- Individual in need – Home repair, \$2,958
- Morrow County Health Department – AED units and training, \$13,368
- Individual in need – Water tap, \$5,410
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- Sunbury United Methodist Church – Sumlunch program, \$3,500
- Flying Horse Farms – Four camperships, \$10,000
- Delaware County Hunger Alliance – Memorial donation, \$1,000
- Individual in need – Ceiling lift, \$3,743
- Individual in need – Furnace, \$5,717
- Individual in need – Handicap ramp, \$1,498

Third Quarter

- National Alliance of Illness of Morrow & Delaware Counties – computer, laptops, and software, \$2,500
- Lutheran Social Services – Thankful Holiday Program, \$2,500

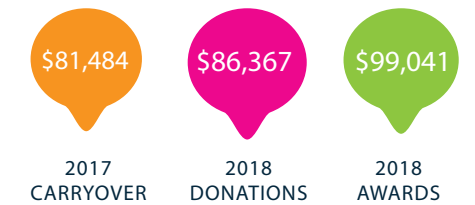
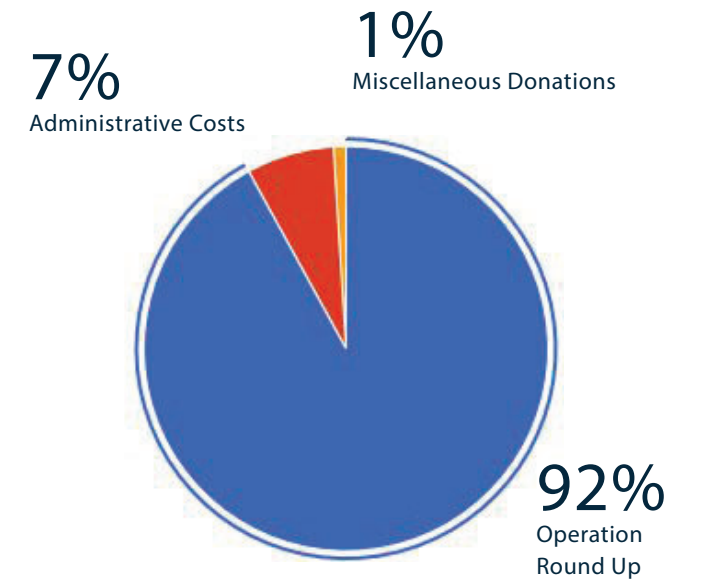
Fourth Quarter

- Individual in need – Mobile home, \$10,000

90%

The percentage of members that participate in Operation Round up is 90%. Our principle of Commitment to Community flourishes through our membership.

TOTAL DONATIONS



The Foundation Board



Cathy Francis
Chair



Lisa Stumpf
Secretary/Treasurer



Doug Loudenslager
Director



Mike Schuster
Director



Michael Ziegelhofer
Director