

## TRUST FUNDING GUIDELINES

### I. Policy and Purpose

The Kootenai Electric Trust, Inc. will be funded by Operation Round Up® contributions from members of the Kootenai Electric Cooperative and from other sources of funds available to the Trust. Operation Round Up contributions will be used in Kootenai County, Bonner County, Benewah County, and Spokane County for charitable, educational, environmental and emergency energy assistance.

### II. Major Funding Categories

Although there are many worthy charitable, educational projects and community needs in our local area, the limited availability of funds requires us to establish funding categories as follows:

#### A. Community Service

1. Programs, projects and organizations that are important components of a community's overall quality of life, with emphasis on public safety, health care and self-sufficiency.
2. Individual or family unit with emphasis on health care and self-sufficiency. Individuals or family unit funding is only available to Kootenai Electric members with an active electric account. All individual or family applications must be accompanied by a referral letter from a social service agency, such as the Department of Health and Welfare, Kootenai Health, etc.
3. Programs and projects that enhance the cultural environment of communities in our local area.

#### B. Education and Youth

1. Scholarships: provided annually as funds are available to Kootenai Electric members or their children who are either in their last year of high school or currently enrolled in college and/or an accredited training institution.
2. School programs and projects.
3. Programs that are designed to combat critical social problems affecting our children and youth, with an emphasis on children and teens at risk.

4. Programs and projects that promote wellness and encourage youth participation in athletics and physical fitness activities.

C. Environment

1. Programs and projects that promote community recycling and natural resource preservation.
2. Community-based environmental quality education programs.

D. Emergency Energy Assistance

Community Action Programs, Project Share and other local entities that collect and distribute money for low-income emergency energy assistance.

III. Geographic Focus

Contributions will be in the geographic area of Kootenai County, Bonner County, Benewah County and Spokane County.

IV. Funding Restrictions

A. Contributions to organizations will only be made to nonprofits that have been granted tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).

B. Contributions will not be made for:

1. Lobbying and political organizations
2. Labor organizations
3. National fund drives
4. Advertising
5. Individuals mortgage and rent payments
6. Electric bills except as emergency energy assistance outlined in paragraph II, D.

C. Grant recipients may receive funding no more than once every 12 months.

V. Evaluation Factors

A. The following factors will be considered in the evaluation of all funding requests:

1. The documented critical needs of an individual or family unit,
2. Potential benefit to area residents and the entire community,

3. Level of community support for the program or project or the organization requesting the funds,
4. Fiscal and administrative capability of the organization to deliver a quality service or program; and
5. Results that are predictable and can be evaluated.

B. It shall be the responsibility of Trust Board to evaluate funding requests and to allocate contributions to accomplish the purposes and intent of these guidelines.

Adopted: 9/30/2002  
Revised: 11/12/2002  
2/20/2007  
2/18/2010  
11/15/2021  
8/23/23