

TRUST FUNDING POLICY AND GUIDELINES

Policy and Purpose

1. The Crow Wing Power Community Trust will be funded by Operation Round-Up voluntary contributions from members of Crow Wing Cooperative Power & Light Company and from other sources of funds available to the Trust.
2. Our primary focus is to issue grants to non-profit organizations dedicated to fostering civic engagement and collaboration, leading to long-term solutions for community concerns. We prioritize funding for projects/programs that demonstrate creative approaches to addressing community matters while promoting volunteerism and delivering impactful results. The board of trustees will allocate grants within these guiding principles to ensure impactful and sustainable community development.

Major Funding Categories

Initiatives we will support include, but are not limited to:

- Health & Wellbeing
- Youth & Senior Education
- Crisis Emergency Relief

Health & Wellbeing

- Support programs, projects, and organizations prioritizing mental health, physical safety, and the promotion of healthy relationships.
- Fund initiatives that promote self-reliance and self-sufficiency, ensuring the fulfillment of basic human needs and contributing to sustainable community development.
- Encourage efforts that enrich the social fabric and vitality of the region, nurturing a resilient and engaged community landscape.

Youth & Senior Education

- Support programs and projects that enhance educational achievement, provide job training, and expose youth to future career or workforce opportunities, addressing critical social issues impacting at-risk youth and fostering their development.
- Fund initiatives that promote wellness, mental health, and physical fitness activities for youth, encouraging healthy lifestyles and well-being.

- Invest in programs that enhance seniors' participation in community activities, offer continued learning opportunities, and promote social connections, enriching their quality of life and reducing isolation.

Crisis Emergency Relief

- Support programs providing immediate disaster relief and essential services, including food, clothing, shelter, medical care, clean-up, and reconstruction following accidents, severe storms, or other emergencies.
- Fund local fuel and heating assistance programs designed to offer emergency energy support to low-income households during critical times.
- Prioritize initiatives that deliver rapid and effective responses to crises, ensuring the safety and well-being of affected communities.

Other Grants:

- On rare occasions the trustees will consider funding exceptional projects or organizations outside specified categories if they demonstrate a clear community need or opportunity, align with our primary focus on fostering civic engagement and collaboration, and present solutions for significant community impact.

Geographic Focus:

Contributions will be focused geographically within the area served by the Cooperative and adjacent areas. Organizations which provide programs and benefits to people who live in this geographic area are eligible for funding consideration, even though the organization is located elsewhere.

Funding Restrictions:

- Contributions will generally be made only to non-profit organizations which have been granted tax-exempt status, such as 501c3.
- Contributions will generally not be made for:
 - Lobbying, political, or for-profit business, and religious organizations for the express purpose of proselytizing;
 - Fundraising events that raise money for organizations that are currently funded by Round-Up®;
 - Capital fund campaigns to construct new buildings or facilities;
 - County, city or township government, except for public safety programs.