

enchantment

The Voice of New Mexico's
Rural Electric Cooperatives

OTERO COUNTY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

MARCH 2024



Women in Energy

Women help power electric cooperatives
around New Mexico **Page 14**

ADOBE STOCK GRAPHIC BY VECTORMINE

Otero County Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Chief Executive Officer

Mario Romero

Cloudcroft Office

404 Burro Ave. • P.O. Box 227
Cloudcroft, NM 88317
575-682-2521

Carrizozo Office

507 12th St. • P.O. Box 669
Carrizozo, NM 88301
575-648-2352

Alto Office

1135 Hwy. 48 • P.O. Box 1135
Alto, NM 88312
575-336-4550

Emergency and Outages

800-548-4660

Fax: 575-682-3109

Website: www.ocec-inc.com

Office Hours

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (M-F)

Board of Trustees

President

Charles Mulcock, SE District

Vice President

Denny Burnett, SE District

Secretary

Marty Mills, Central District

Treasurer

Scott Shafer, NW District

Kenny Blazer, SW District

Bill Bird, NE District

Cheri Hass, Central District

David Powers, NE District

Tim Rabon, SW District

Preston Stone, NW District

Board Meeting

The board of trustees meets at 9 a.m. the third Friday of the month at the cooperative.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

End of Winter Moratorium Protection

Protection from winter shut-off begins November 15, 2023. To avoid potential disconnection of service please contact the Human Services Department at 1-800-283-4465, or the appropriate tribal or pueblo entity for eligibility information for Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Your service will not be disconnected from November 15, 2023, through March 15, 2024, if you meet the qualifications of LIHEAP and have no past due amounts or you remain current on any settlement or installment agreement for amounts due as of November 15, 2023.

Members of New Mexico tribes or pueblos who need help with translation or with other matters may contact the commission's consumer relations division at 1-888-427-5772, who will contact the appropriate tribal or pueblo official for assistance.



IT'S NOT TOO LATE

There's still time to apply for a scholarship to help fund your college education!

The Otero County Electric Cooperative Education Foundation began awarding scholarships to area students in 1989. Since its inception, more than \$1.4 million has been awarded to students attending university, college or technical school.

The scholarship is \$1,000 per semester for

the first two semesters. It increases to \$1,500 per semester for an additional six semesters if the required GPA is maintained and the student continues enrollment.

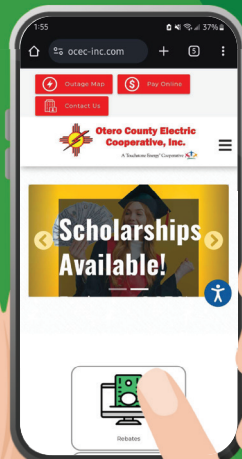
To be eligible, the student must be an active member receiving electric service from OCEC. Applications are available at OCEC offices, at www.ocec-inc.com or from your school counselor.

The deadline to apply is March 15.

LET'S STAY CONNECTED.

Update your contact info to stay in the know about service updates and important alerts.

If your contact info has changed, update it by calling
1-800-548-4660.



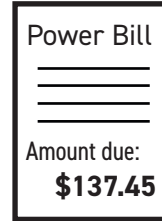
Operation Round Up Helps Community Each Year



What is it?

Operation Round Up is a voluntary program that allows members to round up their monthly bills to help area nonprofit organizations, school groups, fire departments, senior citizen groups and individuals.

How does it work?



\$138



55 cents to your neighbors in need.

The average yearly contribution is \$6 per member.



\$868,000

of Operation Round Up funds have been distributed to support groups, organizations and individuals in Otero and Lincoln counties since the program's inception in 2012.

More than \$90,000

was raised and distributed through Otero County Electric's Operation Round Up Program in 2023.



Otero County Electric Cooperative has an outstanding member participation rate at 82%.



82%

Thank you to all members who participate in this fantastic community-minded program.

- Cloudcroft FFA
- Cloudcroft High - Systems Go Program
- Cloudcroft High School TSA
- NRECA Cooperative Family Fund
- Eddy County Fair
- FIRST Robotics NM
- Flickinger Center
- Lincoln County Fair
- Mescalero Apache Schools STEM
- Otero Arts Inc.
- Otero County Fair
- Otero STEM
- Pinon Extension Club
- Hope Harbor
- ROAR Volleyball
- Timberon Neighborhood Watch
- Timberon Water & Sanitation
- Tularosa FFA
- Tularosa Middle and High School Robotics

Some organizations that received funding from this charitable giving program in 2023 are:

- Alamogordo FFA
- All Season Adaptive Sports
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Otero County
- Capitan FFA
- Capitan Senior Center
- Carrizozo Football
- Carrizozo Pickleball Association
- Carrizozo Women's Club
- Cloudcroft Girls Basketball
- Cloudcroft Lady Bears Volleyball
- Cloudcroft Middle School TSA
- Cloudcroft Schools PTO
- Cloudcroft United Methodist Church
- Cloudcroft High School Basketball
- Cloudcroft High School Management Prostart Team
- Cloudcroft Chamber of Commerce

How can I help?

New members are given the opportunity to opt-in to the program when they sign up for services. Please consider "rounding up" your bill to help your community.

How can I get help?

If you, an organization or a member you know needs financial assistance, please complete an application at:

www.ocec-inc.com/operation-round