

enchantment

The Voice of New Mexico's
Rural Electric Cooperatives

**OTERO COUNTY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

FEBRUARY 2025



Representing You at the State's Legislative Session

This year, the state government will work on bills and initiatives that could impact New Mexico's rural electric cooperatives **Page 6**

John "Pat" Woods is a member of the New Mexico Senate representing District 7.

Otero County Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Chief Executive Officer
Mario Romero

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Cloudcroft, NM 88317
575-682-2521

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

Alto Office
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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

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Scott Shafer, NW District

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Board Meeting

The board of trustees meets at 8:30 a.m. the third Friday of the month at the cooperative.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



APPLY NOW FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Don't miss out on the chance to fund your future with the help of your local electric cooperative

Since 1989, the Otero County Electric Cooperative Education Foundation has awarded more than \$1.97 million to area students attending university, college or technical school.

The scholarship is \$1,500 per semester for the first two semesters. If the required GPA is maintained and the student continues enrollment, it increases to \$2,000 per semester for six additional semesters.

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

The deadline to apply is March 15.

Another opportunity for OCEC members is through Basin Electric Power Cooperative. The

cooperative awards scholarships to upcoming high school graduates who attend a post-secondary school during fall 2025. Students must be dependents of active OCEC members.

This scholarship program is designed to recognize and encourage the achievements of children of member-cooperative consumers. BEPC administers the scholarship in conjunction with OCEC.

Scholarship applicants must be United States citizens who plan to enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited, two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school.

Applications are available at OCEC offices, from your school guidance counselor or at www.ocec-inc.com.

Applications are due to OCEC by Feb. 10. ■

APPLY AT WWW.OCEC-INC.COM.

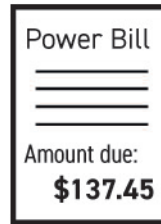
Operation Round Up Helps Community Each Year



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

The average yearly contribution is \$6 per member.

→ **55 cents** to your neighbors in need.



\$960,000

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.

\$78,000

was distributed through Otero County Electric's Operation Round Up Program in 2024.



Otero County Electric Cooperative has an outstanding member participation rate at 81%.



81%

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

- Cooperative Family Fund
- Flickinger Center
- Friends of Historic Lincoln
- Kid's Inc. Child Advocacy Center
- Lincoln County Community ERT
- Lincoln County Jr. Rodeo Club
- Lone Tree Inc.
- Nourishing Nation
- NRECA International
- Otero Arts Inc.
- Otero County Fair
- Pinon Extension
- Sacramento Mountains Senior Services
- St. Francis de Paula Church
- Susan Harmon
- Timberon Development Council
- Timberon Neighborhood Watch
- Tularosa FFA
- Tularosa Little League

Some organizations that received funding from the charitable giving program in 2024 are:

- 100% Otero
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Otero
- Capitan Cheerleading
- Capitan FFA
- Carrizozo Drumline
- Carrizozo Heritage Museum
- Carrizozo High School Class of 2025
- Carrizozo Music
- Carrizozo Women's Club
- Carrizozo Youth Sports
- Cloudcroft High School Volleyball
- Cloudcroft Football
- Cloudcroft Girls Basketball
- Cloudcroft Technology Student Association
- Cloudcroft Reader
- Cloudcroft Summer Youth Program

How can I help?

New members are given the opportunity to opt-in to the program when they sign up for services, but any member can join at any time. 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, complete an application at:

www.occc-inc.com/operation-round