**NEWS RELEASE**

**Noble REMC awards more than $13,000 to local projects**

ALBION – It can be overwhelming to try and decide where to donate any remaining dollars at the end of each month, with so many deserving local organizations and projects.

The purpose of Noble REMC’s Operation Round Up Trust Fund is to help its members in their endeavor to help others.

More than 80 percent of Noble REMC members participate in the program, generously allowing their electric bills to be rounded up to the nearest dollar each month. This monthly donation averages about $6 a year.

Those pennies per month are placed in a charitable trust, overseen by its own volunteer board of directors. This money is then awarded to nonprofit, community-based organizations in Noble, DeKalb and adjoining counties and benefits the communities the members and cooperative belong to.

Organizations awarded funding from the January distribution of the Noble REMC Operation Round Up Trust, totaling more than $13,000, include:

* **Central Noble Canstruction**, $2,000, canned goods

• **Noble County Saddle Club, Inc.**, $2,250, clubhouse/reception hall

• **Bear Lake Camp, Inc.**, $1,700, camp bunk beds

• **Liberty Freewill Baptist Food Mission**, $500, food

• **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Indiana**, $1,000, School Buddies program

• **Junior Achievement of Noble County**, $1,500, Economics for Success program

• **West Noble Primary School**, $1,000, Dual Language Immersion Program

• **Youth for Christ of Northern Indiana**, $1,500, East Noble Schools Campus Life programs

•  **The Arc Noble County Foundations**, $2,000, safety exit doors

To be considered for the next cycle of disbursements, local nonprofit organizations are encouraged to fill out and return an application to the Noble REMC office by Monday, April 1.

Applications are available now at the Noble REMC office in Albion or can be downloaded from nobleremc.com, under “Programs.”

###