

# Co-op Chronicle

January/February 2025

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### UDWI REMC AWARDS SCOTLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH FOOD PANTRY WITH A COMMUNITY FUND GRANT IN DECEMBER 2024

The Utilities District of Western Indiana REMC selected Scotland Community Church Food Pantry (SCCFP) as a recipient of a UDWI REMC Community Fund, Inc. grant, allowing the organization to increase food quantities handed out to the community each month.

The Scotland Community Church Mission Committee — made up of Ronnie Summerville, Perry Stone, Connie Berg, and Jerry and Anneita Vandeventer — work to maintain the food pantry throughout the year, helping coordinate the food distributions that take place on the fourth Wednesday of every month, beginning at 11 a.m. at the Scotland Full Gospel Church Fellowship Hall. Along with the committee members, those at Rebuilt Recovery and Discipleship, along with community volunteers, come each month to help with the distributions.



"Cars start lining up to receive the distributions as early as 10 a.m. so we advise you to get there early," comments Anneita Vandeventer, discussing the organization's food distribution process. She continues to discuss how community members come together on the day of the food drive, saying "There's a sense of community pride as many come together. We want our community to know that anyone and everyone is welcome."

During each food distribution, the SCCFP gives out food until they run out, replenishing its food supply with donations until the next month's distribution. This has been going on for over 15 years when the food pantry was first started with the help of the Catholic Charities project. In their continual support of the food pantry, the Catholic Charities help to provide everyday staples for the organization to hand out to the local community. Supplying additional, nonessential staple food products are reliant on donations.

"With the help of the UDWI REMC Community Fund grant, and similar grants, we can provide staple foods such as canned goods, dry goods, and meat products to those in need," explains Anneita Vandeventer. She goes on, saying, "We truly cannot thank UDWI REMC enough for their generosity in helping us achieve our mission of providing kindness to others, representing the hands and feet of Jesus. We hope that this project is providing strength, hope and growth to those who partake, whether you are helping serve or coming by and receiving the food items."

The UDWI REMC Community Fund allows cooperative members to give back to their communities by rounding up to the nearest whole dollar on their electric bills. Throughout each quarter, the money accumulated in the Fund is used to provide grants to various local organizations, giving right back into members' communities.

In the last quarter of 2024, the UDWI REMC Community Fund awarded \$20,465 to ten organizations, including \$1,000 to the Scotland Community Church Food Pantry. The December 2024 grant recipients include: Bloomfield Downtown Revitalization, Inc., Linton Stockton Band Department, Lyons Community Food Pantry, Metropolitan School District of Shakamak, Night to Shine, Pregnancy Choices, Scotland Community Church Food Pantry, Town of Bloomfield Swimming Pool, Worthington Community Improvement Committee, and Worthington Lions Club.

Applications for the first grant cycle of 2025 are now being accepted. All nonprofit businesses in UDWI REMC's service area are encouraged to apply. Please visit <a href="www.udwiremc.com">www.udwiremc.com</a> to learn more about the program and to start an application.

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS - April 23, 2025 | 6:00 PM



UDWI meter technicians continue with routine meter tests in our entire service territory and will do so over the next few years.

Employees will be driving a white utility van with our logo placard. Be sure to identify these items before approaching any vehicle that may be in your area. Report suspicious behavior to your local law enforcement office. "Like" us on Facebook to stay up to date on current testing locations!

## HHM Employees Donated Toys to Children in Need During the Holidays

Hoosier Heritage Management employees gifted Crane Credit Union over 80 toys for local children this holiday season. Toys for Tots, a nonprofit organization started and run by the Marine Corps, has a mission to collect new toys and distribute them to children in need at Christmas time. By carrying out this mission, Toys for Tots hopes to bring the joy of Christmas to children across the county and send a message of hope to those in need in America. In southern Indiana, the local Toys for Tots chapter is at NSA Crane.

"At HHM, we have a passion for our local community, and the Holiday Season is the perfect time to put that passion to good use, spreading Holiday cheer to children in need," comments Nicole Gose, wife of Robert Gose, Operations Head at Hoosier Heritage Management. Nicole goes on to describe the reason why this cause is so near and dear to the hearts of HHM employees, saying, "One main reason we do this is that every child should have something under the tree on Christmas morning. We as parents more than likely have been there at one time or another. We do this as an act of love from one human to another."

For the past nine years, Nicole and Robert Gose have collected donations from fellow HHM employees, buying gifts to donate to the local Toys for Tots chapter. This fall and winter, HHM employees donated hundreds of dollars to the cause, allowing Nicole Gose to purchase and drop off over 80 toys to Crane Credit Union.

Read the full story at www.udwiremc.com

#### **UDWI REMC Community Fund**

Want to give back to local not-for-profit organizations? Call our office to enroll in the round-up program!





Please join us in congratulating the most recent Community Fund grant recipients!

Bloomfield Downtown Revitalization, Inc.
Linton Stockton Band Department
Lyons Community Food Pantry
Metropolitan School District of Shakamak
Night to Shine
Pregnancy Choices
Scotland Community Church Food Pantry
Town of Bloomfield Swimming Pool
Worthington Community Improvement Committee
Worthington Lions Club

#### Air Evac Member Program

UDWI is teaming up with AirMedCare Network to provide financial protection for emergency air medical transport to all of our members at a discounted rate.

Learn More on the UDWI Website Page!



#### **Report Outages**



UDWI REMC encourages members to report outages by clicking on "report an outage" on our homepage at www.udwiremc.com or by calling the UDWI Office at 812-384-4446.

In the case of an outage, we also encourage our members to utilize the outage map to get the latest information regarding the status of outages and repairs in your area.