



**Sawnee Electric
Membership Foundation
2021 ANNUAL REPORT**





Message from the
CHAIRMAN

Greetings.

On behalf of the Foundation Board of Directors, I hope you enjoy reviewing the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation's 2021 Annual Report. You will find it contains useful information about the operations of the Foundation, a summary of the 2021 contributions received, as well as the grants that were distributed to various organizations.

I am proud to announce that during 2021, Sawnee EMC members generously donated \$89,847 to the Foundation through Sawnee EMC's Operation Round Up program. The Foundation also received a donation from Sawnee EMC from abandoned patronage capital. This special donation was allocated within the Foundation in the following ways: \$100,000 was designated specifically for the Youth Scholarship Program and \$100,000 was earmarked for our "Bright Ideas" classroom grants and General Grants.

Additionally, the Foundation was able to distribute \$288,656.18 back into our local communities during 2021. Giftings throughout the year were made to local charitable organizations as well as to local classrooms through our Bright Ideas program, which allows local teachers the opportunity to implement innovative projects within their classrooms. Many of these classroom projects would have gone unfunded without this very successful program. In May of 2021, the Foundation awarded twenty (20) scholarships, totaling \$100,000, to high school seniors who reside in Sawnee EMC's service area. The Foundation celebrates the ability to help these individuals further their education.

Please continue reading about the good work that the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation was able to accomplish in 2021, and remember, small change can change lives.

Thank you for your continued support of the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation.

Sincerely,

Deborah Pelfrey
Chairman
Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation



Sawnee Electric Membership
FOUNDATION

Supporting the Communities We Serve

FOUNDATION Overview

The mission of the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation is to assist in strengthening the communities served by Sawnee EMC. The Foundation accomplishes its mission by providing financial assistance to charitable organizations through the Foundation's Operation Round Up program and other Board approved endeavors. This program affords Sawnee EMC members the opportunity to "round-up" their monthly energy bills to the next highest dollar. These donated funds, along with monies from other sources, allow donations to be made to students, schools and various 501(c) (3) and 501(c) (4) organizations located generally in Sawnee EMC's service area, which includes parts of Cherokee, Dawson, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall and Lumpkin counties.



GENERAL GRANTS

Through “Operation Round Up”, local qualifying charitable organizations apply for general grants, which are distributed on a quarterly basis. The Foundation Board evaluates these requests based on several factors, including the organization’s need, their ability to access local funding from alternative sources, other individual or corporate financial support, availability of funds, as well as other factors.

BRIGHT IDEAS

“Bright Ideas” funds are distributed to local teachers for their classrooms. Teachers can apply for annual grants up to \$1,500 per classroom. Grants are awarded to teachers instructing students in grades K-12 within Sawnee EMC’s service territory and are used by educators to implement innovative projects to further their students’ education.



YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Each year, the Foundation accepts applications from local high school seniors for its “Youth Scholarship Program”. In 2021, the Foundation awarded \$100,000 to twenty (20) local high school seniors. Each student received a \$5,000 scholarship to continue their secondary education. To date, the Foundation has awarded over \$950,000 to local students pursuing their secondary education.





BRIAN JOHNSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established by the Foundation in May 2015, this scholarship was developed to honor the legacy of one of Sawnee EMC's employees, Mr. Brian Johnson, who lost his life in the line of duty. The scholarship sponsors students annually, with a grant up to \$1,500 each, to help fund tuition for recipients enrolling in the Technical College System of Georgia's Electrical Lineworker Program, of which Mr. Johnson was a proud graduate.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

The Foundation also assists Sawnee EMC members who have lost their home due to a house fire or natural disaster. In 2021, the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation assisted 40 members with emergency funds totaling over \$18,000 in their time of need.



FINANCIAL Statement

| ASSETS | 2021 | 2020 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Assets | | |
| Cash | \$419,944 | \$398,196 |
| Contributions Receivable | \$7,548 | \$7,667 |
| Total assets | \$427,492 | \$405,863 |
| Net Assets | | |
| Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions | \$427,492 | \$405,863 |

2021 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To view the full 2021 financial statements, contained in the Foundation’s 2021 financial audit, please visit our Web site at www.sawnee.coop/foundation-round-up.

If you wish to receive a printed copy of the Foundation’s 2021 financial audit, please contact Mrs. Ginny Ellis, Sawnee EMC’s Chief Financial Officer, at 678-455-1578, via email at ginny.ellis@sawnee.coop or via U.S. Mail at Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation, P.O. Box 1174, Cumming, GA 30028.

HOW TO DONATE

The Foundation encourages those that currently are not participating in Operation Round Up, to please consider doing so. The “power of the pennies” provides the Foundation with funds to assist many charitable organizations.

- Sign up online at www.sawnee.coop/round-up-signup. With this sign-up method, Sawnee EMC will automatically “Round-Up” your Sawnee bill each month.
- Contact Sawnee EMC’s Customer Call Center at customerservice@sawnee.coop, call us at 770-887-2363, “chat” online at www.sawnee.coop, or text 678-999-8124.
- “Round Up” at your leisure. You do not have to be enrolled in Operation Round Up to participate. Anytime you “Round Up” your Sawnee EMC electric bill to the next highest dollar, the “extra pennies” will automatically go to the Foundation.





Deborah Pelfrey,
Chairman
District #4



Evonda Mathis,
Vice-Chairman
District #2



Sylvia Lundberg,
Secretary
District #8



Lacelle Doss
District #1



Adrian Flack
District #3



Ruby Coleman
District #5



Henry Zuckerman
District #6



Dennis Anderson
District #7



Mechelle Needham
District #9



Tim Heard
Ex-Officio
Board Member and
Sawnee EMC Director

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation is led by a voluntary Board of Directors. This group of directors brings their own unique experience and guidance to the Foundation.

GENERAL GRANTS

Good Shepherd Clinic of Dawson County, Inc.
KARE for Kids, Inc.
Glory, Hope & Life, Inc.
Families of Children Under Stress, Inc.
Mentor Me - North Georgia, Inc.
C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation
The ALS Association Georgia
Bald Ridge Lodge, Inc.
Northview Techno Titans Robotics Foundation
MUST Ministries, Inc.
Recovery Community Foundation of Forsyth
ACT Together Ministries, Inc.
Safe Boating Lake Lanier, Inc.
Prism of Georgia, Inc.
Dawson County Humane Society
Dawson County Wee Books Program, Inc.
Bethany Place / Merismos Ministries
The Place of Forsyth, Inc.

CASA of Forsyth County, Inc.
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia, Inc.
Forsyth County Family Haven, Inc.
Variety, The Children's Charity of Georgia, Inc.
American Cancer Society, Inc.
Sawnee Association of the Arts, Inc.
Reaping Nature Educational Outreach Foundation, Inc.
Fill Ministries, Inc.
Hall-Dawson CASA, Inc.
Skye Precious Kids, Inc.
Rosa's Gifts, Inc.
Autrey Mill Nature Preserve Association, Inc.
Senior Services North Fulton, Inc.
Sawnee Ballet Theatre, Inc.
Forsyth County Parks Foundation, Inc.
Meals on Wheels
Hightower Baptist Association

BRIGHTS IDEAS

Black's Mill Elementary
Whitlow Elementary
Cumming Elementary
Holly Springs Elementary
Chestatee Elementary
Hendricks Middle School
Dawson County Middle School
Riverwatch Middle School

Dawson County Junior High School
Creekview High School
Denmark High School
North Forsyth High School
East Forsyth High School
West Forsyth High School
North Forsyth Middle School
Forsyth County Schools

Information regarding the Youth Scholarship and Brian Johnson Memorial Scholarship recipients can be located online at www.sawnee.coop/scholarships.



Sawnee Electric Membership
FOUNDATION

Supporting the Communities We Serve

Contact Us:

Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 1174

Cumming, Georgia 30028

www.sawnee.coop/foundation-round-up

770-887-2363

mandy.love@sawnee.coop