



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Sawnee Electric Membership
FOUNDATION

Supporting the Communities We Serve

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

May 26, 2023

Greetings.

On behalf of the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation Board of Directors, I hope you enjoy reviewing the Foundation's 2022 Annual Report. You will find it contains useful information about the operations of the Foundation, a summary of the 2022 contributions received, as well as the grants that were distributed to various organizations.

I am proud to announce that during 2022, Sawnee EMC members generously donated \$84,883.66 to the Foundation through Sawnee EMC's Operation Round Up program. The Foundation also received a donation, in the amount of \$230,137.02 from Sawnee EMC from abandoned patronage capital. Of this amount, \$100,000 has been allocated to for the Youth Scholarship Program and the remaining amount is earmarked for Bright Ideas, General Grants and the School Lunch Program.

Additionally, the Foundation was able to distribute \$206,174.05 back into our local communities during 2022 through giftings 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 2022, the Foundation awarded twenty (20) scholarships, totaling \$100,000, to high school seniors who reside in Sawnee EMC's service area. Gwinnett Technical College Foundation, Lanier Technical College Foundation and the University of North Georgia Foundation each received \$10,000 to be used for student scholarships. The Foundation celebrates the ability to help these individuals further their education. During 2022, the Foundation distributed \$31,841.49 to assist thirty (30) local schools with providing a hot lunch to children in need.

Please continue reading about the good work that the Sawnee EMC Foundation was able to accomplish in 2022, and remember, small change can change lives.

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

Sincerely,

Evonda Mathis

Evonda Mathis
Chairman
Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation



Evonda Mathis
Chairman

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 2022, 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 \$1,052,500 to local students furthering their secondary education at technical or four year college.





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 up to two (2) students annually, with a grant of \$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.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

The Foundation is proud to support its School Lunch Program. This program allows local schools, served by Sawnee EMC, to apply for funds to help provide a hot school lunch to students who need it. In 2022, the Foundation approved funding totaling \$31,841.49 to thirty (30) area schools.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

ASSETS	2022	2021
Assets		
Cash	\$428,806	\$419,944
Contributions Receivable	\$7,033	\$7,548
Total assets	\$435,839	\$427,492
Net Assets		
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$435,839	\$427,492

2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To view the full 2022 financial statements, contained in the Foundation's 2022 financial audit, please visit our Web site at www.sawnee.coop/sawnee-foundation-document-library.

If you wish to receive a printed copy of the Foundation's 2022 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 locally.

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.

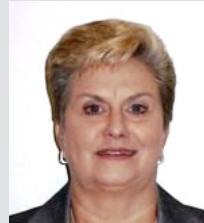
FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Evonda Mathis
(Chairman)
District #2



Sylvia Lundberg
(Vice-Chairman)
District #8



Deborah Pelfrey
(Secretary)
District #4



Lancelle Doss
District #1



Adrian Flack
District #3



Ruby Coleman
District #5



Henry Zuckerman
District #6



Dennis Anderson
District #7



Mechelle Needham
District #9



Donna Yost
(Ex-Officio
Board Member)

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.

GRANT RECIPIENTS

GENERAL GRANTS

Glory, Hope & Life, Inc.
United Way of Forsyth County
North Georgia Crappie Anglers
American Legion , Cumming Post 307
Operation Appreciation, Inc.
Bald Ridge Lodge, Inc.
Forsyth County Certified Literate Community Program, Inc.
MUST Ministries, Inc.
Prevent Blindness Georgia
Safe Boating Lake Lanier, Inc.
Champions Community Foundation, Inc.
C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation
Rachel's Gift
ACT Together Ministries
KARE for Kids, Inc.
Camp Kudzu, Inc.
ALS Association of Georgia, Inc.
Junior Achievement of Georgia, Inc.

The Place of Forsyth, Inc.
Kilough Elementary PTO
Dawson County Wee Books Program
Georgia SPOT, Inc.
There's Hope for the Hungry
Families of Children Under Stress, Inc.
Mentor Me - North Georgia, Inc.
North Fulton Community Charities, Inc.
No Longer Bound, Inc.
Ferst Readers, Inc.
Habitat for Humanity - North Central GA
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia
North Metro Miracle League, Inc.
Forsyth Family Haven, Inc.
Forsyth County Lions Charities, Inc.
Fill Ministries
Senior Services North Fulton, Inc.
Northview Techno Titans Robotics Foundation

BRIGHT IDEAS

Black's Mill Elementary School
Whitlow Elementary School
Dawson County Middle School
Riverview Middle School
Cumming Elementary School
Chestatee Elementary School
East Forsyth High School

Daves Creek Elementary School
Haw Creek Elementary School
New Hope Elementary School
Free Home Elementary School
DeSana Middle School
North Forsyth High School
West Forsyth High School

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



Sawnee Electric Membership
FOUNDATION

Contact Us:

Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 1174

Cumming, Georgia 30028

www.sawnee.coop/foundation-round-up

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