

Community Connections

giving guidelines





Mission

Our mission is to connect with rural communities to help them support young minds, invest in our current and future workforce, create vibrant culture and vital communities, improve health and human services, and protect our natural resources.

Guidelines

1. Donations must be used for the charitable, educational, and volunteer efforts of nonprofit organizations.
2. Otter Tail Power Company will designate donations for general operating support, program/project support, scholarships, and capital campaigns.
3. Donations primarily will be restricted to communities where Otter Tail Power Company operates.
4. Collaborative efforts and initiatives that fit more than one of the company's focus areas will receive greater consideration for funding.

Community Connections focus areas

EDUCATION—*The power of learning*

- Provide scholarships to students pursuing industry-related careers, math, science, and engineering at colleges, universities, and technical colleges in our service area.
- Strengthen K-12 math and science programs.
- Support economic education programs that impact local students and teachers.

HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES—*The energy of life*

- Provide scholarships to increase the supply of trained healthcare workers in our service area.
- Support healthcare foundations to improve infrastructure and accessibility.
- Support social services to reduce barriers to employment and economic self-sufficiency.

ARTS and CULTURE—*Vibrant traditions*

- Support programs that develop community visions and promote community traditions.
- Encourage and nurture diverse cultural arts in our communities.
- Provide operating support to local organizations that represent a broad spectrum of art forms.
- Support capital drives (excluding for endowment funds) for arts and cultural organizations that demonstrate long-term broad impact on the arts community.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT— Vital communities

- Support key community services.
- Strengthen and increase safe, affordable permanent-housing opportunities.
- Expand technology access for financially, physically, and mentally disadvantaged individuals and for people living in remote areas.

ENVIRONMENT—Stewardship

- Provide environmental education.
- Protect natural resources.
- Support conservation programs that guide our local communities toward an environmentally responsible future.

EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT— Getting energized

- Encourage employees to continue volunteering in their communities by serving on nonprofit boards or performing direct-service activities.
- Emphasize giving to local United Way and Children's Miracle Network campaigns.

FOR MORE INFORMATION or an application visit **otpc.com** or contact our Community Connections liason at **bluhning@otpc.com** or **218-739-8206**.

Community Connections supports programs that benefit a large portion of Otter Tail Power Company's service area. The company's Customer Service Centers make local donations decisions.

For potential support, contact your local office at Bemidji, Crookston, Fergus Falls, or Morris in Minnesota; at Devils Lake, Garrison, Jamestown, Oakes, Rugby, or Wahpeton in North Dakota; or at Milbank in South Dakota.

Examples of activities funded at the discretion of Customer Service Centers:

- Sports teams, Little Leagues, or any sports-related activity or competition
- Community centers
- Civic organizations
- Golf tournaments and other fund-raising events
- Capital requests from K-12 schools or daycare centers for new buildings, gymnasiums, playgrounds, etc.
- Drug- and alcohol-related programs
- Mental health programs
- Crime-prevention programs
- Animal shelters
- Post-prom events



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