# Community Contribution Funding

Flint Energies has a small amount of money set aside for community contributions or sponsorships. Funds are limited each year and contributions usually average less than \$200. Our focus is on youth activities, civic, arts, charities, recreation and sports.

Funding requests should be sent to mmclemore@flintemc.com.

#### Non-Monetary Community Sponsorship

If you are working with a local community group, agency or non-profit, Flint may be able to provide other resources. As examples, in the past we have:

- Facilitated strategic planning sessions
- Taught leadership skills
- Taught leaders how to manage a community meeting
- Taught leaders how to interact with the media
- Taught leaders how to handle volunteer groups and conflict
- Assisted with basic research
- Assisted with basic public relations, marketing, logo design and fund raising
- Provided Flint Energies advertising specialties for goody bags
- Hosted community planning, meetings and gatherings
- Hosted visiting dignitaries
- Donated small gifts or gift baskets to be used as door prizes

This list is not exclusive. If you think of a way Flint Energies can help you help others, please let us know.







## How to Apply for community Support

Part of Flint Energies' purpose is to "empower our members to improve the quality of their lives." Since 1937, Flint has supported its communities in a variety of ways. The most common request is for monetary sponsorship to fund events, organizations and projects. There are three ways to seek this type of community support or contributions from Flint Energies. They are Operation RoundUp® funds, Bright Ideas teaching grants and community contribution or sponsorship funds.

### Operation RoundUp Funding

The Flint Energies Foundation is a state chartered, non-profit, 501 (c) 3 corporation that administers funds from Flint Energies' Operation RoundUp program. Short funding applications for organizations and agencies are available at all Flint Energies offices, by calling the Cooperative or online.

Flint Energies started Operation RoundUp and formed the Flint Energies Foundation in January 2001. The program gives Member-Owners a simple and rewarding way to raise money for their local charities and service organizations. Operation RoundUp is a way for Customer-Owners and the Cooperative to combine their efforts to do even more for our communities than we could each do on our own.

Most donations to any single organization or agency do not exceed \$5,000. The Foundation's focus is on organizations that are serving either the health, safety, educational or recreational needs of citizens within Flint's service territory. Completed applications should be sent to spoole@flintemc.com.

The Foundation evaluates and makes decisions on funding requests at its regular meeting normally held the second Thursday of every other month at the Cooperative's headquarters in Reynolds, Georgia.

The Foundation Board of Directors is made up of volunteers from the Cooperative's 17-county service area. Foundation Board members include Chairman Kathy Waites, Fort Valley; Vice Chairman Joanne Hamlin, Lizella; Secretary Jane Hobbs,

Oglethorpe; Treasurer Connie McCutchen, Midland; Sara Mitchem, Kathleen; Charles Harrison, Grovania; Pat Bartness, Warner Robins; George West, Kathleen; Susan Melvin, Warner Robins and Rudy Killingsworth, Buena Vista; Eloise Doty, Butler.

Nearly 70% of Flint's Member-Owners participate in the program. Donations to Operation RoundUp are tax deductible and participating members will receive a summary of contributions with their January or February energy bills.

#### **Bright Ideas Funding**

Bright Ideas is a teaching grant program that is funded by Operation RoundUp and the Flint Foundation Board. This program awards grants of up to \$1,000 to teachers to implement creative or innovative lesson plans in K-12 classrooms through Flint's service area. Since 2006, Flint Energies has awarded nearly \$75,000 in grant money to teachers for 88 projects teaching more than 2,500 students in Middle Georgia.

Applications are accepted around the first of September of each year and grants are awarded mid-to late October. For more information, please visit our website, www.flintenergies.com or contact mmclemore@flintemc.com.



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