



# Commitment to Community



Basin Electric, its subsidiaries, and the membership are committed to the communities where employees and members work and live. Those communities have supported the cooperative throughout the years by providing a strong workforce, essential services, and a sense of pride. Basin Electric gives back to its communities through various activities in the following categories:

## Education and Youth Development

### Lineworker Training Center

Basin Electric has committed to supporting the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives' efforts to construct a new lineworker training center through a three year pledge. For 50 years, NDAREC has partneered with Bismarck (North Dakota) State College to support the lineworker training program and they have outgrown the present facility in terms of space, age, and expired technology.

The new facility will benefit the energy industry within a multi-state region by training both students in the trade and existing lineworkers and will allow electric cooperatives to be prepared to address disasters safely and efficiently. It will also accommodate a greater class size in a year-round setting, and incorporate technology, specialized equipment, and will meet both classroom and field applications.

### Teen room at the Campbell County Boys and Girls Club

The Boys and Girls Club of Campbell County is an organization that provides a safe, sober environment for area youth near Gillette, Wyoming. The "teen" room at the club's facilities is a room utilized by children ages ten and above, and is sponsored by Basin Electric. The club has been able to market the space for middle school aged children within the community to provide a safe space for the group during times when they might be left at home. It also provides the group with a place of their own, away from the younger children. In 2022, the space was also utilized

for their leader institute, a collaborative effort between the Boys and Girls Club and the Y.E.S. House. It is designed to give the older members the necessary skills to become better leaders in their communities, schools, and homes.

### Youth Emergency Services House

Donations from Basin Electric have been used to support the Y.E.S. (Youth Emergency Services) House and their 13 programs in Gillette, Wyoming. The Y.E.S. House is a private, non-profit agency. Services are provided to young people ages five to 24 and their families. Items such as school supplies, project supplies for their Learn and Grow Program, and cleaning supplies for the shelters have been donated or purchased by Basin Electric. During Christmas time, the donations are used to purchase gifts for the children staying at the Y.E.S. House through the holidays to help their stay at the Residential Treatment Centers feel more like home.

### 4-H Support

In 2022, Basin Electric has shown their support to over 20 4-H chapters in Colorado, Minnesota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and North Dakota. 4-H prides itself on providing youth with the opportunity to experience life skills, to practice them, and be able to use them as necessary throughout their lifetime. They foster leadership and volunteerism in youth and adults, which is important to Basin Electric.

## Health and Human Services

### Blood drives

Basin Electric hosts multiple blood drives throughout the year at many of our facilities to make donating blood easier for employees during times of critically low blood supply.

### Food for young and old

Every year, Basin Electric employee volunteers pack thousands of pounds of food into more than 1,000 backpacks as part of a United Way program that delivers food to schools across Bismarck and Mandan, North Dakota, for kids that rely on school meals throughout the week, but don't have enough to eat when the weekend comes. In Campbell County, Wyoming, Dry Food Station helps provide meals to area senior citizens. Once a month, Basin Electric and other area businesses sponsor a free lunch where employees serve senior citizens present at the Campbell County Senior Center. Basin Electric also donates funds to help provide meals to the Silver Sage Senior Center in Campbell County. The meals provided are vital, because for some, the noon meal is the only well-balanced, hot meal they receive. Basin Electric has also donated more than \$30,000

to Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies, which provides food and necessities to people in need and nourishes residents experiencing food insecurity, as well as donated \$20,000 to The Banquet, a community meal program that serves 800 meals per week. The donation went towards the kitchen at the new Dream Center Bismarck, where The Banquet will reside.

## Community Development and Enrichment

### Basin's Backyard Garden

Basin's Backyard Garden is an initiative to donate locally grown garden produce to food pantries.

In 2020, the garden took a break due to COVID-19. In 2021, the garden took a "homegrown" approach that continues today. Employees bring in their extra veggies from home to donate, and a volunteer takes the donations to a local food pantry. Basin Electric's homegrown garden resulted in over 1,100 pounds of fresh food to food pantries and other agencies to give to those who need it. Since the beginning of 2014, volunteers have grown and donated more than 4,500 pounds of produce to local food pantries and other organizations.

The goals for the garden are to foster and strengthen community among employees, provide a source for charitable giving to local food pantries through the Hunger Free North Dakota program, and aid in teaching employees and the public about cooperatives.

### Charitable Giving Program

Donations are dispersed each year to charities in Basin Electric's nine-state service territory. Basin Electric also donates surplus equipment such as fire and rescue equipment, fleet vehicles, and office equipment to organizations in need. For more information, visit [basinelectric.com](http://basinelectric.com).

### Employees in Action

Employees donate their time and talent to their communities and are encouraged to participate in civic, charitable, and community organizations. Basin Electric encourages volunteering, providing 16 hours to employees annually.

The American Heart Association Heart Walk is one of many ways employees have been involved. This walk helps save lives of children born with congenital heart defects and adults struggling with heart disease, as well as teach thousands how to save lives through CPR training, fund the next heart and stroke medical breakthrough, and ensure everyone has access to quality healthcare.

United Way's Day of Caring is another event that Basin Electric is proud to be involved in by making donations and sending volunteers. Day of Caring was established to promote the spirit and value of volunteerism and demonstrate how people working together for the good of the community can accomplish great things. The Angel Tree is a chance for six Basin Electric locations to

donate wanted or needed gifts to children. A total of 176 children received gifts in 2021 from Antelope Valley Station, Transmission System Maintenance, Dry Fork Station, Headquarters, Laramie River Station, and Leland Olds Station. Many of Basin Electric's facilities also provided holiday meals for families in need and collected food for local food pantries. In addition, the Information Systems and Telecommunications team at Headquarters organized a donation tree to collect winter wear. Dry Fork Station also enters decorated trees into The Festival of Trees hosted by Northeast Wyoming (NEW) Community Health Foundation. The tree in 2021 was auctioned and sold for \$3,500. NEW Community Health uses the funds to improve health and wellness in the community through a number of programs.

Candy for a Cause has also made a return, benefiting United Way and other charities across Basin Electric's service territory. For \$1, employees could send a candy bar, along with a message, to a coworker. Together with the \$7,932 raised through Candy for a Cause, employees donated over \$50,000 during the campaign.

### Military Support

For Military Appreciation Month, employees at Headquarters participated in an event called Trooper Toss, a fundraising event for Injured Military Wildlife Project of North Dakota's new project called Bison Meat Project. Employees donated \$680 through the event, and Basin Electric made an additional \$4,000 donation.

## Culture and Arts

### Medora Musical

Since 2006, Basin Electric, along with several regional Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, have sponsored the Medora Musical's Burning Hills Singers in Medora, North Dakota. The musical attracts thousands of visitors to the historic town each summer.

### Four Bears Powwow

Basin Electric made a donation of \$5,000 to the 2022 Four Bears Powwow Celebration. The Four Bears Powwow is a community event that celebrates Native identity and culture and it attracts thousands of spectators.

### Francisco Fort History Museum

The member match program is a way for Basin Electric to match donations with our members to different organizations. A member match with San Isabel Electric was able to donate \$3,000 to Friends of Francisco Fort History Museum in La Veta, Colorado. This museum houses collections and artifacts from the region, including exhibits of Hispanic and Native American cultures, mining, medical, farming/ranching, and fort life.

## Basin Electric Programs

### Scholarships

Since 1991, Basin Electric, in partnership with other member cooperatives, awards 180 scholarships annually. To date, more



than \$5.4 million in scholarships has been given to nearly 5,400 college students.

### Tours

Basin Electric offers tours to the public at any of its facilities. Tours are free, but appointments are required.

### Annual First Responder Donations

Since 2010, Basin Electric has given annual donations to fire departments that serve its facilities. This is done as a small token of appreciation for being ready to respond to a potential emergency, whether at the facilities or the homes of the employees who work there. This donation program has brought more than \$20,000 to local fire departments across the cooperative's service area on an annual basis since it began.

### Casual for a Cause

Through its annual Casual for a Cause campaign, Basin Electric employees pay to wear jeans during designated months of the year, with the money going to various charities. Since the inception of the program, \$190,000 has been raised, benefiting the United Way, Great Plains Food Bank, Aid, Inc., Community Action, Bismarck Emergency Homeless Shelter, Bismarck Cancer Center, and Abused Adult Resource Center. In addition, employees are allowed to pay one dollar on Fridays to dress casually through the Jeans Day program. Funds raised go to a different charity each week.