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WA-18

Operation Warm Heart

During the cold winter months, higher electricity use for home heating can burden families struggling to pay their monthly bills.

Since 1989, caring Klickitat PUD customers have given generously to the Operation Warm Heart fund. Their gifts help other KPUD customers who have problems paying their power bills. Neighbor helping neighbor is a proud Klickitat County tradition.

“Sometimes people who are normally able to pay their utility bills have something happen in their life that hurts them financially,” says Customer Service Supervisor Mike DeMott. “Operation Warm Heart allows our customers to help each other through these tough times.”



What is Operation Warm Heart?

Operation Warm Heart is an emergency energy assistance program funded by gifts from PUD customers.

During the past decade, the program has given more than \$85,000 to help hundreds of families in financial crisis, often because of a health emergency or change in employment. Generally, these families are in danger of having their power disconnected or are unable to pay their deposit.

Who Gets Help?

All of the funds raised by Operation Warm Heart stay in Klickitat County to help local low-income families in crisis. Washington Gorge Action Programs screens applicants to ensure they meet income and other criteria.

How Can I Contribute?

You can be part of Operation Warm Heart with a tax-deductible contribution of any amount. There are three easy ways to give:

- Have a small amount added to your monthly KPUD bill. Most people give just \$1 or \$2 per month.
- Make a contribution of any amount. All gifts are welcome.
- Place your bill on Operation Round Up, which rounds up utility bills to the nearest dollar, and places the difference into the Operation Warm Heart fund to help needy families.

No matter which option you choose, your gift is tax deductible and is a great way to show your care.

If you wish to participate, call KPUD at (800) 548-8357 or (509) 773-5891.

Thank you for supporting this program. KPUD appreciates every donation from big to small, and wishes everyone a warm and happy holiday season. ■