



Cuivre River Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

News Release For Immediate Release

June 23, 2010

For more information contact: Lonnie Tucker, Cuivre River Electric Cooperative, Communications Specialist, 800-392-3709 ext. 230, ltucker@cuivre.com

Cuivre River grant assists Our Lady's Inn program

The Cuivre River Electric Community Trust Board recently awarded Operation Round Up grants totaling \$2,500 to Our Lady's Inn for the purchase and installation of additional security cameras, exterior lighting and a fence for their St. Charles shelter. "We are thankful to the Cuivre River members who contribute to Operation Round Up. The grant will provide a safer environment for the homeless pregnant women we serve at our emergency residential maternity home in St. Charles County," says Our Lady's Inn Executive Director, Gloria Lee.

"Pregnant women have unique needs that general homeless shelters are not equipped to provide. Our on-site services provide our ladies with shelter, medical care, mental health and substance abuse care, vocational and educational guidance, assistance in securing permanent housing and transportation," says St. Charles Program Director, Leona Swank.

Our Lady's Inn was established in St. Louis during 1982 in response to the growing number of homeless pregnant women. A second facility was opened in St. Charles in 2006 to provide shelter and care to individuals in Lincoln, Pike, St. Charles and Warren counties. Our Lady's Inn has provided emergency residential assistance to more than 5,000 high-risk families since 1982.

"Last year we provided intensive support, medical care, advocacy, and education to the families who seek our shelter," says Development Director, Betsy Beauparlant. "Each mother receives support to help her establish gainful employment and her own housing. Our Aftercare program provides each client with long term support to reinforce continued learning skills, healthy behaviors, growth and independent living for two years" adds Beauparlant.

Additional information is available by contacting Our Lady's Inn at (314) 351-4590. Donations are welcome and can be sent to: Our Lady's Inn, P.O. Box 18741, St. Louis, MO. 63118-0741.

Operation Round Up funds are donated by Cuivre River members who round up their electric bill payments to an even dollar, contributing just pennies each month. A seven person volunteer Cuivre River Electric Community Trust Board administers funds to help individuals, families and organizations within the Cuivre River general service area. The goal of Operation Round Up is to help address needs in the areas of health, youth, education, home weatherization, community and emergency services that cannot be met with other resources.

Cuivre River Electric Cooperative is a consumer-owned utility which provides electricity to more than 58,500 homes and businesses in Lincoln, Pike, St. Charles and Warren counties. For more information on Operation Round Up and Cuivre River Electric Cooperative visit www.cuivre.com or call 800-392-3709.

###



(L-R) Our Lady's Inn Development Director Betsy Beauparlant, Executive Director Gloria Lee and St. Charles Program Director Leona Swank exhibit a \$2,500 Operation Round Up grant from the Cuivre River Electric Community Trust. The grant will assist in the purchase and installation of additional security cameras, exterior lighting and a fence for their Our Lady's Inn shelter in St. Charles County. Photo by Lonnie Tucker.