It’s spare change that makes a big difference. Thanks to our participating members for allowing their bills to be rounded-up each month to the nearest dollar. Since the beginning of the program in January of 2002, over $615,000 has been given back to our community. The money has been used by organizations who serve all sectors of our community; youth, seniors, young families, and everyone in-between.

The following organizations received Operation Round Up funds:

**Lakeland Jr./Sr. High School Dance Team**- received $1,950 to help pay for three 6’ x 6’ mirrors. The mirrors are crucial to the development of dancers, giving them the opportunity to critique their own movements.

**Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry**- received $2,000 to pay for the processing of approximately 1,600 pounds of donated livestock and deer, which provides over 6,500 meals through local hunger relief agencies.

**Elijah Haven Crisis Intervention Center**- received $1,700 to help pay for a speaker and printed materials to teach the dangers of teen dating violence with the curriculum “Safe Dates” in health classes. Approximately 142 students across the Prairie Heights, Lakeland and Westview will be reached.

**Junior Achievement serving LaGrange County**- received $3,000 to help provide programming for over 2,000 students in 53 classes in Westview and Lakeland school districts. Students are taught skills that range from differentiating needs vs. wants to financial wellness and money-management strategies.

**LaGrange County 4-H Association**- received $4,000 to help them keep their facilities maintained so they are available for youth activities, meetings, and other community use.

For local nonprofit organizations who are seeking funding for a project, please fill out and return an application to the LaGrange County REMC office by Friday, July 1, to be considered for the next round of Operation Round Up disbursements. Applications can be downloaded from the REMC website, lagrangeremc.com.

*Photo Caption:*

Trained domestic violence advocate, Mary Bultemeier, shares a photo with a group of Westview Jr./Sr. High School students, during her presentation of the “Safe Dates” curriculum on the dangers of teen dating violence.