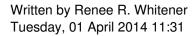
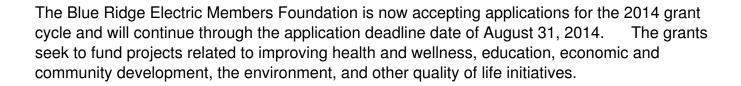
Blue Ridge Electric Members Foundation Accepting Grant Applications





Grants are available for nonprofit organizations serving the Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation and Blue Ridge Energies service area including Caldwell, Watauga, Ashe, Allegany, Avery, Alexander, and Wilkes, counties of North Carolina and Grayson County, Virginia.

The Blue Ridge Electric Members Foundation offers two grant opportunities: community grants that typically range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and Impact grants for larger projects typically worth \$25,000. A total of \$91,000 is projected to be available for this grant cycle. The Foundation Advisory Committee, an all-volunteer group of cooperative members, reviews all applications and will make grant recommendations to the Board of directors at its November board meeting. Grant recipients will be announced in early December.

The Blue Ridge Electric Members Foundation was formed in 2007 to expand the cooperative's mission of helping local communities in its service area. Foundation funds are used in two ways: first, to provide crisis electric bill assistance to members who find themselves in need of emergency financial help; and second, through grants to support longer-term efforts of organizations that help sustain and build communities for improving the local quality of life.



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