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ENERGYUNITED DONATES \$10,000 TO AMERICAN RED CROSS

FOR VICTIMS OF HURRICANE MATTHEW

On Tuesday, November 1, the EnergyUnited Foundation presented a gift of \$10,000 to the American Red Cross to assist with the needs of those who were devastated by Hurricane Matthew. More than three weeks after the hurricane battered the Southeast and many portions of western North Carolina, thousands of people continue to rely on the Red Cross for critical relief.

Nearly 70,000 of EnergyUnited's members choose to 'round up' their electric bills each month as part of the Operation Round-Up program. This money is granted to needy individuals, families and non-profit organizations that complete an application expressing their needs during a challenging time in their life. EnergyUnited Foundation board member, Lisa Riddle shared, "I am humbled to be part of giving back to the community and feel very fortunate that EnergyUnited values helping those in need, especially during times like this where the needs are heightened due to such a catastrophic event. We hope this money is used to help the victims get back on their feet."

Jason Gudzunas of the American Red Cross told us, "Over 5,800 Red Cross volunteers and employees mobilized a massive relief effort in the states of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and in North Carolina, where Matthew impacted thousands of homes. In addition to providing food and relief supplies for people who have lost so much, we're continuing to shelter hundreds of people. American Red Cross caseworkers are meeting with affected residents to connect them with recovery resources to help them return to their daily lives."

Michelle Kaufman is one of thousands of volunteers for the American Red Cross who was deployed into communities where Hurricane Matthew destroyed homes and businesses. She told us about her experience and said that she couldn't believe the devastation—what these people are going through and will continue to go through for weeks, maybe months. She thanked EnergyUnited for the generous donation and told us it will help support the cost of providing food, shelter, blankets, cots, health services and casework support. During the presentation, tears came to Michelle's eyes as she told us how bad the needs were and how she was touched by their graciousness. When asked why she volunteers, she responded, "I'm a 'help-a-holic' and I hope that I can make the lives of others a little better. Now I understand what it really means to pay-it-forward."

EnergyUnited is committed to helping the communities it serves. In addition to the EnergyUnited Foundation making this generous donation, EnergyUnited crews were sent to other electric cooperatives who needed assistance. Foothills Regional Line Manager Eileen Pierce shared, 'I am humbled and honored that I was able to go into a few of the communities that were devastated by Matthew and help restore power. It was the right thing to do and it's wonderful to know that EnergyUnited is supporting other electric cooperatives during times of need."

About EnergyUnited EnergyUnited Electric Membership Corporation (EMC) is the largest electric cooperative in North Carolina serving nearly 105,000 consumer-members through 124,000 metering points. Headquartered in Statesville, EnergyUnited provides electric service in portions of nineteen counties in west central North Carolina which include Alexander, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Catawba, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stokes, Wilkes and Yadkin. EnergyUnited Propane provides products and services to more than 25,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in 74 counties across North and South Carolina. Visit EnergyUnited online at www.energyunited.com to learn more about our electric and propane businesses.

About the American Red Cross The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visitredcross.org or cruzrojaamericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.



Photo: Eileen Pierce, Foothills Regional Line Manager, EnergyUnited; Lisa Riddle, EnergyUnited Foundation board member; Michelle Kaufman, American Red Cross volunteer; Jason Gudzunas, American Red Cross; and Tim Holder, Vice President-Customer Service, Sales & Marketing, EnergyUnited.