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NEW "POWERING FUTURES" SCHOLARSHIP TO AID ASPIRING MUNICIPAL LINEWORKERS

SUN PRAIRIE, Wis. – Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin (MEUW) has created a new "Powering Futures" Scholarship Fund to support students pursuing careers in electrical power distribution. The scholarship fund was established with an initial donation of \$25,000 and will benefit students who live in one of the 81 public power communities across Wisconsin.

Establishing the Fund coincides with the 90th Anniversary of MEUW's founding and reflects the trade association's commitment to sustaining public power in Wisconsin. The scholarship fund is being established as an endowment with Incourage Community Foundation based in Wisconsin Rapids. As an endowed fund, MEUW's Powering Futures Scholarship will live on in perpetuity, awarding its annual earnings to support students pursuing a career as a Field Service Technician, Groundman, Lineman Apprentice, Electric Meter Technician, Substation Electrician Apprentice or Utility Technician.

"When the founders of MEUW gathered for the first time in 1928, they had a vision of 'strength in numbers' and rallied their fellow municipal utilities to join together to help advance public power in Wisconsin," said Tim Heinrich, Executive Director of MEUW. "As the association celebrates 90 years, it is only fitting that we look ahead by creating the 'Powering Futures' scholarship to focus on sustaining the workforce and maintaining strong communities that will keep public power in Wisconsin alive and well for years to come."

Incourage will administer the scholarship. Details are available at *www.meuw.org/scholarships*. Applications are being accepted through Jan. 31, 2019. The recipients of the first Powering Futures scholarships will be recognized at MEUW's 90th Annual Conference to be held in May 2019.

About MEUW

Formed in 1928, MEUW is the state association providing safety services, leadership and management training, advocacy, and member support to the 81 municipal electric utilities across Wisconsin. Collectively, these community-owned utilities distribute more than 11 percent of the electricity in Wisconsin and most have century-old roots serving their communities. Public power utilities operate on a not-for-profit basis overseen by a local governing board composed of local citizens and elected officials. To learn more, visit meuw.org.

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