



# Caring for kids

The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile, with Dr. Christine Peterson, is a mobile dental clinic delivering pediatric dental services directly to underserved children in western North Dakota. Inside, read more about the Care Mobile.

Slope Electric Cooperative Inc.

# OUTLOOK

116 E. 12th St. • New England, ND 58647 | 701-579-4191 • [www.slopeelectric.coop](http://www.slopeelectric.coop)

## In this issue:

- **Apply for Youth Tour**
- **Nominating/Resolutions Committee sought**
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The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile made a stop at the New England Public School last month.

## Caring for kids

### Ronald McDonald Care Mobile brings the dentist to the community

An 8-year-old in need of dental work trepidatiously stepped inside the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile for her first visit to the dentist.

Reassured by the staff, she completed her visit with healthier teeth – and a smile.

In its 10th year of service, the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is a 40-foot state-of-the-art mobile dental clinic with its own dentist, dental hygienist and dental assistant.

“It has been delivering pediatric dental services directly to underserved children in their own neighborhoods since 2012,” said Kathy Keiser, executive director of the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Bismarck, which owns and operates the Care Mobile.

The Care Mobile was initially launched with financial support from Basin Electric Power Cooperative and North Dakota’s Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives, including Slope Electric Cooperative, which has continued its support through the years.

“They’ve been great supporters and great friends of ours

since we started in 2012,” Keiser said.

The Care Mobile’s goal is to treat 1,000 children a year, with Dr. Christine Peterson, who has been with the Care Mobile since it began, at the helm.

“She’s just a magician. She can take care of these little kids that have lots of needs. It’s just remarkable to watch her in action,” Keiser said.

“This is a perfect fit for me,” Peterson said. “I love my job. I really love just helping these kids, giving them an opportunity that hasn’t been afforded them at this time. ... We definitely fill a void.”

The Care Mobile brings dental care directly to the school-based or school-linked community setting, breaking down barriers to care.

The Care Mobile’s target populations are low-income and underserved children living in western North Dakota. To be eligible for care, children must be ages 0-21, not have a regular dentist and not have seen a dentist for treatment in the past two years. Medicaid and insurance are billed, but no



Driver and scheduler **Henry Riegler**, dental assistant **Lana Bergan** and **Dr. Christine Peterson** staff the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile.

child is denied care due to inability to pay.

“We strive to reach children who have no other means to access oral health care. The majority of the children seen are uninsured or on Medicaid and unable to find a dental provider in their area that accepts Medicaid. The Care Mobile complements and does not replace services in the community,” Keiser said.

To reach the children in greatest need, the Care Mobile prioritizes service sites, including schools with greater than 40% of their children on the free/reduced fee school lunch programs, Head Start and Early Head Start programs, American Indian reservation areas, and community health centers without dental clinics.

Services include diagnostic, preventive, restorative and referrals as needed. The program provides dental exams, X-rays, risk assessments, oral health education, cleanings, fluoride treatments, dental sealants, fillings, pulpotomies, simple extractions and referrals for more complex care.

The Care Mobile visits both New England and Mott once a year in Slope Electric Cooperative’s service area.

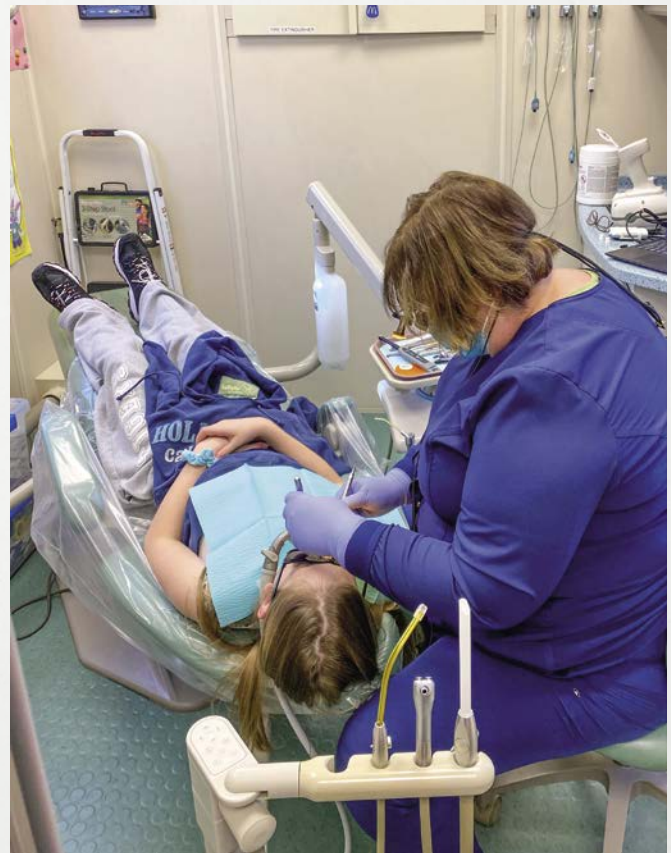
Since the Care Mobile began operations, more than 12,000 children have been served and more than 22,000 appointments provided, for a total value of \$4,781,406.

“We are completely booked for 2021-22 and the demand for services far outweighs our capabilities. Our goal of treating over 1,000 children in this post-pandemic year seems attainable,” Keiser said.

A comparison of Care Mobile yearly data shows the number of appointments and the cost of care per child continues to decrease slightly over the years, indicating that providing some continuity of care for the children can reduce their dental needs and costs, Keiser said.

“There can be less need, because the work has been done and we’ve been proactive in trying to teach these kids to brush their teeth and floss, and we find the needs decline a little bit, which indicated the program is working,” Keiser said. “But there are always so many new little ones coming up.”

“The Care Mobile is definitely making a difference. By bringing the oral health care directly to the child, the program eliminates many of the barriers underserved families face in accessing health care services. And, while it was not our intention at the outset, the Care Mobile has become the dental home for the majority of children that we treat each year. We are their only option,” she shared. ■



Dental hygienist **Judy Ryan** provides care for a patient.

**JUNE 19 TO 24, 2022**



# WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AN ALL-EXPENSE-PAID TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

- To enter the essay-writing contest, you must be a sophomore or junior in high school.
- You and your parents or guardian must be served by Slope Electric Cooperative.
- If you have any questions, please contact Brooke Waltner, Slope Electric, at 701-579-4191 during regular business hours.
- The deadline is Dec. 10, 2021. You can email entries to Brooke Waltner at [bwaltner@slopeelectric.coop](mailto:bwaltner@slopeelectric.coop) or mail a hard copy to: Youth Tour Essay Contest, 116 E. 12th St., PO Box 338, New England, ND 58647-0338.

## TOP 3 REASONS

### TO ENTER THE ESSAY-WRITING CONTEST

1. All-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., compliments of Slope Electric Cooperative
2. A whole week to visit unforgettable historic monuments, museums and the U.S. Capitol
3. A learning experience you'll never forget

## ESSAY QUESTION:

*If you were asked to help promote your cooperative's annual membership meeting, what ideas do you have for increasing attendance among young member-owners and students? Please provide specific examples for unique communications strategies, scheduling and special activities for member-owners and their families.*



CHECK OUT THE ESSAY CONTEST GUIDELINES AT  
<https://ndyouthtour.com/>

## Interested in serving?

The Slope Electric Cooperative board of directors will appoint the Nominating/Resolutions Committee at the Jan. 27, 2022, board meeting. Each director shall appoint one member from his/her district, and the board at large will select up to two additional committee members from the district(s) with director elections. The committee member names are then published in Slope Electric's local pages of *North Dakota Living*.

The Nominating/Resolutions Committee meets twice. The first meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 16, 2022, to explain the functions of the committee, including policies that will aid you in selecting qualified members to be nominated. The cooperative will pay you a per diem, along with reimbursing you for mileage for both meetings. The second meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. March 24, 2022. The purpose of this meeting will be to make the actual nominations for the election to be held at the cooperative's annual meeting, and to approve resolutions to be printed in the annual meeting report.

If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the Nominating/Resolutions Committee, please notify the office at 701-579-4191 or email [comments@slopeelectric.coop](mailto:comments@slopeelectric.coop) prior to Jan. 27, 2022. To serve on the Nominating/Resolutions Committee, you must be an active member of Slope Electric with your name listed on the membership.

Directors' terms from Adams County and Bowman County will expire. Those positions are currently held by Anthony Larson, Jerome Caron and Henry "Chip" Fischer.

Members can also be nominated to serve as director by filing a petition with 15 members' signatures. Filing must be done 30 days prior to the annual meeting and posted at the office. Members may also be nominated to serve as director from the floor at the annual meeting. To serve on the Slope Electric board, you must be a bona fide resident receiving service from Slope Electric at your primary residence, and you must be a named member of the cooperative. ■



## Share the spirit!

During the Christmas season of giving, Slope Electric Cooperative encourages members to give to local food pantries and to other giving programs in your local communities.

*Share the Christmas spirit!*

## Scholarships offered by co-op!



**Slope Electric Cooperative is offering \$6,000 in college scholarships to area students whose parent(s) or guardian(s) are members of the co-op.**

**Slope Electric will award two \$500 luck-of-the-draw scholarships** to be drawn at the annual meeting. All area high school seniors who are dependents of a Slope Electric member are eligible for this scholarship. Students must attend Slope's annual meeting, accompanied by at least one parent or guardian, and are encouraged to RSVP prior to the meeting. No application is required.

**Slope Electric will also award six \$500 scholarships** through area high schools to seniors who are dependents of a Slope Electric member. One graduating senior will be selected from each school in Slope's service area: Bowman, Hettinger, Lemmon, Mott-Regent, New England and Scranton. Students should contact the school counselor for requirements.

**Slope continues to award a \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by Basin Electric Power Cooperative.**

Scholarships are awarded to a high school senior or college freshman already enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time graduate or undergraduate program, and who are dependents of a Slope Electric member. The student must attend an accredited, two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school. Completed application is required.

**In addition, Slope Electric is awarding a \$500 scholarship sponsored by 3C Construction.**

Eligible applicants are high school seniors who are enrolled or planning to enroll in a certified vocational or technical school pursuing a career as a lineworker and who are dependents of a Slope Electric member. A completed application is required.

**Plus, Slope Electric is awarding a \$500 scholarship sponsored by West Dakota Utility Services.**

Eligible applicants are high school seniors who are enrolled or planning to enroll in a certified vocational or technical school pursuing a career as a mechanic, and who are dependents of a Slope Electric member. A completed application is required.

Students can get the applications from our website, [www.slopeelectric.coop](http://www.slopeelectric.coop), or call the office in New England. Applications can be filled out online and emailed to [comments@slopeelectric.coop](mailto:comments@slopeelectric.coop), or printed and mailed to: Slope Electric Cooperative, Attn: Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 338, New England, ND 58647.

**Please return completed applications to Slope Electric Cooperative by Jan. 31, 2022.**



# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & COLLEGE FRESHMEN

## Rules & Eligibility:

- Applicant must be:
  - A dependent child of a member-system consumer or employee.
  - A student who is enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time graduate or under graduate course of study at an accredited two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school in the fall of 2022.
- Complete required criteria and the scholarship application.
- Essay is not to exceed one standard 8½ x 11 typewritten, double-spaced page at 12 point font on the topic: **Describe how a cooperative can be economic engines for their local communities.**

## Submit your entry in hard copy or electronic format to Slope Electric.

- Applications available at [www.slopeelectric.coop](http://www.slopeelectric.coop)
- Email entries to [comments@slopeelectric.coop](mailto:comments@slopeelectric.coop)
- Mail hard-copy entries to:
  - Slope Electric Cooperative
  - Attn: Scholarship Committee
  - PO Box 338
  - New England, ND 58647-0338
- Entries must be received by **January 31, 2022.**

If you have any questions, contact us at 701-579-4191 or 1-800-559-4191.

SPONSORED BY:



## Report from THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Regular meeting held at the Enchanted Castle in Regent.

- Approved the agenda with additions
- Approved minutes of the Sept. 30 board meeting
- Approved five capital credit estate retirements
- Approved special equipment capitalization
- Reviewed RUS Form 219 inventory of work orders
- Heard co-general managers/CEOs updates
- Reviewed West Dakota Utility Services/3C Construction update
- Reviewed Basin Electric Power Cooperative update
- Approved a 2021 capital credit general retirement
- Reviewed and accepted Form 990
- Reviewed and considered Board Policy 02-14 Director Election Procedure.
- Reviewed and considered transmission and substation maintenance work plan
- Approved a donation of \$500 to all school districts within the service territory for suicide prevention resources and suicide prevention support
- Approved a donation of \$500 to Farm Rescue
- Appointed delegate Angela Carlson and alternate delegate Dale Hande for the Basin Electric Power Cooperative annual meeting
- Heard the CFO report
- Reviewed the written operations report
- Reviewed the legal counsel report
- Held voucher review
- Held an executive session



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Phone: 701-579-4191  
or 800-559-4191  
Fax: 701-579-4193

Email us:  
comments@slopeelectric.coop

UNDERGROUND LINE LOCATES  
800-795-0555 or 811

### SLOPE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Steven Wegner, President  
Anthony Larson, Vice President  
Angela Carlson, Secretary  
Henry "Chip" Fischer, Treasurer  
Lauren Klewin, Director  
Jerome Caron, Director  
Dale Hande, Director  
Charlotte Meier, Director

### MANAGEMENT

Donald A. Franklund  
CO-GM/CEO

Travis Kupper  
CO-GM/CEO

[www.slopeelectric.coop](http://www.slopeelectric.coop)



Become a fan of Slope Electric Cooperative to learn timely co-op news!

*Slope Electric Cooperative Inc.  
is an equal opportunity provider.*



**Our entire organization wishes our member-owners a very merry Christmas, and a safe and happy New Year!**

**In observance of the holidays in December and January, Slope Electric Cooperative will be closed:**

**Closing at noon Thursday, Dec. 23, and closed Friday, Dec. 24 for Christmas**

**Closing at noon Thursday, Dec. 30, and closed Friday, Dec. 31**

*Line crews will be available in the case of an emergency or power outage.*