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For Immediate Release

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Six Area High School Seniors Earn Electric Cooperative Scholarships

(Arrington, Va.) Six area high school seniors will each receive scholarships awarded by the Educational Scholarship Foundation of the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives (VMDAEC).

Rebecca Brookman, a senior at Louisa High School and the daughter of Reuben and Tracy Brookman of Louisa, has earned a \$1,000 K.M. Beasley Memorial Scholarship. She has been accepted into the University of Virginia, where she plans to study psychology.

Jessica Yoder of Dillwyn, Shay Louvase Townsend of Palmyra, Kiara Samuels of Cartersville, Hope Spoonhower of Gordonsville and Katherine Topf of Louisa have each earned \$1,000 Worth M. Hudson Scholarships:

- Jessica, the daughter of Westly and Donielle Yoder, was homeschooled and will be studying elementary education at Liberty University.
- Shay, the daughter of Wayne and Kathy Townsend, will be graduating from Fluvanna High School and plans to major in accounting.
- Kiara, the daughter of Angela Samuels, is graduating from Cumberland High School and has been accepted into the University of Virginia.
- Hope, the daughter of Amy Spoonhower, is a senior at Goochland High School and plans to study communications at James Madison University.
- Katherine, the daughter of John Topf, is a senior at Louisa High School and plans to study biology at James Madison University.

Students were awarded these scholarships based on a competitive screening process and were eligible for consideration because their parents are consumer-members of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative. Applicants must be entering their first semester of college, technical or trade school in the autumn of 2015.

This year, the VMDAEC Educational Scholarship Foundation received 319 applications from

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students in areas served by electric cooperatives in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. The Foundation is awarding 45 Worth M. Hudson Scholarships, one K.M. Beasley Scholarship and one additional endowed scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. Recipients were chosen based on financial need (40 percent), academic achievement (40 percent) and a personal statement (20 percent).

The Foundation is funded through tax-deductible donations from individuals and VMDAEC cooperatives, as well as proceeds from benefit fundraiser events. Worth M. Hudson Scholarships are named in honor of the first chair of the VMDAEC Educational Scholarship Foundation and former chair of the board of Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative in Chase City, Va. The K.M. Beasley Scholarship is named in honor of the former chairman of both VMDAEC and the board of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative.

“Donations from several VMDAEC member cooperatives were matched by CoBank’s ‘Sharing Success’ Program,” said Roberta Harlowe, chair of VMDAEC’s Educational Services Committee who serves on the board of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative. CoBank is a national cooperative bank that provides loans and other financial services to rural power, water and communications providers in all 50 states.

Since its inception in 2001, the Foundation has awarded 517 electric cooperative scholarships totaling \$416,500. The number of scholarships awarded each year is based upon funds available and these grants can be used to pay for tuition, fees and books.

About CVEC: Headquartered in Lovington, Central Virginia Electric Cooperative is a member-owned electric-distribution utility serving more than 35,000 meters in 14 counties across central Virginia. For more information, visit www.mycvec.com.

About VMDAEC: Founded in 1944, VMDAEC is the trade association for Central Virginia Electric Cooperative and 14 other electric co-ops in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. It is based in Glen Allen, Va. and provides safety and employee training, governmental relations and other services. For more information, visit the Community Resources section of www.vmdaec.com.

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