



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Five Area Students Earn Electric Co-op Scholarships

Arrington, VA - The Education Scholarship Foundation of the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives (VMDAEC) awarded four Central Virginia high school seniors a \$1,000 Worth M. Hudson Scholarship, named for the first chairman of the Foundation. The 2023 recipients are:

- **Trevor Brown** of Louisa, a graduate of Goochland High School is the son of Barry Brown.
- **Artela Aljiji** of Troy, a graduate of Fluvanna County High School is the daughter of Bukuriye and Berhan Aljiji.
- **Erika Schmack** of Scottsville, a graduate of Fluvanna County High School is the daughter of Richard Schmack.
- **Katie Conroy** of Appomattox, a graduate of Appomattox County High School is the daughter of Kristin Conroy.

The Roberta I. Harlowe Scholarship, named for the past chair of the scholarship fund and a current member of the CVEC board of directors, in the amount of \$2,000 was awarded to:

- **Candace Fitzgerald** of Arrington, a graduate of Nelson County High School is the daughter of Emily Hobgood.

These five high school seniors were eligible for consideration because their parents are consumer-members of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative. "The cost of college and post-

graduation training programs are steadily rising and CVEC recognizes that seniors in our rural communities can benefit from scholarships to help offset those costs,” says Gary Wood, President and CEO of CVEC. “We are proud to help these five deserving high school seniors to continue their education, whether at a college or university or in learning a trade.”

Recipients were chosen based on a competitive screening process that considers financial need (40 percent), academic achievement (40 percent) and community involvement (20 percent). Applicants must be a senior graduating from either high school or home school in 2023.

They must also provide evidence of their acceptance into a post-high school educational institution or program. These grants can be used to pay for tuition, fees, and books.

“These scholarships reflect the strong commitment of electric cooperatives to advancing educational opportunities among our youth,” said Russell G. “Rusty” Brown, chair of the Education Scholarship Foundation Board and chair of the board of directors of the VMD Association. “We commend these students on their academic success, knowing they represent a future generation of leaders in their communities.”

Since 2001, the Foundation has provided approximately 998 scholarships totaling more than \$900,000 to aspiring college students as well as to the next generation of electric lineworkers.

The Foundation is supported through tax-deductible donations and bequests from individuals, proceeds from fundraising events and CoBank’s Sharing Success Program. One hundred percent of donations go to students for scholarships. For information on donating to the Foundation, visit vmdaec.com/scholarship.

Central Virginia Electric Cooperative is a member-owned, not-for-profit, electric utility serving over 38,000 homes, farms and businesses in the rural portions of 14 Virginia counties. CVEC is proud to be a Four-Star Cooperative for Service Excellence certified by the Touchstone Energy Service Excellence Program. CVEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer. For more information, visit www.mycvec.com.

Headquartered in Glen Allen, Va., the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives provides safety and training, communications and legislative services to 15 electric cooperatives serving the three-state Mid-Atlantic region. For more information on VMDAEC and the scholarship program, visit www.vmdaec.com or www.co-opliving.com.