

# NEWS RELEASE

## For Immediate Release



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**Date: July 17, 2007**

**Subject: Touchstone Energy Golf Event Raises Dollars for Kids' Health Care**

Charity funds raised by golfers reached a record \$34,620 Monday, July 16, during the eighth annual Touchstone Energy Midwest Golf Invitational, pushing the total raised over the history of the tournament over the \$200,000 mark.

Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative (NIPCO), headquartered in Le Mars, Iowa, and its member cooperatives, along with staff from St. Luke's Health Foundation, coordinated the event at the Dakota Dunes Country Club, attended by 88 golfers representing approximately 61 businesses from nine states.

The funds raised will be donated to the kids' healthcare charity, St. Luke's Children's Miracle Network. Through this event, the rural electric cooperatives – all affiliated with Touchstone Energy – partnered with 27 local, regional and national businesses to show their commitment to community by raising money for a regional charity. St. Luke's Children's Miracle Network has received a total of \$195,470 since the event began. The total raised for charities, including Children's Miracle Network, over the event's eight-year history is \$206,970.

NIPCO is a wholesale electric generation and transmission cooperative owned by six rural electric cooperatives and a full-service municipal electric cooperative serving six western Iowa towns. Those cooperatives are Harrison County REC, Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative, Nishnabotna Valley REC, North West REC, Western Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative Association, Western Iowa Power Cooperative and Woodbury County REC.

Touchstone Energy is a national alliance of local, consumer-owned electric cooperatives providing high standards of service to customers large and small. There are 641 Touchstone Energy cooperatives in 46 states are delivering energy and energy solutions to more than 22 million customers every day. Touchstone Energy cooperatives serve their members with integrity, accountability, innovation and a long-standing commitment to communities.

Children's Miracle Network is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving and improving the lives of children by raising funds for 170 affiliate hospitals serving children throughout the United States. Since it began in 1989, St. Luke's Children's Miracle Network has raised more than \$4.5 million for children's healthcare in Siouxland. All gifts to St. Luke's Children's Miracle Network stay locally and are used to purchase new equipment and supplies and support programs and services designed specifically for children and their families.

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