

# SMU CONNECT

SPENCER MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

NOVEMBER 2022



**Amanda Gloyd**

Marketing & Community Relations Manager

Happy Fall!

With the holiday season ahead, we are excited to partner with the Spencer Chamber on their new Gift Cards to help keep more dollars local. The new gift cards can be spent many places throughout Spencer including our office. They can be used in our card readers to pay for utilities so they make a great gift.



We know many of you enjoy staying up-to-date with us at SMU through this newsletter each month. If you misplace your copy, they are available on our website at [www.smunet.net](http://www.smunet.net) so you can always stay informed!

## Lifeline and Toll Blocking

Spencer Municipal Utilities (SMU) provides basic and enhanced telecommunications services within its service area.

Local residence and business phone service include:

- Voice grade access to the public telephone network
- Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge
- Access to 911 emergency services
- Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers

Spencer Municipal Communications Utilities participates in a government benefit program (Lifeline) to make residential telephone or qualifying broadband service per household\* more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Monthly discounts up to \$9.25 are available to qualifying customers.

To be eligible for Lifeline you must be enrolled in one or more of the following assistance programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (Food Stamps)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit Programs
- Income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty guidelines

Customers may apply for discounts on-line at [nv.fcc.gov/lifeline](http://nv.fcc.gov/lifeline) or by contacting Spencer Municipal Utilities at 712-580-5800. Lifeline service is not transferable. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain Lifeline service can be fined, imprisoned or barred from the program.

*\* A household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses.*

The basic services described above are offered in SMU's service area. If you have any questions regarding communications services, please call SMU's office at (712) 580-5800.

# Project ~~Share~~

**Project Share** is a plan created by your municipal utility to assist needy households in paying their wintertime energy bills.

You can help by adding a regular contribution to your monthly utility and/or communication payment, or by making a direct donation to **Project Share**. These funds will then be distributed to neighbors in need for wintertime energy costs.

Those qualifying for help will be carefully identified by an area social service agency. A local committee will oversee **Project Share** to guarantee all contributions will be handled equitably and efficiently.

So please, add to your utility or communication payment each month **Project Share**. It's a simple way to share some warmth with those who need it. Just fill out the form below and return it to Spencer Municipal Utilities.



I would like to help a neighbor in need with a tax-deductible contribution to **Project Share**!

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility acct # \_\_\_\_\_

Communication acct # \_\_\_\_\_

I will contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month to Project Share. I understand this amount will be billed through my account (number(s) provided above).

I have enclosed a \$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation to Project Share.

I would like the amount I am billed each month rounded up to the next whole dollar and contributed to Project Share through my account (number(s) provided above).

  
Spencer Municipal Utilities  
520 2nd Avenue East, Suite 1  
Spencer, IA 51301  
p: 712.580.5800  
[www.smunet.net](http://www.smunet.net)

## Project Share

With winter ahead, it is a great time to talk about Project Share. Project Share is a program Spencer Municipal Utilities has in place to help those in need with their wintertime energy bills. If you have not signed up, there are several easy ways to participate with a one-time gift, a monthly gift or by rounding up on your bill. The money collected is distributed to those in need right here in Spencer through Upper Des Moines Opportunity. If you would like to participate, you can fill out the form in this newsletter or you can find it online at [www.smunet.net](http://www.smunet.net).

## Cook Our Pig Fundraiser

Upper Des Moines and the Spencer Chamber have announced an opportunity for businesses to donate to the UDMO Food Pantry. The campaign nicknamed "Help Cook Our Pig," is a reference to over 400 pork loins that have been donated to the food pantry. The goal is to get the pig to 140 degrees, the ideal temperature for pork to be cooked, corresponding to the monetary goal of \$20,000.

This campaign will be used to supply resources for the UDMO Food Pantry and allow UDMO to continue serving Clay County families, focusing on:

- Purchasing non-perishable food items.
- Relieving food insecurity for fixed income households.
- Building up food

pantry reserves for future community needs.

Businesses or individuals wishing to donate or learn more are encouraged to reach out to the Spencer Chamber office. Amanda Gloyd, Jason Remillard, Steve Pick, Mike Carlson, and Kurt Jacobson (not pictured) from SMU helped unload a shipment of pork.



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