Building on the success of the previous year, SMUD awarded more than $425,000 to local non-profits through our Shine Community Development Awards program in 2018.

In 2017, in conjunction with SMUD’s 70th anniversary, SMUD launched the Shine program to help enhance and revitalize local neighborhoods. In 2018, nearly 80 organizations presented applications for projects ranging from education to neighborhood revitalization to energy efficiency. Staff applied a four-stage review process. This extensive screening process enabled SMUD to select 21 recipients for Shine awards.

While SMUD considers a broad range of potential projects for Shine funding, preference is given to organizations and projects in the following areas:

- Neighborhood revitalization or clean-up;
- STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education;
- Environmental, energy efficiency, energy conservation or greenhouse gas reduction; and
- General beautification.

One of the Shine awards went to Girl Scouts Heart of California for its STEM Center.
While SMUD employees have long shown a commitment to their community, they went above and beyond in their 2018 actions. The SMUD Cares campaign raised almost $500,000 for local non-profits and volunteered more than 18,400 hours in the community in 2018.

Additionally, SMUD employees also donated aid kits to those affected by the devastating Camp Fire in Butte County. Earlier in the summer, SMUD sent two line crews north to assist Redding Electric Utility’s rebuilding efforts following the Carr Fire. Earlier in the year, SMUD line crews and support personnel helped restore power to approximately 2,000 Puerto Rico residents suffering from the effects of Hurricane Maria.

THE FOLLOWING 21 ORGANIZATIONS WERE SELECTED FOR SHINE AWARDS FROM A STRONG POOL OF 78 APPLICANTS IN 2018:

- 80 Watt District Property & Business Improvement District / Watt Avenue Partnership
- Alchemist Community Development Corporation
- Cordova Lancers, Leaders & Legends
- Del Paso Boulevard Partnership Foundation
- Fair Oaks Park Foundation
- FosterHope Sacramento
- Franklin Neighborhood Development Corporation
- Freedom Through Education
- Girls Scouts Heart of Central California
- Girls Self-Esteem Program
- Improve Your Tomorrow
- La Familia Counseling Center
- Los Rios Colleges Foundation
- Midtown Sacramento PBID Corp
- Parent Teacher Home Visits
- Pioneer Congregational United Church of Christ
- RelMAGINE Mack Road Foundation
- Roberts Family Development Center
- Sacramento Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc./NeighborWorks
- San Juan Unified School District
- Sierra Nevada Journeys