

Issue 240 - April 2022

Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

The month of April, for most Districts across the Rotary world, is the month for District Training programs for the incoming teams -District and Club level. District Training Assemblies are great platforms for imparting such training to members and help them to better prepare for their new roles in the new Rotary year.

Rotary is a great organization, where every member gets an opportunity to take up a new role each year. There are many who are very comfortable in taking up roles for which they believe they have the right qualities and strengths, but are hesitant in taking up some roles where they are not confident or believe they have a weakness. Rotary provides us an opportunity to try out new things and work on our weakness to convert it into a strength, and the various Training events provide the right pathway to seek such knowledge and guidance. Sharing a short story on this subject:

A 10-year-old boy decided to study judo despite the fact that he had lost his left arm in a devastating car accident. The boy began lessons with an old Japanese judo master. The boy was doing well, so he couldn't understand why, after three months of training the master had taught him only one move. "Sensei," the boy finally said, "Shouldn't I be learning more moves?" "This is the only move you know, but this is the only move you'll ever need to know," the sensei replied. Not quite understanding, but believing in his teacher, the boy kept training. Several months later, the sensei took the boy to his first tournament. Surprising himself, the boy easily won his first two matches. The third match proved to be more difficult, but after some time, his opponent became impatient and charged; the boy deftly used his one move to win the match. Still amazed by his success, the boy was now in the finals. This time, his opponent was bigger, stronger, and more experienced. For a while, the boy appeared to be overmatched. Concerned that the boy might get hurt, the referee called a time-out. He was about to stop the match when the sensei intervened. "No," the sensei insisted, "Let him continue." Soon after the match resumed, his opponent made a critical mistake: he dropped his guard. Instantly, the boy used his move to pin him. The boy had won the match and the tournament. He was the champion. On the way home, the boy and sensei reviewed every move in each and every match. Then the boy summoned the courage to ask what was really on his mind. "Sensei, how did I win the tournament with only one move?" "You won for two reasons," the sensei answered. "First, you've almost mastered one of the most difficult throws in all of judo. And second, the only known defense for that move is for your opponent to grab your left arm." The boy's biggest weakness had become his biggest strength! (https://www.citehr.com/111016-stories-canused-training-sessions-make-them.html)

What new role are you ready to take up in the new year?

Rotary Regards,



Trustee Chair's Message

What's your Rotary moment — a time that strengthened your dedication to Rotary and confirmed you would be a lifetime Rotarian? I have had many such moments over the years, and they all had one thing in common: They showed me Rotary's tangible power of turning our dreams of a better world into reality.

Rotary members are exceptional at it. I see that power in my own club in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and now, as Rotary Foundation trustee chair, in clubs and districts around the world.

Rotary members from Austria, Germany, Nigeria, and Switzerland are realizing their dream to help mothers and children in Nigeria. In partnership with several organizations, they have launched a multiyear, large-scale project to reduce unwanted births and drive down rates of maternal and child mortality. This project, once a vision of a few members but now the recipient of Foundation global grants, is training doctors, nurses, and midwives throughout all 36 states of Nigeria.

Every great project begins in the minds of our members. You are the ones who see schools where adolescent girls have stopped attending because of the lack of private bathrooms. You are the ones who see families facing food shortages, the children who can't read, and the communities with health problems caused by mosquitoes. You not only see these things, but because you are in Rotary, you also do something about them.

And because of that engagement, over the past decade, the amount of money the Foundation has awarded for global grants has grown by more than 100 percent. As more and more Rotarians have become involved, to keep our grants going we have had to adjust and stretch those funds by reducing overhead and by other means. The reason is simple: While the need for these projects is increasing and grant participation is also on the rise, annual giving from Rotary members has stayed relatively static for years.

Quite simply, we need more clubs and individuals to give to the Annual Fund to help keep our district and global grants thriving. This year, we set a goal of raising \$125 million for the Annual Fund. We can't realize your Rotary dreams or those of your fellow members without everyone's support.

Remember: It's not about the money, but about what our money can do. I am a firm believer that when we all give what we can, both as clubs and individuals, to the Foundation every year, we take another step toward making the world a better place.

Imagine the Rotary dreams we could make real if every member and every club got together and made a gift to our Foundation today. That would be quite a Rotary moment — for all of us.



John F. Germ Trustee Chair 2021-22

RGHF President's Message

My warmest felicitations and best wishes to all the leaders and members of Rotary Global History Fellowship (RGHF). Our regular newsletter is a great information and knowledge hub to connect our members, Rotarians, and our stakeholders.

We have been passing through a critical situation in our lifetime with pandemic COVID19 and whole world has transformed into the virtual world. We have learned & adopted a new experience for conducting all our program virtually.

Our world leader, Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta has envisioned to grow Rotary membership to 1.3 million. He has urged each Rotarians to bring one new member (each one brings one) to our clubs. He said, "Service became a way of life for me and I, like many others, adopted the guiding philosophy that 'Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on this earth, and I want to be a good tenant of this earth."

Let me reiterate about our Foundation, The Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world. Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects. With your help, we can make lives better in your community and around the world.

As we all know the mission of the Rotary Foundation helps Rotary members to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty. According to the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies, Rotary members contribute nearly 47 million volunteer hours a year, worth an estimated \$850 million, to communities around the globe. How do we continue not only to make a difference but also to prove what we're capable of achieving? By being data-driven, and improving the ways we define, measure, and analyze our efforts.

Moving forward, we will increase our impact by evaluating the results of our work and learning from our successes and setbacks. Rotarians are known for getting results. Our collective efforts can change lives for generations. What impact can one donation have?

- For as little as 60 cents, a child can be protected from polio.
- \$50 can provide clean water to help fight waterborne illness.
- \$500 can launch an antibullying campaign and create a safe environment for children.

Let me now give you the Rotary Foundation priorities in coming years, one of our key priorities is to increase contributions to the Annual Fund and PolioPlus while building the Endowment Fund to \$2.025 billion by 2025. Our comprehensive fundraising goal this year is \$410 million, only a \$10 million increase from last year's goal. Our goal may be broken down to: \$50 million for polio, duly matched double by the Gates Foundation to bring the total to \$150 million if every club contributed just \$1,500, we would meet this goal.

Diversity is one of Rotary's longstanding core values and greatest strengths. Rotary's Incoming President Jennifer Jones knows there is more to be done to ensure that Rotary's culture exemplifies our values of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Rotary, with input and guidance from the <u>DEI Task Force</u>, has strengthened, as The first woman president of Rotary, Jennifer Jones mentioned "I believe that diversity, equity, and inclusion ... begins at the top and for us to realize growth in female membership and members under the age of forty — these demographics need to see their own reflection in leadership," Jones said. "I will champion double-digit growth in both categories while never losing sight of our entire family."

We are leaders in our society, we have made as **Effective Problem Solvers** Let us '**Serve to Change Lives**' and **Imagine Rotary** to prove us as a true change maker of our family, society, country, and the world.

Once again, I would like to thank Editor for his relentless efforts and all the members for your selfless service to the humanity. We are proud member of RGHF which is the largest fellowship group in Rotary. You are the true **People of Action**.



T I M Nurul Kabir President Rotary Global History Fellowship (RGHF)

Peace Fellowships



Our Peace Centers award up to 80 fully-funded fellowships each year. Through this program, experienced professionals earn a post-graduate diploma in peace and development studies at one of our partner universities in Thailand or Uganda. Apply by 15 May!

Learn more: https://lnkd.in/exiNE5x9

Source: Rotary International on LinkedIn

Join us for World Immunization Week



Join with Rotary to promote the power of vaccines to protect children and save lives

During World Immunization Week, 24-30 April, let's advocate for polio eradication and the importance of vaccines to the health and well-being of our communities.

Vaccines are one of the greatest advances of modern medicine. They're safe, effective, and save millions of lives each year. Our progress in the fight to end polio is proof that vaccines work.

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative estimates that the polio vaccine has saved more than 20 million children around the world from paralysis. We need to continue vaccinating children against polio, because as long as the poliovirus circulates anywhere, it is a threat everywhere.

Here's how you can support Rotary's efforts during World Immunization Week:

- Use the <u>World Immunization Week Toolkit</u> for graphics and sample posts to share on social media with the hashtags #EndPolio and #VaccinesWork.
- <u>Donate</u>?to PolioPlus to help Rotary and our partners deliver polio vaccines to vulnerable children. Or start an online fundraiser using <u>Raise for Rotary</u> and share it with your friends, colleagues, and family members. All contributions will be matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Rotary districts can give <u>District Designated Funds (DDF)</u> to PolioPlus to help meet our goal of raising \$50 million each year to eradicate polio.

Source: PolioPlus Emailer



Somalia 'Call to Action' Summit for Polio

High-level summit held to take urgent action to end polio in country



On 21 March, the Federal Government of Somalia, World Health Organization (WHO) and members of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) recommitted to stopping the ongoing outbreak of circulating poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in Somalia at a three-day meeting convened in Nairobi, Kenya. High-level delegates at the meeting included HE Fawziya Abikar Nur, Federal Minister of Health and Human Services, Dr Mamunur Rahman Malik, WHO Representative to Somalia and Head of Mission, alongside senior representation from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Rotary International, Save the Children, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and other UN agencies and partners.

Together, the Government, GPEI partners, which include WHO, UNICEF, the BMGF, CDC, Rotary International, GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, and other key partners endorsed the Somalia Polio Eradication Action Plan 2022 to reaffirm their commitment.

The Somalia Polio Eradication Action Plan 2022 outlines a four-point call to action to stop the spread of the current outbreak, which is one of the longest lasting cVDPV2 outbreaks to be reported so far. The robust plan aims to direct partners' efforts and resources towards boosting population immunity, making concerted efforts to reach high-risk populations — including inaccessible and nomadic communities and internally displaced persons — to strengthen their immunity, enhancing the search for poliovirus circulation, and strengthening coordination among all stakeholders. Some of the strategies that will be deployed include intensifying efforts to offer 5

opportunities for vaccination against polio in 2022, providing routine childhood immunization in high-risk locations, where children have missed out on vaccinations, and strengthening community engagement. Given how easy it is for the cVDPV2 virus to spill over international borders, the emergency plan also advocates for stronger cross-border coordination among the polio eradication programmes in Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti.

"In the midst of the ongoing drought, and while recovering from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, our stakeholders must not forget how important it is to contain the ongoing poliovirus outbreak so that it does not spread any further and does not affect any more children's lives," said HE Fawziya Abikar Nur, Federal Minister of Health and Human Services. "On this occasion, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all our partners, and donors, for the immense efforts they have put into shielding millions of Somali children from polio over the years."

"Since its inception 25 years ago, Somalia's polio eradication programme has made progress, including by stopping outbreaks of wild poliovirus and, recently, one of circulating poliovirus type 3 in 2021. The programme has established a vast network of polio workforce and assets and we can do more not only to stop the current outbreak but to achieve broader health system goals through integration and effective use of our human and operational resources. Since 2018, Somalia has conducted several supplementary immunization campaigns. Despite these efforts, pockets of unvaccinated children remain, due to insecurity and limited access to health services," said Dr Mamunur Rahman Malik, WHO Representative to Somalia.

The Somalia Polio Eradication Action Plan, which will be implemented in 2022, complements one of the goals outlined in the GPEI 'Polio Eradication Strategy 2022–2026: Delivering on a Promise', to stop cVDPV transmission and prevent outbreaks in non-endemic countries. It is also in line with Somalia's national goals and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Source: www.polioeradication.org

Our Foundation Newsletter



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