

Rotary
District 6990



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

JANUARY 2024

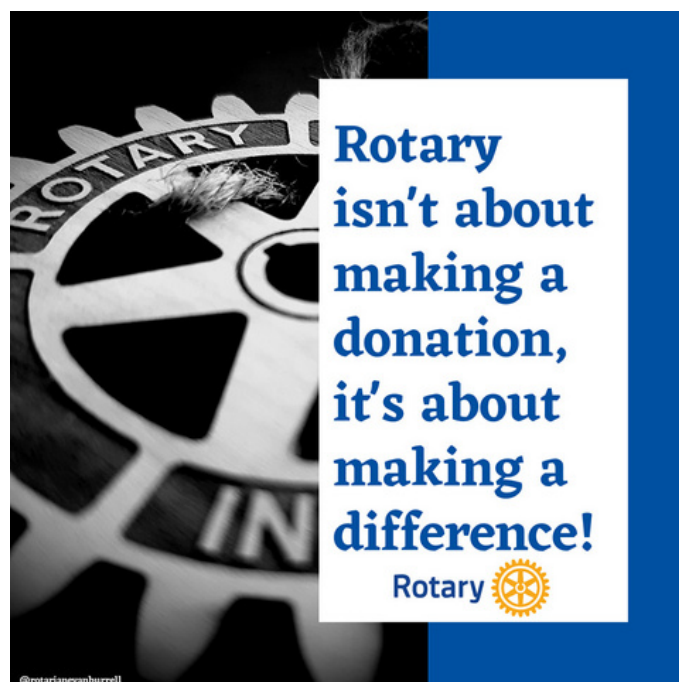
JANUARY IS VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH



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**We are now half way through
the Rotary year and District
6990 continues to grow, helping
our local and international
communities, and creating
hope in the world!**

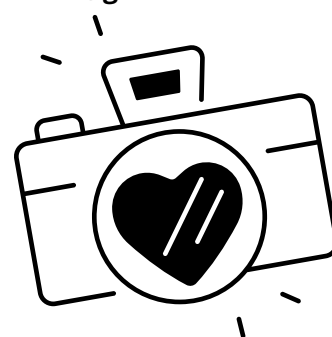


**Share your club's pictures, projects and
fundraisers with us! We'll post in our
monthly newsletter and on our social
media accounts.**

**Email the details and a picture to
rotary6990communications@gmail.com**

Cover Photo

Members of the Rotary Club
of Weston participating in a
project for Habitat for
Humanity.



GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

From: District Governor Barbara Gobbi

Celebrating Progress and Looking Forward in Rotary District 6990

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

As we cross the halfway mark of our Rotary year, I find myself reflecting on the incredible journey we have shared. My visits to various clubs across our district, participating in meetings, service projects, socials, and fundraisers, have been nothing short of inspiring. Witnessing firsthand the dedication and impact our clubs and members have in their communities fills me with immense pride.

I am thrilled to announce that District 6990 is leading the way in growth within our Zone, boasting a remarkable 5% net increase in new members. This growth is a testament to the vibrant and engaging environment our district offers.

Looking ahead, we have a host of exciting events lined up. Our area Rotarian 2 Rotarian socials and the 'Rotary Means Business' initiative promise to be great opportunities for networking and collaboration. Additionally, our much-anticipated District Conference is set to be a unique experience – a cruise on the Celebrity Reflection from May 3-6, 2024. I encourage you all to sign up before January 29th to be part of this extraordinary gathering.

Let's also rally our support for the Annual Fund fundraiser, the Chris Morrison Memorial Golf Ball Drop. Remember, ticket sales conclude on January 15th, so let's make every effort to contribute to this meaningful cause.

Lastly, I am delighted to congratulate Pete Pecci from the Rotary Club of Weston on his designation as the new District Governor Nominee. Pete's commitment and vision for our district are commendable, and I am confident he will lead us towards even greater heights.

Thank you all for your continued dedication and efforts. Together, we are making a significant difference in our communities and beyond.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Barbara Gobbi
District Governor 2023-24
Rotary District 6990



Rotary
District 6990



Family **CRUISE**

May 3-6, 2024

A District Conference that unites our Rotary Family!

Join your Rotary Family for our District Conference
aboard Celebrity Reflection while we enjoy a little bit
of Rotary, and a whole lot of FUN!

Departing from Fort Lauderdale, you can enjoy:

- Informative Rotary Sessions to help you Grow Rotary!
- Hands-On Service projects in Nassau, Bahamas
- Day of fun at Coco Cay!

REGISTER ON DACDB
AND RESERVE YOUR
CABIN HERE!



GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

From: District Governor Barbara Gobbi

Our District 6990 Conference 2024 is coming up May 3rd through 6th, 2024 aboard the luxurious Celebrity Reflection, and now is your chance to SAVE on the cruise!

In addition to a fabulous time with Rotary friends, you will get beverage package, wifi and gratuities included if you book before January 29, 2024. You will also get \$200.00 discount per person on Veranda cabins and \$100.00 discount per person on Oceanview and Inside cabins!

You can delay payment until January 29, 2024.

Don't wait because there is limited availability and this offer expires January 29, 2024! Join in the fun and get some lux treatment!

Reserve Your Spot Today:

- **Cabin Reservations:** To reserve your cabin, please click here: [Cabin Reservation](#).
- **Conference Registration:** Complete your conference registration here: [Conference Registration](#).

***You will need to make your conference reservation AND cabin reservation.**

Exclusive Pricing for Rotarians:

- **All-Inclusive Deal:** Cabins start at just \$664 all-inclusive (before the additional discounts!). This exceptional price includes gratuities, tips, and drinks!
- **Limited Availability:** Be sure to book early to secure your spot at these special rates.

Highlights of the District Conference:

- **A Unique Venue:** Experience the elegance and comfort of the Celebrity Reflection. To see more of this magnificent vessel, click here: [Celebrity Reflection](#).
- **Rotary and Service:** Engage in meaningful discussions and activities focused on Rotary's mission, including a special service projects in Nassau, Bahamas, on May 5th.
- **Fun and Fellowship:** Enjoy a blend of Rotary activities and leisure time, ensuring a memorable experience with fellow Rotarians.

MEET OUR NEW DISTRICT GOVERNOR NOMINEE DESIGNATE

Congratulations to Pete Pecci from the Rotary Club of Weston, for being chosen as the District Governor Nominee Designate for the 2026-27 Rotary year.

Pete, a dedicated Rotarian and a member of the Rotary Club of Weston, brings a wealth of experience and commitment to this role. His professional background as a Financial Advisor will be invaluable in guiding our district. Moreover, his current contributions as an Assistant Governor and Club Representative for the Finance and Procedure Committee have already demonstrated his dedication and capability in managing complex roles.

Under Pete's leadership, our district will continue to thrive and achieve new heights. His passion for Rotary's values and his commitment to service above self is evident in all that he does. This appointment is not just a testament to Pete's exemplary service but also to the strength and spirit of our district.

As we prepare for the 2026-27 Rotary year, let's offer our full support and cooperation to Pete.



2024 HELICOPTER GOLF BALL DROP FUNDRAISER



The Chris Morrison Memorial Golf Ball drop has been a fundraiser of D6990 for the Rotary Foundation (TRF) Annual Fund since 2013. By now you should have received your tickets for you to distribute to your members. Your club's Foundation Chair or another designated club member will be responsible for coordinating ticket sales in your club. Additional instructions are provided along with tickets.

This year's event will be held on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at The Club at Weston Hills, in Weston, FL. Breakfast will be served at 7.30 am. Golf ball dropped at 8.45 am. Any interested Rotarian or non-Rotarian is encouraged to attend. Please note that the cost of breakfast is \$40 per person which includes a raffle ticket for an additional Foursome at The Club of Weston Hill Championship Course.

We are asking that each Rotarian buys or sells at least 4 tickets. This would make your Rotary Club a 'Sustaining Club', and continue the tradition that Chris Morrison started in 2013.

Ticket sales to non-Rotarians are encouraged and will make great gifts for a friend or client! We want to thank everyone who is contributing to the Rotary Foundation, whether a member or not. Any ticket holder will also have the chance to win one of the following prizes if the ball linked to their ticket is among the five closest to the hole.

1. \$600 Gift Certificate from Carroll's Jewelers
2. One foursome at The Club of Weston Hills, playing on one of their championship golf courses.
3. 3-night stay for two guests at Di Sabatino Resort in Renaissance City of Ascoli Piceno, Italy.
4. 1 year Family Membership to Fairchild Tropic Botanical Garden, Coral Gables, FL.
5. Brunch for two at the Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables, FL.

We will announce the winners soon after the event.

If anyone prefers to skip the hassle of getting physical tickets, it is possible to purchase them through the following website www.rotary6990gbd.org. The payment process is secure, and credit cards are accepted. It's important to instruct the ticket purchaser to notify the club so progress towards the EREY goal can be tracked down.

Deadline for remittance of the ticket control report, Multiple Donor Form(s), ticket stubs, not sold tickets, checks items is January 15, 2024. Detailed instructions are attached. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or the Golf Ball Drop Chair, Jay Sanchez at 765-278-6931 or Email: sanchz.J52@gmail.com.



BROWARD, MIAMI-DADE, MONROE & GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND

WE ARE 6990

MEET YOUR AREA GOVERNORS!

Area 1: Toby Smith / Toby@Smithb.com / (954)242-046

Area 2: Pete Pecci / peter.pecci@yahoo.com / 954-882-9061

Area 3: Tony Abbate / anthonyabbate@me.com / (954)328-0973

Area 4: Manohar Mahajan / prams@pramsmia.com / (305) 519-6083

Area 5: Sparkie Folkers / sparkiefolkers@gmail.com / (850) 232-3187

Area 6: Edgar Cruz / edcruz88@gmail.com / (305) 458-3063

Area 7: Jeff McNabb / jeffmcnabb@yahoo.com / (786)972-0868

Area 8: Lisa Feliciano / Felicianolisa1@aol.com / (305)766-0643

Area 9: Othyneil Pinder / pinderothyneil@hotmail.com / (242) 646-9165

Area 10: Alton Weekley / alton@faustos.com / 305-797-0837

Feel free to reach out to these individuals for help and support with your club!



MEMBERSHIP

From: District Membership Chair Joe Roth

Some Inspiration from your Membership team!!

Being a Rotary member is not ok!

Ok is comfortable. Ok is the status quo.

Ok is not the reason we serve, it's not the reason we donate, it's not the reason we spend our time helping our community and our world.

We are not in Rotary to be comfortable.

We are here to change things. We are here to build a better world for everyone.

Being a Rotary member is not ok.

Being a Rotary member is awesome!

**Be Fun, Be Positive, Be Inspiring,
Be The Good!**

**#RotaryInternational
#district6990strong**

**With Thanks to
Evan Burrell-Changemaker**



MEMBERSHIP

From: District Membership Chair Joe Roth

This month, the District Membership Team shares a few social media posts on the Facebook page that we would like you to open and “LIKE” ...we hope to educate and inspire you to “GROW ROTARY” in your clubs!!!

*Won't you help us
complete the puzzle?*



Rotary
District 6990



How many times will your club be saying "Welcome to Rotary" this year...we hope there will be many! Let us celebrate your club growth with your posting on your club's social media platforms!

**Welcome to
Rotary**



Rotary
District 6990

...allow your friends to find out why we are the "warm and fuzzy" organization...invite them to Rotary!

Be the reason someone
feels welcome, seen,
heard, valued, loved,
and supported.
Join us...

Rotary
www.rotary.org



Rotary
District 6990

Let's bring on some new "team members" so that we can increase our "force for good"!

TOGETHER

Rotary
District 6990



**WE'RE A FORCE
FOR GOOD**

Consider sharing these posts on your page, that of your club and with friends and BRAG about your membership in Rotary!

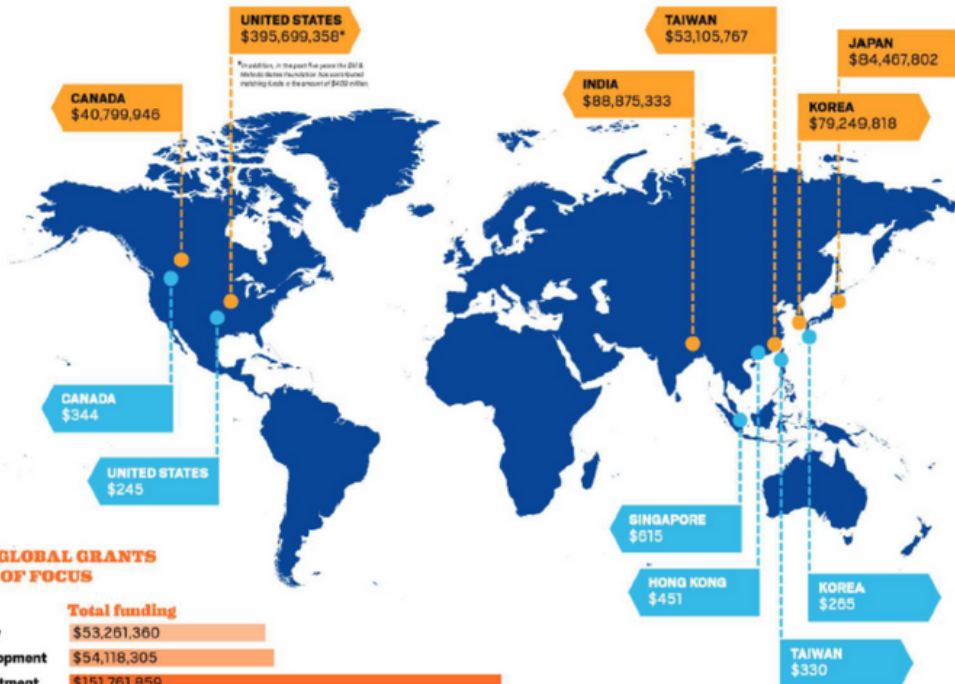
FOUNDATION

From: District Foundation Chair Manohar Mahajan

A Foundation to build on

The Rotary Foundation is recognized as one of the most effective and well-managed charitable organizations in the world, with 12 consecutive four-star ratings from Charity Navigator and an A-plus rating from CharityWatch. We know that the Foundation is helping Rotarians do good in the world, but it can be difficult to convey the full scope of its work. So we've put together some figures from the past five years — 2014-15 through 2018-19 — to tell the story of the generosity of Rotarians and the good work that the Foundation supports. November is Rotary Foundation Month; to make a contribution, go to rotary.org/donate.

TOTAL GIVING OVER FIVE YEARS BY DOLLAR AMOUNT Top countries and geographical areas

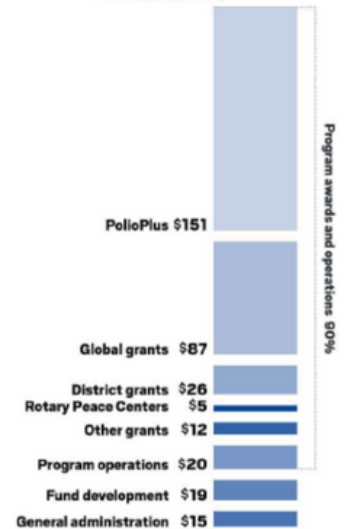


FIVE YEARS OF GLOBAL GRANTS BY AREA OF FOCUS

Area of focus	Total funding
Basic education and literacy	\$53,261,360
Community economic development	\$54,118,305
Disease prevention and treatment	\$151,761,859
Maternal and child health	\$35,233,163
Peacebuilding and conflict prevention	\$18,659,168
Water, sanitation, and hygiene	\$100,657,464

AVERAGE YEARLY GIVING OVER FIVE YEARS PER ROTARIAN Top countries and geographical areas

2018-19 TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$335 (in millions)



GLOBAL GRANTS APPROVED



I borrowed the above chart and information from www.my.rotary.org to circulate amongst all my fellow Rotarians in our District to show some statistics related to Foundation on global basis. Even though this information is for a period 2014 - 2019, the ratios and proportions are quite relevant even today. It is interesting to see how United States was the highest and India the second highest givers of the world for five years period, but the US was the sixth highest per capita donor and India was not in the top six countries mentioned. There were \$87 million spent in one year on Global Grants, whereas in a five year period \$151.8 million were spent on Global Grants for disease prevention and treatment area of focus alone. Enjoy learning more about the specific area you wish to in terms of giving or spending. November is a Foundation month. Let us make a difference by giving to Annual Fund this month and help the graph move upwards.

District Rotary
Foundation Chair,
Assistant Governor- 4
(305) 519 6083,
prams@pramsmia.com



Capt. Manohar Mahajan
District Rotary Foundation Chair

District Rotary Foundation Committee

DDF EXPLAINED & DISTRICT 6990 FOUNDATION HEALTH END DECEMBER 2023

District Designated Fund, (DDF) is the sum of DDF from Annual Fund, DDF from Endowment Fund and unused DDF brought forward from the previous year. Annual Fund contributed by the District as a whole is invested for a three year's period and thereafter fifty percent returned to the District after deducting up to 5% for management charges and fifty per cent is held with The Rotary Foundation (TRF) as World Fund (WF). Similarly, Endowment Fund received from the District is also invested but in this case only the earning from the investment is sent to the respective District in same proportions as DDF and WF.

In the Year 2020-2021 District 6990 contributed \$284,206.80 toward Annual Fund (AF), \$83956.25 towards Polio Plus (PP), \$277,078.10 towards Endowment Fund (ED) and \$ 94,004.00 towards Other Fund. DDF received in 2023 - 2024 with only 2.25% deduction for management costs.

DDF received from 50% AF Share 2020-2021 (A)	\$138,903.40
DDF From Endowment Fund	<u>34,805.08</u>
Total DDF for 2023-2024 (B)	\$173,708.48
DDF Rollover from previous year	<u>114,207.05</u>
Grand Total DDF for the year 2023-2024 (C)	\$287,915.53

DDF Available for future Global Grants (C) - (D) = \$53,516.53

DDF USED UPTO 20 DECEMBER 2023

50% of (B) used for District Grants 2023-2024	\$86,326.00
20% of (A) donated for Polio Plus	27,981.00
3 Global Grants Approved this year	17,500.00
2 Global Grants Applications pending approval	11,592.00
2 Grants awaiting signatures before submission	<u>20,000.00</u>
Total Committed DDF	\$163,399.00
9 GG Applications in Draft Stage Tagged DDF	<u>71,000.00</u>
Total Committed or Tagged DDF (D)	234,399.00

GLOBAL GRANTS

We encourage you to use up all the DDF remaining by writing more grant applications, thus doing more projects in the community. At District 6990, we match your Club giving at dollar to dollar up to \$10,000. The Rotary Foundation matches 80% of DDF as WF. For a Global Grant, the total Grant size should be minimum \$30,000, maximum any amount. You can collaborate with any number of Clubs within the District or outside our District anywhere world wide. We match contributions from the Clubs in our District, again up to \$10K.

GIVING HEALTH

As of 20 December 2023 total contributed in our District 6990 towards Annual Fund is \$60,577.69, 29.71 % of our goal of \$203,920.00. We generally surpass our goal and at this time we should be crossing 50% of our goal. If your Club is one of those pulling this percentage down, please send your funds across to the Rotary Foundation. Simply log on to www.my.rotary.org click donate and choose the box labelled Annual Fund - SHARE. Very simple. Similarly for Polio Plus choose Polio Plus box. Our present contribution is \$17,648 towards Polio Plus, \$24,000 towards Other Funds and \$145,000 towards Endowment. By the time you read this it will be January. Nevertheless, please proceed pay your share and pull the totals up.

FOUNDATION INFORMATION SESSIONS

For the benefit of all the members, we are providing monthly sessions whereby you can exchange information related to the Foundation - District Grants, Global Grants, Polio Plus, Applications, Reports, details, Annual Fund, Paul Harris Fellow, Golf Ball Drop, Stewardship and all that goes with it. Stay tuned to the emails you will receive from DacDb or me. We had our first well attended session on 15 December 2023. Do attend these sessions and exchange information about Foundation.

Capt. Manohar R. Mahajan

Rotary Club Miami Airport

District Rotary Foundation Chair

Assistant Governor Area 4

prams@pramsmia.com (305) 519 -6083

www.mrmmediators.com MRM Mediators & Arbitrators Inc.



DG BARBARA EMBARKS ON A MONUMENTAL JOURNEY TO INDIA IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POLIO!

As your District Governor, I'm excited to share some inspiring news and a unique opportunity to make a difference. From January 27th to February 9th, I will be embarking on a significant journey to India to participate in a Polio Immunization trip. This trip symbolizes our relentless effort in the fight against Polio, a fight we're winning, with only 12 cases reported worldwide in 2023.

Our progress towards eradicating Polio has been phenomenal, and it's all thanks to your unwavering support and dedication. We are closer than ever to making history by eliminating this disease for good.

Follow Our Journey: To bring you along on this momentous trip, I invite you to download the Polarsteps app, where you can follow our journey in real-time. Witness each step of this critical mission and see the impact of your support in action.

Become a Polio Plus Society Member: Here's an opportunity to further your impact - become a member of the Polio Plus Society. Your contribution of \$100 or more to End Polio Now will play a crucial role in our mission. As a token of gratitude, we will immunize a child in your honor during this trip. Your generosity will not only save lives but will also bring us closer to a Polio-free world.

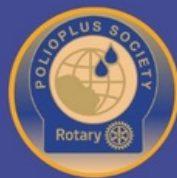
How to Join: Becoming a member is simple. Click on the image below or visit [End Polio Donation Page](#) to make your contribution.

Every donation brings us a step closer to a world where no child will ever again be paralyzed by Polio.

Together, we are making a difference.

Together, we can end Polio.

JOIN A POLIO VACCINATION TRIP IN INDIA ...VIRTUALLY



Join PPS Here

YOU CAN EVEN VACCINATE A CHILD DURING THE TRIP WITH YOUR GIFT TO THE POLIOPLUS SOCIETY. FOLLOW ALONG BELOW STARTING 1/29/2024



YOUTH SERVICES

Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Homestead and they NEW Keys Gate Charter School Interact Club! This club chartered with 79 new members!

INTERACT CLUB AT KEYS GATE CHARTER
INDUCTION CEREMONY

Program

Keys Gate Principal
MR. DANIEL VERDIER

District 6990 Governor Elect
DENNIS CALTAGIRONE

Rotary Club Of Homestead President
MR. MARCEL ZANGGER

Interact Liaison
MRS. ANNA ALVAREZ

Keys Gate Charter Club Advisor
MRS. RAQUEL SHIFRIN

Interact Club Board Induction
DENNIS CALTAGIRONE

Interact Club Members Induction
ASHLEY GALEAS-DERAS



PUBLIC IMAGE

Check out our new Podcast - Meet Our Rotarians: Executives in Philanthropy

Welcome to “Meet Our Rotarians,” the podcast that delves into the inspiring stories of business executives who are also esteemed members of Rotary International, a global philanthropic organization dedicated to making a positive impact in communities worldwide. In each episode, we sit down with influential leaders from various industries as they share their insights on life, business, and the power of service.

Hosted by Adi Soozin, “Meet Our Rotarians” explores the personal and professional journeys of these executives, unraveling the ways in which they leverage their vocational knowledge for impactful service projects, both locally and globally. This podcast goes beyond the boardroom, providing listeners with a unique perspective on the intersection of business leadership and meaningful community engagement.

“Meet Our Rotarians” is a must-listen for anyone seeking inspiration, motivation, and a deeper understanding of how business executives are using their skills to create positive change in the world through Rotary International. Subscribe now to join the conversation and be inspired by the stories of these philanthropic leaders.



A podcast cover for "Meet Joe Roth". At the top, it says "Rotary District 6990" with the Rotary logo. Below that, a yellow banner says "DECEMBER 2023". The main title "MEET JOE ROTH" is in large blue letters, with "DISTRICT 6990 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR" below it. On the right is a circular portrait of Joe Roth, a man with grey hair wearing a blue shirt. At the bottom, it says "Visit Our Website" and "Rotary6990.org/show" with a globe icon.

EMPOWERING THE GIRLS

From Co-Chairs: Claudia Valderamma and Georgia Winfield

Pets Help The Heart Heal: Empowering Girls Through the Human-Animal Bond

In a world where the social, physical, and emotional well-being of youth is of paramount concern, organizations like Pets Help The Heart Heal play a crucial role in nurturing and empowering young minds. Founded in 2019 by Dr. Stephanie Jones, a veterinarian, the organization's mission revolves around harnessing the power of the human-animal bond to improve the overall health of youth. Among their many initiatives, the organization places a special emphasis on empowering girls by offering programs and events designed to provide opportunities for them to excel in the field of veterinary medicine and other animal industry career fields.

Pets Help The Heart Heal recognizes the therapeutic benefits of the human-animal bond. Through various programs such as Reading With Pets and Life of Pets and Jr Vets events, the organization aims to enhance the social, physical, and emotional health of youth. Animals have an innate ability to connect with individuals, offering companionship, understanding, and a sense of responsibility. By fostering positive relationships with animals, young participants can experience improved mental well-being, increased physical activity, and enhanced social skills.

One of the organization's flagship programs is the initiative to create pathways for youth, particularly girls, to excel in the field of veterinary medicine. Recognizing the gender gap in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) careers, Pets Help The Heart Heal is committed to breaking barriers and providing equal opportunities for girls to explore their potential in veterinary medicine.

The organization's shadow program is a key component of their efforts to empower girls in the field of veterinary medicine. This program allows girls to explore the intricacies of veterinary medicine and other animal industry career fields by shadowing professionals in these domains. By providing hands-on experiences and exposure to real-world scenarios, the shadow program equips girls with valuable insights and practical knowledge, igniting their passion for animal-related careers.



EMPOWERING THE GIRLS CONT.

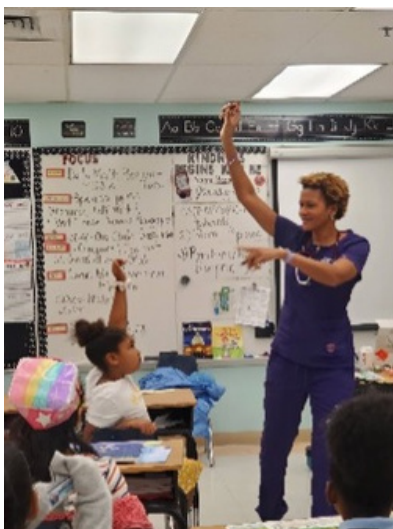
From Co-Chairs: Claudia Valderamma and Georgia Winfield

Pets Help The Heart Heal recognizes veterinary medicine as a prominent STEM career that offers a unique blend of scientific knowledge, problem-solving skills, and compassion. Through their programs, girls are introduced to the diverse aspects of veterinary science, from anatomy and physiology to disease diagnosis and treatment. By highlighting the STEM aspects of veterinary medicine, the organization aims to inspire young girls to pursue careers in these fields, contributing to the overall diversification of the STEM workforce.

At the heart of Pets Help The Heart Heal are its core values: to educate, uplift, and inspire. These values serve as guiding principles for all their initiatives. Through education, the organization empowers girls with knowledge and skills necessary for success in veterinary medicine. By uplifting young minds, they provide support and encouragement, fostering a sense of confidence and resilience. Lastly, through inspiration, the organization aims to spark a lifelong passion for animal-related careers, motivating girls to pursue their dreams with determination.

Pets Help The Heart Heal stands as a beacon of empowerment, fostering the growth and development of girls through the transformative power of the human-animal bond. By providing pathways to veterinary medicine, offering shadow programs, and emphasizing the STEM aspects of animal-related careers, the organization is making significant strides in creating a more inclusive and diverse future for the youth. With a commitment to core values that prioritize education, upliftment, and inspiration, Pets Help The Heart Heal continues to make a lasting impact on the lives of young individuals, preparing them for successful and fulfilling careers in veterinary medicine and beyond.

For more information on Pets Help The Heart Heal visit www.phthh.org or email info@petshelptheheartheal.org



ENVIRONMENT

From Chair Robert Bull



On Jan. 27th, we will hold a tree planting event at the North Pointe Community Center in cooperation with Million Trees Miami. The area has a low tree canopy of 9.3%.

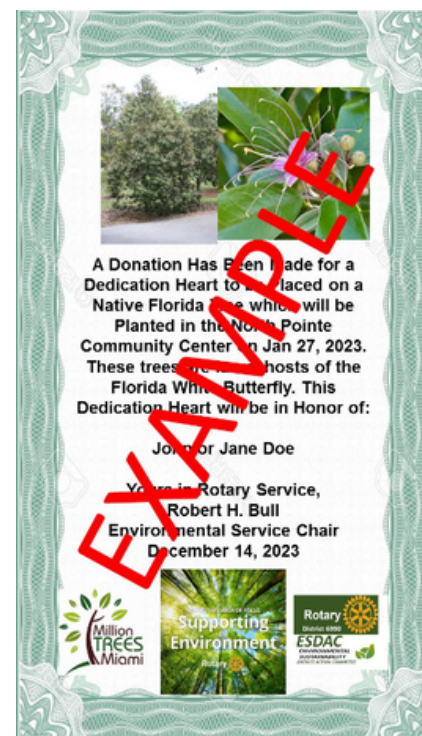
This is a wonderful opportunity for you to have a Dedication Heart placed on "your tree". It's simple, just Zelle me \$10/each Dedication Heart you want placed on "your tree(s)", (Zelle to Robert Bull - 305.733.3704). If you prefer to mail a check to me (6695 SW 133rd St., Pinecrest, FL 33156-7063), kindly make out the check to "The Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade". I will collect all funds received and remit to Miami-Dade Parks & Recreation. Please email me a note with the dedicatory message you want on your Dedication Heart, note that space is limited. Please see the Dedication Heart above.

When I receive your note with the dedication message, I will email you a Certificate for each Dedicatory Heart you want, clearly identifying the person you wish to honor or memorialize. Please see the example next to this text.

You do NOT need to be present to plant trees or place the Dedication Heart. If you can't be there, no problem as others will plant the trees. I will take a photograph of each Dedication Heart that is placed without the donor being present and after the event, I will email these photos.

Everyone is invited to attend this event, and we expect several Interact and Rotaract volunteers to help plant the trees.

EVERYONE IS INVITED! FAMILY FRIENDLY & ALL AGE GROUPS MAY JOIN IN
Students will earn Community Service Hours



ENVIRONMENT

From Chair Robert Bull

Information about the planting location:

NORTH POINTE COMMUNITY CENTER is located at 7351 NW 186th St., just north of Hialeah, FL 33015. The park used to be part of the YMCA, but is now managed by MIAMI-DADE PARKS. We will plant native trees, Jamaican Capers. Despite their name, Jamaican Capers, they are native Florida trees that are a larval host for the Florida White butterfly.

We will also plant several Rain Gardens. Rain Gardens are a basin designed to capture and infiltrate storm water runoff. This diverts and absorbs pollutants from the parking lot runoff.

The date of this tree planting coincides with Florida Arbor Day, is right after Tu BiShvat, and close to Valentine's Day. You may want to use these commemorations for your dedications.

Our District is growing it's Rotarian Forest, and we have planted over 1,000 trees since we started.

I hope that everyone will join in this activity in some manner. BTW, you do not need to be present to plant your tree(s), and planting trees is open to all, regardless if you have purchased or not a tree.

Looking forward to seeing many of you.

Yours in Rotary Service,
Robert H. Bull

On behalf of the Environmental Sustainability District (6990) Action Committee



POSITIVE PEACE BUILDING

From: AG Othyneil Pinder

Peace and Love are one of the greatest forces on Earth.

On Thursday, October 26th, 2023; the Rotary Clubs of Grand Bahama led by Area Governor Othyneil Pinder and a delegation of Rotarians took the Administration, Faculty & Staff of The Beacon School in a transformative Peace Building & Conflict Resolution Session.

The workshop allowed for a platform of sharing in a judgement free zone. The work of the team allowed for layers to be peeled back among the staff. Participants left with a greater understanding of each other as well as an appreciation for their individual backgrounds.

The Rotary Organization is credited with bringing about a positive change on the campus among the adult staff which will undoubtedly trickle down to the students and the wider community – through the use of the Share America tools.

Peace and conflict resolution are fundamental aspects of creating stable societies and fostering positive relationships between individuals and communities. Peace, in its essence, signifies the absence of violence, discord, and hostility. It embodies a state of harmony and tranquility where people coexist peacefully, respecting one another's rights, beliefs, and differences. Achieving peace requires open communication, empathy, and a willingness to understand diverse perspectives. It involves fostering mutual understanding and promoting social justice, equality, and human rights. These tenants were on full display during the session.

Conflict resolution, on the other hand, is the process of addressing disputes, disagreements, or clashes in a constructive manner. It involves identifying the root causes of conflicts, promoting dialogue, and finding peaceful solutions that address the concerns of all parties involved. Effective conflict resolution methods include negotiation, mediation, and arbitration, which aim to reconcile differences and restore harmony. By promoting peace and embracing conflict resolution strategies, societies can create an environment where individuals can thrive, collaborate, and contribute positively to their communities. The same was achieved through the work of the team.



ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

RLI (Rotary Leadership Institute) has several opportunities, both in person and online, to enhance your leadership skills and learn more about Rotary.



The mission of the Rotary Leadership Institute's Sunshine Division is to provide an up-to-date, practical, and user friendly educational opportunity in convenient locations for Rotarians identified as potential leaders by their club officers. Courses are given to foster leadership skills and Rotary knowledge with the intent to motivate the participant to be enthusiastic, creative and dedicated Rotarians.

Saturday, March 23, 2024 from 8:30am - 4:30am

Marathon High School, 350 Sombrero Beach Road, Marathon, FL 33050.
This will include Part 1 and Part 2.

To register, go to the calendar on DACdb.com, or on our website at rlitraining.org.

ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Saturday, March 23rd



Keiser University, Fort Lauderdale



Register
Here!

DACDB



