# The Rotary Foundation 52 Weekly Messages

# *For Rotary members*

**WEEK 1 (July)**

**A YEAR OF INSIGHT INTO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION**

I’ll share a short message each week this year about The Rotary Foundation, its programs, and how it uses your support for service projects that change lives around the world.

Let’s start with the words of Paulo V.C. Costa, the 1990-91 Rotary International president:

“The Rotary Foundation is truly Rotary’s most precious jewel, for it transforms our most daring dreams into the most splendid realities.”

**Thank you for supporting the Foundation and its work.**

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**WEEK 2** **(July)**

**WHAT IS THE ROTARY FOUNDATION?**

The Foundation is the charitable arm of Rotary International.

It’s a nonprofit supported by contributions from Rotary members and other donors who share our vision of a better world. The Foundation’s mission is to help Rotary members advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through local, national, and international humanitarian and educational programs.

**Thank you for supporting the Foundation and its work.**

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**WEEK 3 (July)**

**HOW DID THE ROTARY FOUNDATION GET STARTED?**

The Foundation began after Rotary’s sixth president, Arch Klumph, suggested in 1917 that Rotary should have an endowment fund “for the purpose of doing good in the world.”

Starting from an initial contribution of US$26.50 from the Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri, USA, the Foundation has received more than $6.1 billion in total contributions.

The Foundation made a grant of $500 to an organization supporting children with special needs in 1930 and continues to do good around the world in Rotary’s name.

**Thank you for supporting the Foundation and its work.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**WEEK 4 (July)**

**WHAT DID ARCH KLUMPH SAY ABOUT THE FOUNDATION’S IMPACT?**

“The Rotary Foundation is not to build monuments of brick and stone. If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work on brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples, they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds, if we imbue them with the full meaning of the spirit of Rotary ... we are engraving on those tablets something that will brighten all eternity.”

— Arch Klumph, 1916-17 Rotary president

**How do these words resonate now as we think about increasing our impact?**

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**WEEK 5 (August)**

**WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ROTARY FOUNDATION?**

You have lots of ways to find out more about the work that The Rotary Foundation supports. My favorites are:

* [The Annual Report](https://www.rotary.org/en/annual-report-2023)
* [The Rotary Foundation Reference Guide](https://my.rotary.org/en/document/rotary-foundation-reference-guide)
* [Videos about our work](https://www.youtube.com/user/RotaryInternational/featured)
* Our [Rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) and [My Rotary](https://my.rotary.org/) websites

**Start learning more about the Foundation today!**

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**WEEK 6 (August)**

**WHAT IS THE ROTARY FOUNDATION’S ANNUAL FUND?**

The Annual Fund is the funding source for a broad range of local and international Foundation programs. Rotary members volunteer their time and expertise to work with communities on meaningful projects that use contributions to the Annual Fund wisely.

In 2022-23, donors gave US$147.6 million to the Annual Fund. These contributions come from members, other people who support Rotary’s goals, corporations, and workplace giving programs (some of which can be matched by employers to increase your donation).

**Find out if your company has** [**a charitable matching program**](http://www.rotary.org/matchinggifts)**.**

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**WEEK 7 (August)**

**WHAT IS THE ROTARY FOUNDATION’S WORLD FUND?**

The Rotary Foundation uses the World Fund to pay for the grant and program opportunities available to all Rotary districts around the world.

Gifts to the World Fund are spent where the need is greatest and give every district a chance to participate in the Foundation’s good work.

**This formula makes The Rotary Foundation an integral part of Rotary around the world.**

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**WEEK 8 (August)**

**WHAT IS THE ROTARY FOUNDATION’S ENDOWMENT FUND?**

Gifts to the Endowment ensure that Rotary members will have the resources they need to design and implement sustainable projects year after year.

Donations to the Endowment can be made as an outright gift or a planned gift, such as a bequest in your estate. As of 2022-23, Rotary’s Endowment totals US$678.6 million and has further commitments of $947 million.

Contributions to this fund are invested for the future. Only current earnings from the investments are used to support Foundation programs.

**This approach means that people’s generosity does good in the world in perpetuity.**

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**WEEK 9 (August)**

**WHAT IS THE ROTARY FOUNDATION’S FUNDING TIMELINE?**

A three-year funding cycle gives districts time to plan programs and allows the Foundation time to invest the contributions. The earnings from those investments help pay for administrative costs, program operations, and fund development costs.

This funding cycle means that a contribution you make in 2023-24 will be invested in 2024-25 and projects will be selected in 2025-26, with the funds able to be spent in 2026-27.

**Support the Foundation now and start planning your future projects!** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**WEEK 10 (September)**

**WHAT ARE DISTRICT DESIGNATED FUNDS?**

District Designated Funds (DDF) are generated based on contributions to the Annual Fund.

Every year, each district’s contributions to the Annual Fund-SHARE are divided up. First, 5% is deducted for operational costs. The rest is split equally, 47.5% each, between the World Fund and funding for the district.

As we’ve mentioned, the money is invested for three years before it becomes available to districts. Your district can ask for up to half of its DDF in a district grant each year, then use the funds for the grants and programs that matter most in your area.

**This formula makes The Rotary Foundation an integral part of Rotary in our communities.**

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**WEEK 11 (September)**

**WHAT IS SHARE?**

The SHARE system is how The Rotary Foundation distributes funds to districts.

When you contribute to Annual Fund-SHARE, the first 5% is deducted for operational costs. The remainder of the contribution is divided between the World Fund and District Designated Funds (DDF). The Trustees of the Rotary Foundation allocate money from the World Fund, and your district allocates DDF to the programs that people in your area want to support.

The name defines what the system does, because contributions are shared throughout the world.

**You can help our district and support meaningful projects by giving to the Annual Fund-SHARE!**

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**WEEK 12 (September)**

**HOW DOES THE ROTARY FOUNDATION USE DONATIONS?**

The Rotary Foundation transforms charitable contributions into programs that fight polio and build peace, into humanitarian projects that change lives, and into scholarships and vocational training. The funds are also used for local projects that Rotary members feel passionate about.

As a global organization that operates in nearly every country, Rotary takes stewardship of its funds seriously and we’ve received a four-star rating from Charity Navigator for 14 years in a row.

The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers helps ensure that grant funds are spent properly. In addition, trained members oversee the use of funds at the club and district level.

**Find financial details and stories about how donations are used in the most recent** [**Annual Report**](https://www.rotary.org/en/annual-report-2023)**.**

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**WEEK 13 (September)**

**WHAT ARE ROTARY’S AREAS OF FOCUS? (1 OF 2)**

We concentrate our efforts in order to maximize our local and global impact. Our most successful and sustainable projects and activities tend to address these causes, and all humanitarian projects, scholars, and vocational training teams funded by The Rotary Foundation’s global grants work toward specific goals in these areas of focus:

* **Peacebuilding and conflict prevention:** Rotary encourages conversations to foster understanding within and across cultures. We train adults and young leaders to prevent and mediate conflict and help refugees who have fled dangerous areas.
* **Disease prevention and treatment:** We educate and equip communities to stop the spread of life-threatening diseases like polio, HIV/AIDS, and malaria. We improve and expand access to low-cost and free health care in developing areas.
* **Water, sanitation, and hygiene:** We support local solutions to bring clean water, sanitation, and hygiene to more people. We share our expertise and work alongside community leaders and educators to make sure our projects succeed in the long term.

**Learn about the other areas of focus next week!**

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**WEEK 14 (October)**

**WHAT ARE ROTARY’S AREAS OF FOCUS? (2 OF 2)**

Rotary is dedicated to causes that build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world to support our peace efforts and end polio forever.

We talked last week about peacebuilding and conflict prevention; disease prevention and treatment; and water, sanitation, and hygiene. Our other areas of focus are:

* **Maternal and child health:** Nearly 6 million children under age five die each year because of malnutrition, poor health care, and inadequate sanitation. We expand access to quality care, so mothers and their children can live and grow stronger.
* **Basic education and literacy:** More than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. Our goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy.
* **Community economic development:** We work with communities to create opportunities for decent and productive work for young and old. We strengthen local entrepreneurs and community leaders, particularly women.
* **Environment:** We develop projects that conserve and protect natural resources, advance ecological sustainability, and foster harmony between communities and the environment. We empower communities and spur innovation to address the causes and effects of climate change and environmental degradation.

**How do you want to get involved in the causes you’re most passionate about?**

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**WEEK 15 (October)**

**WHAT IS POLIOPLUS?**

Ending polio is Rotary’s main humanitarian goal, and PolioPlus is the program that supports these efforts.

It was launched in 1985 with help from Dr. Albert Sabin, the developer of the oral polio vaccine, as a worldwide program to protect children from the paralyzing consequences of polio. Rotary later became a founding member of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

Since then, the incidence of wild polio cases has decreased by 99.9% and the wild poliovirus remains endemic in just two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The processes Rotary helped build to fight polio have also been used to protect communities from COVID-19 and other diseases. This illustrates the *Plus* in PolioPlus.

But polio anywhere is a threat to children everywhere. Only global eradication will ensure that no child suffers its devastating effects ever again.

**Learn more about Rotary’s efforts to eradicate this disease at** [**endpolio.org**](https://www.endpolio.org/home)**.**

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**WEEK 16 (October)**

**HOW SUCCESSFUL HAS THE EFFORT BEEN TO ERADICATE POLIO?**

Because of Rotary’s support, nearly 3 billion children have been immunized against polio and are protected for life against this crippling disease.

Rotary and our partners reduced the number of wild polio cases from 350,000 in 1988 to 30 in 2022. Twenty million cases of paralysis have been averted through this global effort.

The wild poliovirus is now endemic in just two countries, and we won’t stop our effort until we’re able to give children a polio-free world.

**Learn more and help The Rotary Foundation make history at** [**endpolio.org**](https://www.endpolio.org/donate)**.**

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**WEEK 17 (October)**

**WHAT IS ROTARY’S POLIO FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE?**

Rotary is committed to raising US$50 million every year for polio eradication. Through our partnership with the Gates Foundation, every $1 of that is matched 2-to-1.

Raising both funds and awareness and mobilizing volunteers are among Rotary’s primary roles as a partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. With our members, we’ve contributed more than $2.6 billion to fight polio, including matching funds from the Gates Foundation, and Rotary volunteers have dedicated countless hours to protecting children everywhere.

You can take action and raise awareness on World Polio Day, 24 October, and throughout the year.

**Help end polio by making a gift to the PolioPlus Fund at** [**endpolio.org**](https://www.endpolio.org/donate)**.**

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**WEEK 18 (October)**

**WHAT IS EVERY ROTARIAN, EVERY YEAR?**

This initiative encourages every Rotary member to:

* Participate every year in a Rotary Foundation program that makes a difference in the world
* Contribute every year to the Foundation’s Annual Fund at a sustainable amount

The Foundation recognizes a club as an Every Rotarian, Every Year Club if its giving reaches US$100 per capita or more and all dues-paying members give $25 in a year.

Today, about one-third of Rotarians participate in this initiative. Thanks in part to the generosity of these donors, the Foundation awarded more than 1098 global grants in 2022-23 for large-scale, sustainable projects. Think about how much more Rotary could accomplish if every member gave at least $25 to the Annual Fund.

**Thank you for supporting the Every Rotarian, Every Year initiative.**

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**WEEK 19 (November)**

**WHAT IS A ROTARY FOUNDATION SUSTAINING MEMBER?**

A Sustaining Member is someone who contributes US$100 or more each year to the Annual Fund. These contributions count toward several different kinds of individual recognition and club recognition banners.

**For about US$10 a month, you can be a Sustaining Member and help provide life-changing opportunities for people on a yearly basis!**

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**WEEK 20 (November)**

**WHAT IS A PAUL HARRIS FELLOW?**

Paul Harris Fellow recognition is given to anyone who contributes at least US$1,000 to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved global grant. This recognition, which consists of a certificate and pin, can also be given on behalf of someone else.

More than 1.85 million people have become Paul Harris Fellows since 1957, including notable figures such as former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, former Russian President Boris Yeltsin, and polio vaccine developer Dr. Jonas Salk.

**Are you ready to become a Paul Harris Fellow and support The Rotary Foundation at this level?**

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**WEEK 21 (November)**

**WHAT IS A PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY MEMBER?**

The Paul Harris Society recognizes people who commit to contributing US$1,000 or more each year to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved global grant. The society’s purpose is to honor and thank people for their generous and ongoing support of The Rotary Foundation.

Paul Harris Society contributions count toward several different kinds of individual recognition, and members receive a chevron-style pin and a certificate. Members are also listed in the Paul Harris Society Report.

**Ask me for a Paul Harris Society membership form to provide this ongoing support to the Foundation!** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**WEEK 22 (November)**

**HOW DOES THE ROTARY FOUNDATION RECOGNIZE ROTARY CLUBS?**

Donations to the Foundation are essential to securing and expanding our programs throughout the world. We recognize with gratitude clubs that make extraordinary contributions.

* **100% Paul Harris Fellow Club:** These are clubs in which all dues-paying members are Paul Harris Fellows. The club receives a banner. This is a one-time recognition, but the intent is that the club will maintain its status.
* **100% Foundation Giving Club:** This banner is given to clubs that have an average of US$100 in per capita giving and in which every dues-paying member donates at least $25 during the year to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, the Endowment, or approved global grants.
* **Every Rotarian, Every Year Club:** This banner is awarded to clubs that have a minimum Annual Fund contribution of $100 per capita during the year and in which every dues-paying member personally contributes at least $25 to the Annual Fund in that time period.
* **Top Three Per Capita in Annual Fund Giving:** These banners are presented each year to the three clubs in each district with the highest per capita Annual Fund giving.
* **100% Paul Harris Society Club:** This banner is awarded to clubs in which every dues-paying member contributes at least $1,000 during the year to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved global grant.
* **100% Rotary’s Promise Club:** These are clubs in which every dues-paying member supports the Endowment with an outright gift of $1,000 or more or a commitment of at least that amount in an estate plan. These clubs receive a certificate upon request.

**Will you help our club be recognized by the Foundation this year?**

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**WEEK 23 (December)**

**WHAT KIND OF MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE GIFTS ARE POSSIBLE?**

You can honor a loved one in a meaningful way with a contribution to The Rotary Foundation that helps sustain our efforts around the world.

The easiest way is to start at [rotary.org/donate](https://www.rotary.org/donate) and select the option to make a donation in honor or in memory of someone. You can contribute to the Annual Fund-SHARE, the World Fund, the Endowment, PolioPlus, the Disaster Response Fund, a specific area of focus, or a global grant.

As the donor, you’ll receive gift credit and a tax receipt (where applicable). The person you’re honoring or their family can be notified of your gift by email, or you can choose to print a notification and deliver it yourself.

**Consider making a gift to the Foundation today to honor someone you love. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**WEEK 24 (December)**

**WHAT IS ROTARY DIRECT?**

You can support The Rotary Foundation all year by making a recurring gift with Rotary Direct. Choose how much and how often to give, using this simple and secure tool to make a big impact.

Online credit card contributions can be made monthly, quarterly, or annually, with a US$10 minimum per transaction. You can [enroll in Rotary Direct online](https://my.rotary.org/en/rotary-direct), use the [Rotary Direct enrollment form](http://www.rotary.org/myrotary/document/10951) or [The Rotary Foundation Contribution Form](http://www.rotary.org/document/469), or call the Support Center at +1-866-9ROTARY.

You can change or cancel your recurring gift at any time through My Rotary.

**Rotary Direct is safe, secure, and easy. Sign up today!**

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**WEEK 25 (December)**

**INVESTING IN ACTION**

The Rotary Foundation plans for the future, not just for today, and helps members put ideas into action. In the words of Arch Klumph:

“Rotary has assumed a great obligation to the world …. Its opportunities are limitless, but its income today and of tomorrow will never permit it to do the many things which it could and should do. Let me remind you of these three facts: (1) money alone does little good, (2) individual service is helpless without money, (3) the two together can be a godsend to civilization.”

**Thank you for the time, energy, and financial support you give to Rotary’s mission. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**WEEK 26 (December)**

**WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO LEAVE A LEGACY OF DOING GOOD?**

You can qualify as a **Benefactor of The Rotary Foundation** by making an outright gift of US$1,000 or more to the Endowment or notifying the Foundation that you’ve included the Endowment as a beneficiary of that amount in your estate plan.

Benefactors receive a certificate and insignia to wear with a Rotary or Paul Harris Fellow pin.

If you make a commitment for a future gift of $10,000 or more to the Foundation, you’ll be invited to join the **Bequest Society**.

Bequest Society members receive benefits and recognition pieces for different levels of giving, including pins and crystals, the ability to endow named funds, or special seating at the Rotary International Convention.

More than 110,000 Benefactors and more than 14,900 Bequest Society members are creating legacies of generosity as they help people around the world live better lives.

**Contact me if you want to become a Benefactor or join the Bequest Society.**

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**WEEK 27 (January)**

**WHAT ARE MAJOR DONORS?**

Major Donors are people who have contributed at least US$10,000 to The Rotary Foundation.

You receive Major Donor recognition as an individual or couple when your cumulative personal outright giving has reached that level, regardless of how the gift is designated to be used. Major Donors can choose to receive a crystal piece and a lapel pin or pendant at each new recognition level.

More than 30,000 people have become Major Donors since the program began.

**Ask me how to become a Major Donor!**

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**WEEK 28 (January)**

**WHAT ARE THE ARCH KLUMPH SOCIETY AND THE LEGACY SOCIETY?**

Donors whose cumulative gifts total US$250,000 or more are recognized as members of the Arch Klumph Society. As a member, you’re honored at an induction ceremony and have your picture and biography in the Leaders in Philanthropy interactive display at Rotary International World Headquarters. You’ll receive invitations to special events, along with membership pins and crystals that commemorate your giving level. Since 2004, more than 1800 people have joined the Arch Klumph Society.

Donors who promise a gift of $1 million or more to the Endowment are invited to join the Legacy Society. As a member, you’ll receive special tokens of appreciation and all the benefits provided to Bequest Society members. Legacy Society members are listed in Rotary’s annual report and are also invited to special events.

**Are you interested in becoming a member of the Arch Klumph Society or the Legacy Society?**

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**WEEK 29 (January)**

**WHAT ARE THE ROTARY PEACE FELLOWSHIPS?**

Each year, Rotary awards up to 130 fully funded fellowships for dedicated leaders to study at Rotary Peace Centers at universities around the world.

Through academic training, practice, and global networking opportunities, these professionals develop their capacity to become effective catalysts for peace. Rotary Peace Fellows earn either master’s degrees or professional development certificates in subjects related to peace and development.

Since 2002, the Rotary Peace Centers have trained more than 1,500 fellows who work in over 115 countries in education, in government roles, and at international organizations.

Rotary members like you can shape the next generation of peace leaders by identifying and interviewing potential candidates.

**Learn more about the** [**Rotary Peace Fellowships**](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/peace-fellowships) **and the** [**Rotary Peace Centers**](https://my.rotary.org/en/document/rotary-peace-centers-making-peace-reality)**.**

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**WEEK 30 (January)**

**HOW THE ROTARY FOUNDATION AFFECTED ONE PERSON**

“The Rotary Peace Fellowship program came at a point in my life where I wanted to validate my work. Some of the skills I took back from the fellowship include better communication in the nonviolent space. I feel supported by this community and can reach out to any peace fellow in the world.”

— ElsaMarie D’Silva, CEO, Red Dot Foundation

**Hear from more Rotary Peace Fellows** [**about what they learned and the work they’re doing now**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3yrkaOpjPk)**.**

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**WEEK 31 (January)**

**WHAT IS OUR GRANT MODEL DESIGNED TO DO?**

Our grant model is designed to produce sustainable results that align with The Rotary Foundation’s priorities and the areas of focus, engage members, and deepen their connection to Rotary. This means we:

* Focus our service efforts where they’ll have the greatest impact by addressing genuine needs that are relevant to communities
* Offer program options to help people achieve both local and global goals
* Simplify Foundation processes to help more people take part
* Give people more decision-making power at the club and district levels to increase their commitment
* Communicate clearly about our work to enhance Rotary’s public image

**The Rotary Foundation is continuing to make a difference in our world!**

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**WEEK 32 (February)**

**WHAT ARE DISTRICT AND GLOBAL GRANTS?**

The Rotary Foundation has spent more than US$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects around the world. Rotary members can work with communities through Foundation grants, and two key options are district and global grants.

**District grants** fund small-scale, short-term activities that address needs in your community and communities abroad. Your district chooses what activities it will fund with these grants, such as humanitarian projects, scholarships, youth programs, or vocational training teams.

**Global grants** fund large, international activities with sustainable and measurable results in Rotary’s areas of focus. These can include humanitarian projects, scholarships for graduate-level study, or vocational training teams.

**Learn about another kind of grant next week!**

**WEEK 33 (February)**

**WHAT ARE DISASTER RESPONSE GRANTS?**

When communities are affected by catastrophes, The Rotary Foundation supports relief and recovery efforts through grants from the Rotary Disaster Response Fund.

**Disaster response grants** of up to US$25,000 fund relief and recovery efforts in areas that have had a natural disaster within the past six months. These efforts can include providing basic items such as water, food, medicine, and clothing.

Districts that have had a disaster and are qualified to receive Rotary grants can apply for a grant to launch their own projects or work with established relief organizations.

**Think about how you want to take part in grant programs. Which one interests you?**

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**WEEK 34 (February)**

**HOW DO DISTRICT GRANTS HELP AT HOME?**

A Rotary club in the United States used an US$3,000 district grant to purchase food and personal care items for a local food pantry that saw a 50% increase in need. A Rotary club in India is using a district grant to provide hygiene kits and training to girls who might otherwise miss school when they are menstruating. The project aims to help 40,000 girls.

Clubs worldwide use district grants to support similar short-term projects in their communities.

Every club has the opportunity to create positive change their community with grants from The Rotary Foundation, one project at a time.

**What do you want to accomplish in our community?**

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**WEEK 35 (February)**

**HOW DO GLOBAL GRANTS MAKE SUSTAINABLE CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

One remarkable aspect of The Rotary Foundation is that opportunities for significant projects exist wherever there’s a need — in large countries and small ones, in metropolitan areas and rural ones.

Global grant projects are built on international partnerships, and those collaborations can take many forms. A district in Canada may be the international sponsor, with a U.S. district as the host sponsor. A club in France could sponsor a global grant project in Germany. The need, not the location, determines the project.

Here’s another example: Rotary clubs in Honduras and the U.S. worked together on a global grant project to provide eye care to people in Honduras. Members from both clubs provided vision services through local clinics. They evaluated more than 1,200 people and gave prescription eyeglasses to 600. A local nongovernmental organization will continue to provide glasses and medications to people who need them.

What does this mean for the community? Better eyesight can lead to better educational or occupational opportunities, which can mean a better quality of life for people.

Clubs around the world use these grants from the Foundation to make long-term, sustainable change. Every club has the opportunity to do this, one project at a time.

**How do you want to make an impact in the world?**

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**WEEK 36 (March)**

**WHAT MAKES A GLOBAL GRANT APPLICATION SUCCESSFUL?**

Consult with local experts early in the planning process to build a strong project plan and global grant application. Your application needs to clearly describe how your project, scholarship, or vocational training team:

* Responds to real community needs
* Aligns with one of Rotary’s areas of focus
* Actively involves Rotary members and community members
* Meets the eligibility requirements in the grant terms and conditions
* Includes measurable goals
* Will be sustainable and successful long after the global grant funds have been spent

If you need help, contact your district international service chair. The district resource network is made up of members with expertise in project planning, the areas of focus, and Rotary Foundation grants.

**Our grant system empowers members to design projects with lasting benefits for communities.**

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**WEEK 37 (March)**

**WHAT IS A GLOBAL GRANT SCHOLARSHIP?**

Through Rotary Foundation global grants, members can support future leaders whose career goals align with fields related to our areas of focus.

These scholarships are awarded for at least US$30,000 and can fund graduate-level coursework or research for one to four academic years.

A key feature of global grants is the partnership between the district or club where the person will study and the district or club in their home country.

When they return home, scholarship recipients are expected to talk with Rotary members and others about how their experiences led to a greater understanding of their host country and how they’ll continue to support our areas of focus and spread goodwill and understanding.

**Do you know any students that you’d like to nominate for a scholarship?**

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**WEEK 38 (March)**

**WORDS FROM A ROTARY GLOBAL GRANT SCHOLAR**

“During my time as a Rotary scholar, I learned to look at development differently. We often think of international aid in terms of poverty reduction, and we often see poverty reduction in terms of dollars spent and earned. The anthropology of development aims to analyze global aid in another way. We pay particular attention to how initiatives play out on the ground to determine just what local communities’ needs are and how those needs might be met sustainably and, eventually, autonomously. … Rotarians understand that to have the most impact, we need to learn from other cultures. As global grant scholars, that’s what we aim to do — during our studies, and afterward.”

— Levi Vonk, a global grant scholar and later a Fulbright fellow to Mexico

**Learn more about Vonk and** [**his work with migrants in Mexico**](https://www.rotary.org/en/rotary-global-scholar-helps-migrant-workers-shelters)**.**

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**WEEK 39 (March)**

**WHAT IS A GLOBAL GRANT FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING?**

Vocational training teams are groups of professionals who travel to another country, either to learn more about their profession or to teach local professionals more about it.

The Rotary Foundation funds some vocational training teams in our areas of focus through global grants. This training is often carried out in conjunction with a humanitarian project.

A team should include at least three people. The team leader needs to be a Rotary member, while the other participants can be members or nonmembers who have experience in the area of focus.

Rotary previously had a program called Group Study Exchange, which promoted international understanding and offered person-to-person opportunities for participants to learn how their vocation was practiced in other countries. It was phased out when we updated our grant model and placed this activity within global grants.

**Think about whether you could join a vocational training team, or know a non-member who could participate.**

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**WEEK 40 (April)**

**WORDS FROM A VOCATIONAL TRAINING TEAM PARTICIPANT**

“With a [vocational training team], you also develop professional relationships between skilled individuals on both sides. The level of interpersonal engagement can’t be duplicated in another type of activity; the team members are not just colleagues but friends.”

Ron Smith, past governor of District 7430 (Pennsylvania)

**Learn more about PDG Ron Smith’s experience in** [**leading a vocational training team**](https://rotary.org/en/5-questions-about-leading-vocational-training-team)**.**

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**WEEK 41 (April)**

**WHAT ARE THE BEST FINANCIAL PRACTICES FOR GRANT FUNDS?**

Because grant funds come from donor contributions, it’s important for sponsors to manage these funds prudently, transparently, and in accordance with Rotary Foundation policies.

Some good ways to do that are to:

* Follow your spending plan to distribute and use grant funds for their stated purpose and in a timely manner.
* Make project-related payments by check or other traceable method.
* If payments are made electronically by one person, maintain a paper record showing that the payment was approved by both signatories.
* Maintain detailed receipts and record each transaction. Your ledger should list each transaction and note the date, the amount, and the reason for it.
* Share information so you can manage grant payments smoothly and keep funds secure.

**Thank you for helping Rotary maintain the highest level of grant oversight.**

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**WEEK 42 (April)**

**WHAT IS THE ROTARY FOUNDATION CADRE OF TECHNICAL ADVISERS?**

The **Cadre of Technical Advisers** is a group of Rotary members who offer their expertise and advice to clubs and districts that are planning and carrying out grant projects around the world. They also strengthen the impact of Rotary’s grants by safeguarding Foundation funds.

Cadre members provide guidance about conducting community assessments, incorporating sustainability, setting up monitoring or evaluation plans, and properly managing the financial aspects of a project.

More than 550 Cadre members who speak more than 80 languages come from 75 countries. You can connect with Cadre members who have expertise in a specific area of focus or in a particular language, country, or district.

**Do you want to** [**learn more about the Cadre**](https://my.rotary.org/en/take-action/apply-grants/cadre-technical-advisers)**,** **connect with a member****, or** [**join the Cadre**](https://my-cms.rotary.org/en/secure/application/236)**?**

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**WEEK 43 (April)**

**WHAT ARE PROGRAMS OF SCALE?**

The Programs of Scale process awards funding to successful member-led programs so they can implement larger, higher-impact initiatives in our areas of focus.

Each year, The Rotary Foundation grants one Programs of Scale award of US$2 million to a club- or district-sponsored program that has proven its effectiveness and is ready to expand.

The programs need to use sustainable, evidence-based methods and have outcomes that can be measured. This allows us to track our progress and share what we learned in order to increase our impact — one of our Action Plan priorities.

**Learn more about** [**the Programs of Scale process**](https://my.rotary.org/en/take-action/apply-grants/programs-scale-grants)**.**

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**WEEK 44 (May)**

**WHAT KIND OF ROTARY FOUNDATION SERVICE AWARDS EXIST?**

Rotary members use their skills, time, and talent to support our programs. These awards are some of the ways that we can recognize people’s contributions:

* The **Rotary Foundation District Service Award** honors members at the district level who are making a difference through the Foundation’s programs. It’s awarded by the district governor.
* The **Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service** honors one member from each district each year who has been actively involved in service related to the Foundation.
* The **Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award** is the Foundation’s highest service award and recognizes exemplary service that extends beyond the district level and is sustained for a long period.

**Help nominate a worthy Rotary member for one of these awards today!**

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**WEEK 45 (May)**

**WHAT IS RAISE FOR ROTARY?**

Raise for Rotary is The Rotary Foundation’s peer-to-peer fundraising platform.

Members, donors, and participants use it to create fundraisers for birthdays, athletic challenges, and events like World Polio Day. You can quickly post fundraisers and updates on social media to raise awareness about your favorite Rotary cause.

The platform is available worldwide in English and accepts U.S., Canadian, and Australian dollars, with more language and currency options in the works. Contributions from members are credited to them and contributions from nonmembers are credited to the organizer’s club.

Since Raise for Rotary was launched in 2020, **more than 2000 events have generated more than $1.5 million for**the World Fund, PolioPlus, the Disaster Response Fund, and Rotary’s areas of focus.

**Learn more and start your fundraiser at** [**rotary.org/raise**](https://raise.rotary.org/)**.**

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**WEEK 46 (May)**

**WHAT CAN A $100 GIFT TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION DO?**

A $100 donationto The Rotary Foundation provides textbooks for one elementary school in Zambia, hearing aids for a child in Pakistan, de-worming tablets for 112 children in the Philippines, cataract operations for three people in India, or 230 blankets for elderly people in Korea.

**Can you commit to donating $100 or more per year to the Foundation to do good in the world?**

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**WEEK 47 (May)**

**WHAT CAN A $500 GIFT TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION DO?**

A $500 donationto The Rotary Foundation can help six disabled workers in the Philippines start a watch-repair business, provide safety equipment for a boat that brings health services to isolated locations in Peru, or help women in Mexico start five small sewing businesses and be more self-sufficient.

**Can you commit to donating $500 per year to the Foundation to make lasting change?**

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**WEEK 48 (May)**

**WHAT CAN A $1,000 GIFT TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION DO?**

A $1,000 contributionto The Rotary Foundation pays for the materials needed to build a deep bore well in India that will supply clean drinking water to more than 300 people. It provides materials to treat and prevent parasites and anemia in children in Brazil or pays for a tree nursery in Jamaica that will help 700 farmers increase their income. It can provide a cow and animal husbandry training to a woman in Uganda, where children often don’t get enough protein and calcium. It can pay for the polio vaccine for 2,000 children in Nigeria or provide $50 microloans that allow 20 women in Nicaragua to start businesses.

**Can you commit to donating $1,000 per year to The Rotary Foundation to change people’s lives?**

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**WEEK 49 (June)**

**WHAT’S THE LAST DAY OF THE YEAR TO DONATE TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION?**

Every year, **30 June** is the last day for donations to be counted toward the final annual giving total for you and your club. We encourage you to make your year-end contributions early to be sure that your gifts are processed in time.

Remember, every contribution made to the Annual Fund-SHARE by 30 June means that your club and district will have more grant funding available in the years ahead.

**Make a contribution today to ensure that your club can make a difference in the world in the future!**

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**WEEK 50 (June)**

**WHAT’S THE BEST WAY TO MAKE A YEAR-END GIFT TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION?**

Giving online is the easiest and fastest way to ensure that your year-end gift is received in time.

Visit [rotary.org/donate](https://www.rotary.org/donate) and sign in to My Rotary to ensure that you and your club receive appropriate recognition for your contribution. If you need help, call the Rotary Support Center at +1-866-976-8279.

**Together, we can make lasting change in the world!**

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**WEEK 51 (June)**

**CONTINUING THE MISSION**

The year is almost over, but the mission of The Rotary Foundation doesn’t end.

The Foundation’s programs address current needs — promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water and sanitation, saving mothers and children, supporting education, growing local economies, and protecting the environment — in ways that make sustainable change for the future and improve people’s lives all around the world.

**Thank you for supporting the Foundation and helping our work continue**!

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**WEEK 52 (June)**

**IN CLOSING**

Thank you for supporting The Rotary Foundation this past year!

The need for the Foundation’s programs never stops, and the need for your support and participation continues as well. The Foundation will keep changing lives long into the future.

**Let’s be proud of our accomplishments during this amazing year!**