

“Caring Little Hearts”



Over the last two years, Rotary Club of Pasadena has joined hands with the Rotary Club of Madras South, in Chennai, India for a project whereby we funded more than 200 heart surgeries to needy children with congenital heart disease. In anticipation of our Centennial Celebration, we are doubling down on our efforts to provide another 200 or more surgeries. This time, there will be no fundraising meeting. We simply ask that you donate at one of our meetings or go to www.caringlittlehearts.com and contribute by clicking the “Donate Now” link. This goal for this year’s Global Grant funding is only \$17,500 or less than \$88.00 per surgery!

As you know, recent statistics in India show that for every hour about 20 children are born with heart defects and about 5% of those children die within the first month of life due to lack of treatment. Recent data suggest that nearly 12,000 children with heart defects are waiting for surgery in Tamil Nadu, the South Indian state where Chennai is located. If a child does not get treatment at the right time, then the child will likely die due to heart and lung failure or he/she becomes untreatable due to irreversible changes to the lungs and other organs. This could result in the child suffering from stroke or immobility. If a child is given treatment at the right time, he/she can lead a normal life.

We Rotarians embrace this opportunity to do good deeds half way around the world. If you visit www.caringlittlehearts.com, you can explore a video that tells a compelling story of the challenge to give infants and children in India a chance to live healthy lives. If you cannot give, please share the website with others on your social media page.

By working together to respond to real community needs, clubs and districts strengthen their global partnerships. The most compelling aspect of participating in the global grants process is the opportunity to make a difference in the world.