



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

RGHF's

OUR FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

A Newsletter for Rotary Leaders • A monthly feature

Issue 234 • October 2021

"We should not live for ourselves alone, but for the joy in doing good for others."

Arch Klumpp, founder of The Rotary Foundation



Image Source: IDebbie Vance

October is Community Economic Development Month

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Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

I recollect the Polio National Immunization Days being conducted every year in India, Rotary Clubs across the country would come together to create awareness, support the Polio immunization booths and ensure that every child below the age of five was given the polio vaccination.

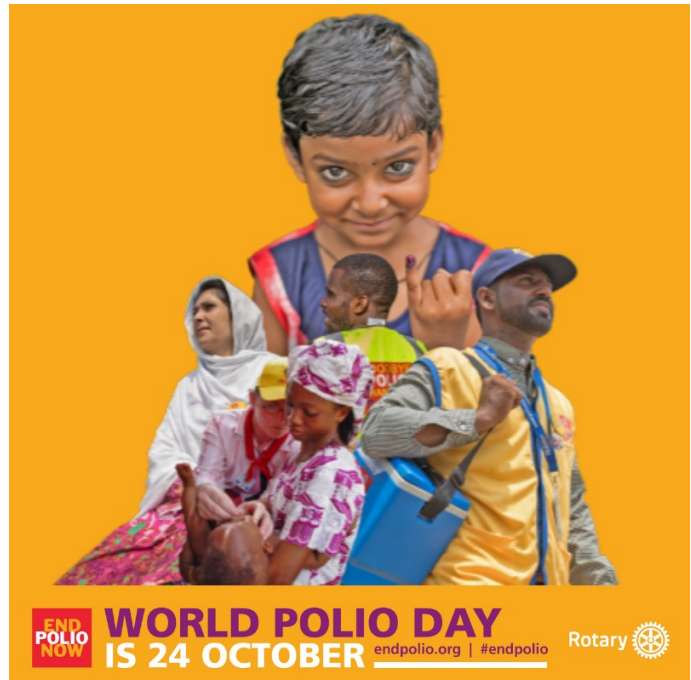
My home club was given the responsibility to provide food packets to the volunteers at every Polio immunization booth in our area. It was a massive activity in arranging for the food packets, and then moving from one booth to the other distributing these packets, and also checking on any additional requirements. It was an activity that gave immense satisfaction as we had the opportunity to support the support workers.

A collective effort by Rotarians, medical staff, government agencies, and public health workers, to make India polio-free.

As we observe World Polio Day on 24th October, we need to continue the good work we have been doing across the globe to keep Polio in check. We also need to step up our efforts and look for additional support from the other agencies in our effort to stop polio in the balance two endemic countries: Afghanistan and Pakistan.

We have been “this close” to eradicating polio, and now with the “final push” we need to achieve our goal of a polio-free world.

Rotary Regards,



Jeetendra Sharma

Editor in Chief – RGHF's Our Foundation Newsletter

Trustee Chair's Message

When Rotary courageously stepped up to pursue the dream of a polio-free world, we knew realizing our dream wouldn't be easy. But since 1988, working with our partners, we've brought worldwide case counts down by 99.9 percent.

However, it's not over 'til it's over. It will take courage. We're going to keep up the funding and keep on the pressure until this fight is finished, and no child ever again has to experience the devastating effects of polio.

As we mark World Polio Day on 24 October, we can take heart; we continue to make progress, and with the current low transmission rates of wild poliovirus in Afghanistan and Pakistan, we have a unique opportunity to interrupt transmission. We also have a new strategy and vaccine that will bolster our eradication efforts.

To eradicate wild poliovirus and stop outbreaks of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV), the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's new strategy centers around several key areas: political advocacy to create greater urgency and accountability in the endemic and outbreak countries, improved engagement with high-risk communities, improved operations and polio surveillance, and the inclusion of polio immunization in broader health programs.

Along with our new strategy, Rotary and its partners are using a new tool, novel oral polio vaccine (nOPV2), to help address outbreaks of type 2 cVDPV. This new vaccine has been deployed in a growing list of countries and is a promising development in our quest to end polio once and for all.

But there is still much work to be done. In particular, we need to remain strongly committed to our goals in the face of recent events in Afghanistan. As a nonpolitical organization, Rotary will continue to do the work that is necessary to protect the health of children everywhere.

After all the progress we've made in our decades-long fight, the worst thing we could do is to become complacent, so here's where you come in.

Let's raise awareness of Rotary's role in polio eradication. And let's double down on our commitment and keep raising \$50 million each year for polio. Remember: Thanks to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, any contribution you or your Rotary or Rotaract club makes will be matched 2 to 1.

In Rotary, when we dream, we get behind our dream with everything we can muster. We have always risen to challenges — and now it is more important than ever for us to rise again, with courage, to defeat polio.



John F. Germ
Trustee Chair 2021-22

Eradicating polio amid a pandemic and political upheaval

Story Written By: Carol Pandak

Against the backdrop of an ongoing global pandemic and political upheaval in Afghanistan, we continue to make significant progress in polio eradication, demonstrating the resilience and determination of all those who are working to achieve a polio-free world for children everywhere.

Although this year may feel a little different, given current events, on World Polio Day, 24 October, we reflect on the progress we've made and the challenges we've faced not only over the past year but throughout the history of the PolioPlus program.

Celebrating progress

As of 29 September 2021, only two cases of polio caused by wild poliovirus have been reported — one in Afghanistan and one in Pakistan. There has also been a significant reduction in wild poliovirus detected in the environment. Also in decline are cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV), which occur when the live, weakened virus used in the oral polio vaccine circulates in underimmunized communities and reverts in strength in a way that can cause paralysis. (The Global Polio Eradication Initiative [GPEI], of which Rotary is a founding partner, introduced a new vaccine to lower the risk of cVDPVs.)

There is no doubt that the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic was a period of extreme uncertainty for global polio eradication efforts and for immunization efforts overall. Within a few months, though, the PolioPlus program adapted and learned new ways of working to ensure that polio immunization activities could safely continue. At the same time, those who work in polio eradication used their expertise and the GPEI used its infrastructure to support the response to COVID-19.

Overcoming challenges

The situation in Afghanistan presents more uncertainty but also possible opportunities. As a nonpolitical entity, the GPEI has a long history of working with various stakeholders in the country, including government officials and nongovernmental organizations. World Health Organization and UNICEF staff have largely remained in the country. Polio vaccinations continue through permanent transit teams posted in high-traffic areas of most regions, at border crossing sites, and at a Rotary-sponsored transit point in Kunar Province.

Rotary's Afghanistan PolioPlus chair is part of discussions with local authorities to resume immunization campaigns as soon as possible to protect the progress made to date and safeguard children from the poliovirus.

Despite the political changes, there has been no major impact on surveillance to detect the poliovirus. Case investigation, stool sample collection, and environmental testing continue, and sewage and stool specimens are being shipped to a lab in Pakistan.

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We are also monitoring the potential impact of the situation in Afghanistan on Pakistan, the only other country where polio remains endemic, such as an influx of refugees. The PolioPlus program in Pakistan is building on progress it has made by improving campaign quality and increasing community outreach to immunize children who continually miss polio vaccinations in the highest-risk areas: Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Baluchistan.

An optimistic future

On this World Polio Day, we celebrate the progress we've made since Rotary launched its PolioPlus program in 1985, and we marvel at the opportunity to eradicate a human disease for only the second time in history. While being realistic about the challenges, the GPEI has a record of operating successfully during complex health and humanitarian emergencies in countries and regions such as Angola, Northern Nigeria, Somalia, and Syria.

Let's be inspired by the unwavering commitment of our organization, our GPEI and government partners, and heroic frontline workers as we continue our work to improve health for children wherever they live.

These numbers show the progress we've made against polio over the years:

- Nearly 3 billion children have been vaccinated against polio.
- 19.4 million people who otherwise would have been paralyzed by polio can walk today.
- 1.5 million childhood deaths have been prevented by the GPEI's delivery of vitamin A — a nutrient that is essential for healthy growth and development — to children during polio immunization campaigns.
- Cases of polio caused by wild poliovirus have been reduced by more than 99.9%.
- The number of countries that report cases of polio caused by the wild virus has been reduced from 125 to two.
- Rotary has invested more than US\$2.2 billion in global polio eradication efforts.
- Rotary has also helped secure an additional \$10 billion in donations for global polio eradication efforts from governments.
- 122 countries have received support from PolioPlus grants.
- If polio eradication efforts stopped now, within 10 years, 200,000 children could be paralyzed every year.

Carol Pandak has been Rotary's PolioPlus director for 21 years. During that time, she has traveled to more than 35 countries, but her most memorable moment — one she'll never forget — took place in India, when she immunized a baby against polio for the first time.

Source: www.endpolio.org

BTS' Jimin donates 100 million Korean won to eradicate polio

Jimin, a member of K-pop boy band BTS, is supporting the eradication of polio, a devastating vaccine-preventable disease that once paralyzed 1,000 children every single day.

Jimin's donation of 100 million won (\$88,000) to Rotary's polio eradication program, will protect children in countries where the disease is still a threat.

"Thanks to the effort of Rotary and so many people, polio is coming to an end on this planet," Jimin said. "I wanted to join this historic moment to make sure no child suffers from polio."



Polio cases have been reduced by 99.9 percent over the past three decades, thanks to the efforts of Rotary, the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Today just two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan, continue to report cases of wild polio, and Jimin's donation brings the effort one step closer to a polio-free world.

"We expect the donation by Jimin, a member of the world's most beloved boyband BTS, will increase the global interest in polio eradication," said Rotary International District 3590 (South Korea) Governor Im-Sook Kim. "Rotary will keep the commitment of Jimin and other supporters in its heart and make every effort to ensure that no child ever suffers from polio."

Source: www.rotary.org



A Newsletter for Rotary Leaders • A *monthly* feature

International Rotary Peace Conference 2021 was held virtually on 18th and 19th September 2021 to celebrate World Peace Day and to mobilise the varied aspects of Peace and the major role it plays in resolving conflict. The Conference was organized by RI District 3131, Pune, India and hosted by Rotary Club of Chinchwad-Pune.

The Conference had 751+ registrations from 37 diverse countries and Rotary Districts, including Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, HongKong, Indonesia, Italy, Iraq, Kenya, Mauritius, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, SriLanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America and India. The resource persons from the United Kingdom, France, Nigeria, Austria, USA, Finland, Indonesia, Brazil, and Australia explored the diverse facets of peacebuilding processes.

The presence of Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta and RI Director Dr. Mahesh Kotbagi made the Conference an enriching experience for the participants. In his keynote address, RI President Shekhar Mehta stated that absence of war is not peace. Despite the absence of war today, there is no peace in the world. The best contribution of Rotary to the world is that every year Rotary trains 1500 Peace Builders across the globe to stop conflicts and establish peace. He stated that the Youth Exchange Programme of Rotary encourages not only a cultural exchange between two countries but also peacebuilding across the globe. The VTT Programme, the Friendship Exchange Programme, the Inter Country Committees of Rotary and the programmes Rotary conducts under the seven avenues are the steps towards peace. When Rotary brings water through a Global Grant to a sparse village of Africa, the women, the children and the villagers better define peace with the borewells which Rotary has sunk for them. The piece of bread that a Rotarian gives to a lady who cannot feed her child for two days, is “peace” for the lady. When a Rotarian helps a blind to see or heals a sick person, he brings peace in their lives. A country which is half-educated cannot be a country at peace. So when Rotary does a Happy School and a Happy Village Project, it brings peace in that village. The Polio Story of Rotary is self-explanatory about how Rotary brought peace in the world. Rotary gave the polio doses to three billion people in the world, the result is ninety million children walk on their feet and are not paralysed. He concluded by saying, “I am a proud Rotarian. We Rotarians bring peace to the society through our amazing programmes. Let us have a strong belief that we Rotarians are the peace builders. We are the peacemakers. You and I may not stop the war, but we are the ones who bring positive peace in the world”.

Rotary
District 3131

ADVISORY BOARD

RESOURCE PERSONS

INTERNATIONAL ROTARY PEACE CONFERENCE 2021

Organized by

**Rotary Club Chinchwad, Pune,
Rotary District 3131, India**

18th & 19th September, 2021

6.00 P.M. TO 9.00 P.M. IST

**RI President Rtn Shekhar Mehta
Keynote Address**

**Rtn. Dr. Manish Shah,
RI Director 2021-23
Guest of Honor**

**Dr. Rtn. Prashik Shah,
RI District 3131
Chairperson**

Publication of Selected Research Papers/Posters/Projects on
Peace in Peer-Reviewed Journal

Click the Link for FREE Registration

<https://vozd6wh.com/meeting/register/3131d3yapq>
4d943f9b49PwEWh-2m62MB07

T.F.S. Rtn Ganesh Kulkarni, RD 3131

A.G. Rtn Sanjay Khanolkar, RD 3131

A.G. Rtn Dr. Shubhanghi Kothari, RD 3131

ORGANISME COMMITTEE

Rtn Prof. Dr. Shilpaagauri Prasad Ganpule

**President, Coordinator,
International Rotary Peace Conference, 2021
IPP Rtn Prasad Shett**

**Chairperson, Peace Building and Conflict Prevention,
Rotary Club Chinchwad, Pune, India**

**The Entire TEAM of Rotary Club Chinchwad,
Pune, RD 3131, India**

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

INTERNET CLUB CHINCHWAD - CPWC (Club No. 50474), a leading club of
RD 3131, organizing the conference in order to celebrate its **100th Jubilee Year - 1923-23** as a unique way.

The Peace is the ultimate destination of the human race. The letters in the word
"PEACE" represent:

- P Positive ethics
- E Ethical values
- C Collaboration or co-existence
- A Affluence of resources to all
- E Economical world

Analyze the nature and built-up of our world, evaluate among the people of
different nationalities, races, creed, castes, religions, PEACE is the only
solution to the long-standing oratory internationalism to be found.

**PDC Rtn Dr. Shekhes Palekar
District Trainer, RD 3131**

**Rtn Pradeep Wagh
Counsellor, Peace Building and
Conflict Prevention, RD 3131**

**Rtn Deva Ghoparde
Director, Peace Building and
Conflict Prevention, RD 3131**

**Rtn Smrita Vihankar
Co-Director, Peace Building and
Conflict Prevention, RD 3131**

**Rtn. Alison Sutherland
United Kingdom
Peace Building and Conflict Prevention**

**Dr. Thomas Clough
Daffern
France
Conflict Resolution Specifics and Peace
Building Processes**

**Dr. Christine De-Coursey
Austria
Tensions and Intolerance: Drivers and Their Syrian-Beloved Patients**

**Dr. Kailas Uttarkar
Delhi, U.S.A.
The Bhagavad Gita and Peace**

**Rtn. James R.
Polinquist
Pennsylvania USA**

**Rtn. Peter's Potential
World is Everywhere not Police Polit!**

**Rtn. Pietro
Urochukwu, Macao
Nigeria**

**Rtn. Shrin Kulkarni
Finland
Preface to the Proposed Project
"National Training of Positive
Peace Ambassadors"**

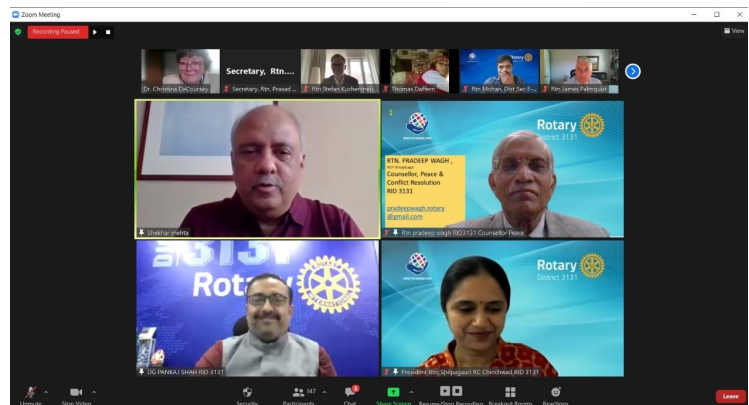
**Rtn. Shrin Kulkarni
Finland
Reaching Peace through Creativity**

**Advocate Sheetal Metkar
India
Peace through Dance**

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RI Director Dr. Mahesh Kotbagi mentioned that Peace can be achieved if the poorest of the poorest children get the opportunity of education. Peace cannot be achieved by floating balloons or flying pigeons. Peace can be achieved through education for all, food for all, health for all and dignified life for all. Through the seven avenues of Rotary the ultimate goal is the attainment of peace. He put forth an urgent need to sensitize the world about peace building. Platforms like the International Rotary Peace Conference 2021 can definitely bring in people across the globe and make them brainstorm about Peace Building processes and find ways to establish peace.



Hon. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Nitin Karmalkar, Savitribai Phule Pune University and Rtn Pietro Uzochukwu Macleo, Past President of Rotary Club of Abuja Wuse II, RID 9125, Nigeria were awarded the International Peace Award for their monumental work in the field of education and peacebuilding and conflict prevention, respectively. Noteworthy peace projects from across the globe were selected and awarded:

1. Rotary Club of Juba, South Sudan : President Rtn Martin Raphael
2. Rotary Club of Jaro Centraline, Philippines: President Rtn Jec Dan Borlado
3. Rotary Club of Pune Camp, Pune, India: PP Rtn Jaideep Malaviya
4. Rotary Club of Abuja Wuse II, Nigeria: PP Rtn. Pietro Uzochukwu Macleo.

The research papers on the theme of Peace Building and Conflict Resolution are going to be published in the international online journal LANGLIT. The best research papers were awarded:

1. Rtr. Abraham O.A.T.: Rotaract Club of Lugbe, Nigeria, RID 9125 Title of the Paper: The Three Pillars of Sustainable Peace
2. Ms. Vaidehi Joshi: Prof. R.M.College, Akurdi, Pune, India: Title of the Paper: A.C. Bhaktivedant Prabhupad As A Spiritual Master of Peace
3. Ms. Vijayalakshmi: Prof. R.M.College, Akurdi, Pune, India: Title of the Paper: Peace through Yoga and Music
4. Rtr. Chibuikem Anyanwu: Rotaract Club of Port Harcourt Sea Port, Nigeria RID 9141: Title of the Paper: Peace Beyond What We See
5. Dr. Manjusha Goel: R.K.S.D. (p.G.) College, Kaithal, Haryana: Title of the Paper: Women Empowerment for Peace Building : A Gender Study

As shared by Rtn Prof Dr Shilpaguari Prasad Ganpule, President, Rotary Club of Chinchwad, Pune, RID 3131, India



Let's talk about one of Rotary's Causes: Promoting Peace.

Helping refugees find asylum – and supporting those who have – is one of the most impactful ways we can help promote peace. Syria has increasingly needed help over the last decade, as the country's civil war continues. From those who still remain in Syria to those who have been able to leave the country in search of asylum, there are many in need of help.

Many Rotary clubs have stepped in to aid Syrian families in need. Club members in Amherst, Nova Scotia, Canada, were able to partner with two local churches to help raise money to relocate two Syrian families. They were able to raise over \$72,000 for the families, and the community welcomed the families with open arms. Their journey to start a new life began through the help of Rotarians.

Interested in helping promote peace? Here are a few ways you can help:

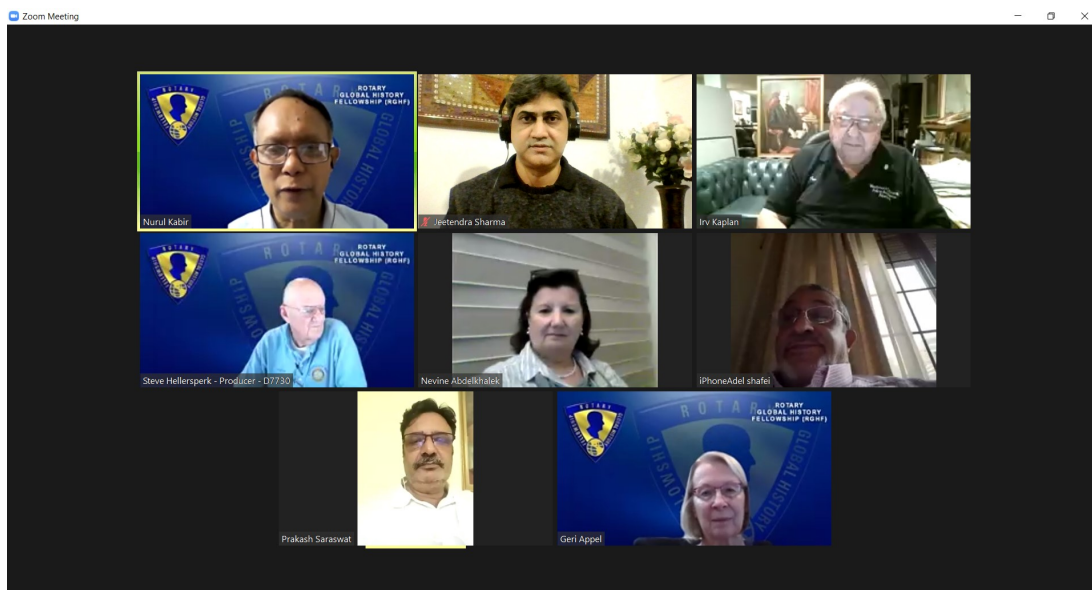
Donate to The Rotary Foundation

Support refugees in your community


Join your local Rotary club

Become a 2023-24 Rotary Peace Fellow.

Source: Rotary International on Facebook



September 2021 RGHF Board of Directors Meeting



Rotary Global History Fellowship

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THE ROTARY FOUNDATION ▾

NEWS ▾

Our New RGHF Home

Welcome to the website of Rotary Global History Fellowship (RGHF)! Be sure to bookmark www.rghf.org as the gateway to our site.


We are redesigning this new website as we move and reorganize the contents of our previous site www.rghfhome.org (please do not go to the old site).

Rotary Global History Fellowship (RGHF) has been accumulating and maintaining the global history of Rotary for more than 20 years. RGHF is a hub of information and a reference library – almost anything you want to learn more about from a historical standpoint about Rotary can be found within our many links and pages.

Rotary history comes alive when you visit the Rotary Global History Fellowship (RGHF)!

Please visit and explore many facets & milestones of Rotary's rich history.


If you have suggestions for how to improve this site, please contact us at rghfhistory@gmail.com



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Rotary Global History Fellowship (RGHF) ▾
September 30 at 1:03am

I never knew a fellow like Paul Harris. Of all the men I ever met, I couldn't choose one better fitted to be the Founder of Rotary.

<https://rghf.org/paul-harris-as-i-knew-him/>



Rotary Global History Fellowship

Paul Harris as I knew Him | Rotary Global History Fellowship (RGHF)

Jeetendra Sharma, Editor in Chief, jeeturotary@gmail.com

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