



May 2020

3500
Rotarians

59
Clubs

54
Cases of Polio
in 2020

2019-20
Giving

\$288,824
99,058

Contributions to
the Annual Fund
Contributions
to Polio Plus

Increasing Our Ability to Adapt

RI President, Mark Daniel Maloney

Increasing our ability to adapt: That is one goal of our new Rotary Action Plan. And wow, have we seen that ability put to the test this year.

In March, Gay and I were to visit Zimbabwe, Turkey, and eight other countries over the course of 30 days. After participating in a medical mission in Zimbabwe and Commonwealth Week activities in London, on the 11th day, we were packing our suitcases for Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

While attending a dinner at the High Commission for Pakistan in London, we received word that it would be impossible to travel everywhere on our itinerary. So, instead of flying to Zurich, we returned to Evanston and One Rotary Center.

Throughout early March, the news about COVID-19 became increasingly serious throughout the world...



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District 6690 Donates \$100,000 to Area Food Banks

With the spread of COVID-19 in Ohio and across the world, District 6690 Rotary Clubs recently answered the emergency plea for help by donating \$100,000 to the Mid-Ohio and Southeast Ohio food banks.

District Governor Gary Vaughan challenged the clubs to donate \$50,000 in just four weeks to support the food banks. To encourage club and individual participation, Rotary District 6690 offered to match the donations to provide even more help for the thousands of workers who were suddenly unemployed as businesses closed to prevent the spread COVID-19.

"I am so proud of our Rotarians and their ability to respond to this challenge and help the people in our communities who have lost their jobs and need assistance from the pantries," Vaughan said. "Many clubs also made emergency donations to their local food pantries as soon as the shelter in place order was made. Strengthening our communities through service is why we are Rotarians."

According to Matt Habash, president and CEO of the Mid-Ohio Food Collective, Rotary's donation of \$100,000 will provide up to \$900,000 in groceries or

320,000 meals because of the food bank's ability to leverage its food sourcing purchases.

Check presentations to the food banks will be made by District Governor Gary this Monday at the Columbus Rotary virtual meeting..

A big thank you goes out to the following 31 clubs who responded to the district's emergency plea to help area food banks:

Athens Sunrise	Marietta
Bridgeport	Marysville
Cambridge	Mount Vernon
Chillicothe	New Albany
Clintonville	Newark-Heath
Columbus	Olentangy
Columbus Short North	Pataskala
Coshocton	Upper Arlington
Delaware	TriVillage
Dublin AM	Wellston
Dublin Worthington	Westerville
Gahanna	Westerville Sunrise
Gallipolis	Worthington AM
Granville	Zanesville
Ironton	Zanesville Daybreak
Lancaster	



Editor's Note: Look for social media posts about this story, early next week. [Please Like](#) and [Share](#) those posts to help us reach as many people as possible. We want to promote the connectedness of Rotary and how that can amplify our response to community needs.

Project Update: Polio Plus



Notes from the Twenty-Fourth International Health Regulations Emergency Committee:

- The Committee remains gravely concerned by the significant increase in WPV1 cases globally in 2019 and 2020, with 175 cases in 2019 compared to 33 in 2018.
- In Pakistan transmission continues to be widespread.
- In Afghanistan, the security situation remains very challenging.
- Recent instances of international spread of viruses between Pakistan and Afghanistan indicates increasing risk of WPV1 exportation beyond those two countries.
- The Committee is extremely concerned about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the risk of heightened transmission of polio and consequently the potential for international spread and significant reversal of polio eradication.

[READ MORE](#)

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, we must also keep our efforts on ending polio. Our progress in recent years has reversed over the last 12 months. Fundraising is more important than ever and, this year it will be more difficult than ever. Start planning now and sharing ideas for raising awareness and funding to End Polio Now.

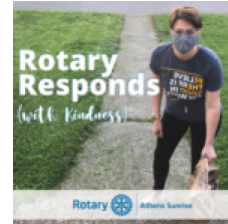
Around the District

As Rotarians, you are all undoubtedly helping your communities every day - whether it's helping people to cope with COVID-19 hardships or ensuring continuity in addressing existing needs - Rotarians are always thinking about service above self.

Below are just a few examples.

Athens Sunrise Rotary Responds (with Kindness) Postcard Project

Athens Sunrise Rotary has launched a community support initiative to support vulnerable members of the community who are self-isolating due to COVID-19. Community members are referred by family, friends or neighbors, as well by community service organizations, medical providers and law enforcement to the Rotary Responds (with Kindness) Postcard Project.



Once a referral is received, a volunteer from Athens Sunrise Rotary, Alexander Interact or Ohio University Rotaract is assigned. The Volunteer mails a personalized postcard to the referred individual offering various levels of help such as running errands, light yard work or just friendly checkins. If the community member would like to accept the offer of help, they can contact the Volunteer according to the postcard. From there, the volunteer will coordinate the activities directly with the community member while observing all recommendations for masks, gloves, social distancing, etc.

Referrals can be made at <https://bit.ly/rotaryresponds>. Prospective volunteers should contact [Jenny Stotts](#) to request a supply of postcards.

Coshocton Rotary Club donates Fabric for Facemasks

The Coshocton Rotary Club recently donated \$500 toward Antimicrobial fabrics to be made into face masks for first responders and home health aides in their county to protect them from COVID-19. Masks were made by Debbie Brown, sister of Coshocton Rotarian Daphne France.



Rotary Club of Hilliard

Rotary Club of Hilliard raised and donated \$15,000 to the Food Pantry of Hilliard.

Greg Rokoff shares:

We had 117 donations for a total of \$15k. Our social media campaign created awareness of the food pantry in our community. This

awareness and marketing enabled them to raise \$69k in total!

The pantry typically serves about 150-160 families per week. Numbers have been much higher since the start of the pandemic.

The club has also volunteered, helped them set up processes for managing curbside, and sourced hard to get food like bread and cereal.

Our club was called to action in this crisis to become a leader in our community. That's just what Rotary does. Our pantry is new and has a new location. Not only did we raise money, but we helped with awareness so our people in our community know where to donate, how to donate and where to go if they need help and assistance.

You can see their fundraising video [here](#).

Public Image Grant - Rotary Club of St. Clairsville

Below are excerpts from the St. Clairsville Rotary's successful PI Grant project.

Our Goal was to promote the service and good works of the St. Clairsville Rotary Club and create awareness and donations for Polio Plus at our spaghetti dinner event.

- We measured the achievement of our goal by Polio Plus contributions at the spaghetti dinner and the increase in social media followers of our Club.
- We generated an additional \$510.00 for Polio Plus.
- We hosted 1050 attendees at our Spaghetti dinner.
- 12.8% increase in Instagram followers and 10.7% increase in Facebook followers.
- \$690 was spent on T-shirts with our social media info on them and funding of a reusable stand up banner for awareness and recruitment.



Well done, St. Clairsville!

Newsletter Contributions

Tell the rest of the district what your club or committee is up to! Where do you need help? What successes can you share? What do you want to know more about? Send submission ideas to dave.ungar@gmail.com by the 1st of the month.

Social Media

Does your club use hashtags when posting on social media? Using **#RD6690** on your posts will enable the district to search and repost/retweet your messages. Let us help you reach a larger audience!

Follow District 6690:



Yours in Rotary

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