

DISASTER AID USA AND DISASTER RELIEF UPDATE

By Bob Grill, President of Disaster Aid USA; and Paul Mahata, Chair, District Disaster Relief Committee

Disaster Aid USA, in coordination with the District Disaster Relief Committee, continues to fight COVID-19. With support from District 7620 and other Rotary Districts around the USA, we have procured Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) worth over \$110K. The PPE has helped the health workers stay safe in many hospitals and clinics. As a "Collaborating Partner" of Rotary International, DAUSA also remains ready to help the victims of disasters caused by natural causes such as Hurricanes, Tornados, Floods, and Earthquakes. We have over a dozen DAUSA Trailers stationed around the country ready to respond in a short notice. Our trained volunteers and DARTs provide the help and assistance needed to the disaster victims.

In order to expand our capability to provide disaster relief, we have taken concrete steps to do nationwide fundraising effort, using the vehicle of "Global Giving Campaign." At this time funds are urgently needed for fighting COVID-19 and for providing disaster assistance. For this reason, Disaster Aid USA is seeking donations now. Disaster Aid USA is a Rotary Club project providing aid and assistance when disaster strikes within and outside the United States. Past support from Rotary clubs and individual Rotarians has been very valuable. Please earmark your donation "COVID-19" or "Global Giving" and mail to: Disaster Aid USA, 9817 Lanham Severn Road, Lanham, MD

20706, or donate online using the website www.disasteraidusa.org via PayPal or going to link disasteraidusa.networkforgood.com/

For any questions, feel free to contact Bob Grill, President & Co-founder, Disaster Aid USA bob.grill@disasteraidusa.org Tel: 410-956-7344; or Paul Mahata, Chair, District Disaster Relief Committee, Pmahata@verizon.net.



INTERACT CLUB OF RICHARD WRIGHT PCS

By Amora Cambell, President, Interact Club of Richard Wright PCS for Journalism and Media

Coronavirus has put a stop to many community service opportunities around the world and yet, the result has caused new ideas to help our community be heard. Every Thursday our club would meet to discuss new projects or ways to help out in this time of need, which makes victories like getting together and sharing ideas for how to assist frontline workers and people at risk so much

more rewarding. However, before the coronavirus hit our city we raised over \$200 from a dress down fundraiser. Fundraising isn't common with non sport clubs, so this was an important landmark for our school as well as Interact club. The money was matched by Rotary DC which allowed us to donate to the Best Kids Foundation for their Virtual Superhero 5k and Fun Run. Best Kids Foundation supports foster children by trying to make a positive impact on their lives. Because of this amazing cause we chose to give this organization a new ally in making children of DC happier. This summer we will partner with the Arkansas Rotary Interact Club for an inspirational art project to say thank you to Healthcare providers. Without the pandemic causing a great amount of integration to technology this partnership most likely wouldn't have happened. In addition to the summer project and meetings, we were able to expand

our horizons when two exchange students, Jaden and Magda came to a meeting to talk with us about their experiences abroad. Every member asked questions about the schools, host families, and culture of the place they went to. We had a great achievement by two of our members who participated in the Four-Way Test Speech Competition. They had a great time writing and learning about the Four Way Test, a skill that will continue to help them throughout their service career. Lastly, we celebrated our one year anniversary with a beautiful slideshow of our accomplishments this year. We would like to thank Rotary DC for making this possible by sponsoring our club.