



[Above] Baltimore Rotary's Dominican Republic Project

## BALTIMORE ROTARY'S DOMINICAN REPUBLIC PROJECT

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC  
MEDICAL/DENTAL PROJECT

*By Karen Blake, President, Baltimore Rotary Club*

Rotary International has had an ongoing presence in the village of La Pascuala, Dominican Republic, since 1994. La Pascuala is a rural village of 2500 people on the northern coast of the Dominican Republic.

Prior to 1995, health care was all but absent from this community. Rotary International and Rotary Clubs throughout Pennsylvania were made aware of this situation by Linda Alley Herndon, daughter of Lebanon Rotarian, Dr. Albert Alley. Linda was serving in the Peace Corps in the La Pascuala

area. Action was taken in the form of building a single story clinic for the community in 1996. Funds came from Rotary and labor was a volunteer effort from local villagers. Rated level "C" the Clinic was now able to participate in the rural health program of the Dominican Republic providing limited medical services.

Villages suffered from water-borne parasitic illnesses. Water from the central government was unreliable and impure. Rotary took action in 1999 completing an aqueduct project which supplied purified spring water to the community.

The Dental Mission has now expanded to include students from the University of Maryland, School of Dentistry, an educational component and medical pre-screening of patients for high blood pressure. The Rotary Club of Baltimore and the Rotary Club of Sanchez (DR) partnered to continue Mission objectives. The Dental Mission continues on an annual basis. Rotary Clubs continue to liason with outside medical groups such as The Hershey Medical Center to expand the scope of offerings for the Mission and the community within the Samana region.

The 2011 Dental Mission resulted in liasoning with U.S. Peace Corps volunteers. Private donations allowed for purchase of Blood Pressure cuffs and on site improvements to the generator structure.

The hope is that this model of "pop-up" dentistry will be replicated in areas of West Baltimore.

## DC ROTARACT NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

*By Marilyn Nevy Cruz, Rotary Club of Washington, DC*

Congratulations to the Rotaract Club of Washington, DC for inducting eight (8) new members to the Rotary family on Sunday, February 2nd, 2020! Your incoming membership class is a testament to the impact of your community activities and the value you bring your members. The Rotary Club of Washington, DC is very proud of you.



[Above] In February, the Rotaract Club of Washington DC volunteered at A Wider Circle! They helped organize their donations, which went to help families rising out of poverty with basic home needs. One story that stuck with that was a story about a family of 12 that only had 2 spoons to eat, so they would take turns eating 2 at a time. Through this organization, they now have a full set of utensils and were able to eat together for the first time!



[Above] The Annapolis Rotaract club had a successful Resume and Headshot workshop. They thank Caitlin Phillips and Jason Spitzer for their expertise and great advice. Through this workshop, they have gained valuable knowledge to thrive and excel in their careers.

