

DC ROTARY CLUB PARTNERS WITH METRO BETHESDA CLUB FOR GLOBAL GRANT EMERGENCY FUNDING FOR DC

By Marilyn Nevy Cruz, District Interact Chair

The Rotary Club of Washington DC partnered with the Metro Bethesda Rotary Club to support a \$53,750 COVID-19 Global Grant project to assist our local community. This project provides Personal Protective Equipment and decontamination equipment to DC Metro Area First Responders and families in poverty.

The Rotary Club of Washington DC's Foundation Board approved \$5,000 in uncommitted funds which will generate up to \$17,500 from our Club to benefit our community through the RI Global Grant System while working with another Club in our District.

Below is more information about the grant: "COVID-19 emergency response to provide medical equipment/PPE to local frontline medical personnel and to support nonprofits who need PPE and other aid to support vulnerable community members. Key groups are especially vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus. This grant will assist in protecting medical First Responders and families in poverty. This Global Grant 2011355. COVID 19 emergency response to provide medical equipment/PPE to local frontline medical personnel and to support nonprofits who need PPE and other aid to support vulnerable community members. In partnership with Bethesda Rescue Squad we plan to fund equipment that will sanitize their ambulances, equipment, building and all front line workers. PPE is also a key component. When the squad answers a 911 call, they don't know what to expect so the assumption must be that the patient is infected. These funds will increase the safety of medical personnel covering about 300,000 Montgomery County and NW DC residents. They will share the equipment with at least 10 units with ambulances and other equipment. This includes the

NIH station and Walter Reed. Mobile Med's mission at this time is to keep ill patients out of the hospital system during the emergency. The funds will be used to enhance their diagnostic capabilities and PPE to protect their medical staff. So What Else is a child and family focused non-profit serving Montgomery County and parts of DC and Baltimore. During the crisis they will distribute food and other household items to people in poverty. The funds will buy food and PPE to protect their staff and volunteers."

NEW INTERACT CLUB IN DISTRICT

By Marilyn Nevy Cruz, District Interact Chair

The COVID-19 doesn't stop our district! Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Metro Bethesda for sponsoring the new community-based Interact Club of Metro Bethesda! Kudos to MBR Rotarian & Interact Adviser, Kallie Forman, for taking the lead and making this charter possible. We look forward to the amazing things this Interact Club will do in the Metro Bethesda area and the rest of the world! The Interact Club of Metro Bethesda was established on March 3, 2020.

INTERACT UPDATE

By Marilyn Nevy Cruz, District Interact Chair

I hope everyone is well and staying safe and sane during this COVID-19 pandemic.

I also hope your sponsoring Interact Clubs are still meeting via Google Meets, Zoom or any other online platform your Interact Club finds suitable.

Some Rotary Clubs are still virtually hosting their own 4-Way-Test speech

competition. I know my Rotary club is! I encourage every club and as many Interactors as possible to participate in this great initiative. Information about the 4-Way-Test speech competition and how to qualify and apply for the Interact Presidential Citation can be found at rotary7620.org. Please work with your Interact Club Advisers to make this happen.

For those Interactors going on to college, don't forget to have them check out the Rotaract Clubs in their designated colleges. You can search for a Rotaract Club at <https://my.rotary.org/en/search/club-finder>.

If you would like to purchase Interact merchandise check out the Russell Hampton website <https://www.bestclubsupplies.com/Interact-Products/products/53/>

If there are any pictures, flyers, or projects you wish to showcase on our district newsletter and social media pages, please feel free to send them to me no later than May 20, 2020 at mncruz10@gmail.com.

I also encourage everyone to follow, post and tag any pictures of what your Interact Clubs have done YTD on our Facebook (Interact District 7620) and/or Instagram (interact_district_7620) pages. I'd love to see more of you on there. You can also follow the Rotary International Facebook Page to find out what other Clubs are doing at the international level.

Lastly, if you know of an Interactor interested in serving as the Rotary District 7620 Interact Representative or on the District Interact Committee in the 2020-2021 year, feel free to send me a private email. I will send you detailed information on what the position entails.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I am here to help. Please also feel free to forward this message to any Interactor or Interact Adviser in your Clubs.