



[Above] The Southern Harford County Rotary Club has partnered with the Harford Community Action Agency and the Ward Y in Abingdon to distribute non-perishable food to the community every Tuesday from September 15th through December 1st as part of the District Step Up to Hunger Campaign. The distribution was made possible by a community block grant received by HCAA. Earlier this year the SHCR club raised \$51,000 to support the Harford Community Action Agency. Club members PJ Chambers, Suzanne Green and Courtney Tramontana were on hand for the first distribution on September 15th.

HEARTS OF EUROPE GLOBAL GRANTS: DOUBLE-MATCHED!

The Hearts of Europe Initiative, a three-year program funded jointly by USAID and The Rotary Foundation (TRF), aims to foster friendship and collaboration between Rotary clubs in Eastern Europe and the US. Winners of these global grants may receive a double Rotary Foundation World Fund match. For example, if an applicant requests \$15,000 from the World Fund, they can receive up to an additional \$15,000 for a total of \$30,000 in matching funds. Grants must take place in one of the following countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, or Ukraine. The host country sponsor must be a Rotary club in an Eastern European country, and the international sponsor must be a club in the US. USAID and The Rotary Foundation have both committed to contributing up to \$1 million to this three-year grant program (October 2019-October 2022). This program is administered by TRF, and all grants must follow TRF guidelines and USAID requirements. Grant proposals must address at least one of Rotary's six areas of focus. A community assessment is required. At least one US Rotarian from the international club sponsor or district must meet with the host country club or district. For more information, go to myrotary.org.

B-CC PPE SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTION

by Arnie Lerman

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rotary Club is in the process of completing its third distribution of PPE supplies to a variety of community based non-profits and senior care facilities. B-CC's PPE Team is delivering more than 50,000 masks, gloves, face shields and goggles. The supplies were financed through a Rotary International Global Grant and the B-CC Club, as well as private donations. The

goal of the project is to keep these individuals safe from the spread and contraction of Covid-19.

The club has provided support to more than twenty community organizations who provide clinical and residential based care to our most vulnerable community members. These organizations include major first responders, such as the Bethesda Chevy Chase and Gaithersburg police substations, Mercy Health Clinic, Mobile Medical, Manna Food, Bethesda Cares, The Arc, and Cornerstone Montgomery.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

By Chris Puttock, Chair, Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group

A new Area of Focus Policy Statement for the Environment will be available in December 2020. This initial guide will provide direction for those interested in preparing global grants. The Rotary Foundation will begin accepting global grants applications addressing the environment on July 1, 2021. Immediate Past RI President Mark Maloney's announcement on June 25, 2020, that the RI Board and the The Rotary Foundation's Trustees had unanimously approved adding a new area of focus: supporting the environment was headline news at the RI 2020 Convention. TRF has funded \$18 million in environmentally-related activities over the past five years.

For more information about Rotary and the environment, contact Chris Puttock, Chair, Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group, christopher.puttock@gmail.com (lucky for us, he is right here in our district, College Park Rotary Club).

November is Rotary Foundation Month