



The Gaithersburg Rotary Foundation
Post Office Box 321
Gaithersburg, MD 20884-0312

PRESS RELEASE – For Immediate Release

For information contact Bob Bokma, phone 301-509-1719 and email bobbokma@gmail.com.

GAITHERSBURG ROTARY FOUNDATION HELPS WITH COVID-19

Gaithersburg, MD, 12/19/2020

This year, the Gaithersburg Rotary Foundation added COVID-19 relief to its portfolio of grant awards and scholarships. All donations are vetted by foundation directors and go to very good causes.

The thousands of U.S. Rotary Clubs cannot give tax exemptions, so most create 501(c)(3) foundations. The club in Gaithersburg formed one in 2003, and it has given numerous small grants to non-governmental organizations that work locally and in developing countries. This year, it has responded well to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has given grant funds to help Nourish Now provide food relief and to the Germantown and Gaithersburg “hubs” for assisting families affected by the virus. It recently awarded \$3,000 to Gaithersburg Family Services to help people in need make rent and utility payments.

Other foundation grants this year have gone to Imagination Library, the Little Free Library at Watkins Mill High School, The Bernie Scholarships, the Montgomery County Muslim Foundation (for food distribution), the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association (to provide auto mechanic training), the Coins for Alzheimer’s Research Trust, Camp Fantastic (for children with cancer), SEEC which helps persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities, a Rotary program named Disaster AID USA, and a project to provide water to a small town and a school in Haiti. This project is championed by the Rockville Rotary Club.

In addition, the Gaithersburg Rotary Foundation has awarded scholarships to graduating seniors in Gaithersburg High School (the Sam and Ester Eig Scholarship) and in Quince Orchard High School (the Linda M. Hanson Memorial Scholarship). These annual awards help outstanding seniors to pay for college education.

The Gaithersburg Rotary Foundation is embarking on new fund-raising activities to increase its ability to help with COVID-19 relief and other areas of great need. Contributions to it can be made by PayPal to GaithersburgRotaryFoundation@gmail.com or by using the [GRF Paypal Link](#). You can also send a check made payable to the Gaithersburg Rotary Foundation and sent to Gaithersburg Rotary Foundation, P.O. Box 312, Gaithersburg MD 20884-0312.