5

POLIOPLUS





Rotary Reminder

For news stories and updates, visit <u>www</u> .polioeradication.org and view the <u>PolioPlus</u> Headliner Kit.

Rotary's top priority is polio eradication, and the Trustees have asked each district to support Rotary's commitment and to encourage all Rotarians to participate in PolioPlus activities. The focus of this subcommittee will vary from district to district depending on whether there are cases of polio in the district, and the district's and country's stage in the polio eradication process.

The goal of PolioPlus is the global certification of polio eradication. It is important for Rotarians in your district to stay informed and involved until certification is achieved. Rotarians worldwide have contributed over US\$1 billion to PolioPlus. In addition, Rotarians serve as a powerful local volunteer network, providing support in clinics and mobilizing their communities for immunization or other polio eradication activities.

Promotion and Education

In the final stretch to eradicate polio, it is important that this subcommittee continue to educate Rotarians and community members about Rotary's role in the campaign. Inform Rotarians in your district that PolioPlus funds are used in the most efficient and direct manner, primarily for social mobilization and operational costs for National Immunization Days, laboratory support, and surveillance activities directed at the final stages of polio eradication.

Consider these activities:

- » Work with the local media to promote fundraisers, activities, and stories about polio survivors.
- » Send updates to clubs about the number of polio cases.
- » Promote National Immunization Days and encourage club members to participate.
- » Use End Polio Now pins (988) and other PolioPlus items to raise awareness of Rotary's work to eradicate polio.

Fundraising

The PolioPlus Fund helps pay for Rotary's efforts to wipe out the disease, including National Immunization Days and surveillance activities. Donations are needed until certification of polio eradication is achieved. Ask your clubs to consider holding a public fundraising event to benefit PolioPlus and increase public awareness of Rotary's campaign against polio.

Discuss with the full district Rotary Foundation committee a contribution from the District Designated Fund to PolioPlus.

PolioPlus Grants

In preparing PolioPlus grants, The Rotary Foundation coordinates with the governments concerned and with program partners such as the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Applications can be submitted only by partner agencies or national PolioPlus committees. PolioPlus grant applications are reviewed by the Foundation's International PolioPlus Committee and considered by the Foundation Trustees at regularly scheduled meetings. Contact your national or regional PolioPlus chair for more information.

PolioPlus Resources

The following supplementary information can be requested from the <u>PolioPlus Division</u> at RI World Headquarters:

- » PolioPlus Statements on Current Facts and Figures
- » Fundraising ideas
- » PolioPlus PowerPoint presentation and talking points
- » PolioPlus Program fact sheet