



**INTERNATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE – MAY 11, 2018  
CURRENT PROJECTS - FUNDED, COMMITTED AND PROPOSED  
PREPARED BY: BOB VOSSLER**

**GIFT OF LIFE (GOL)**

This program is managed and supervised by Gift of Life International under the direction of Rob Raylman, Executive Director. It was founded in 1975 by the Rotary Club of Manhasset, Long Island, NY by Robbie Donno. Its mission is provide lifesaving heart surgeries to needy children throughout the world. Past Rotary International VP and Director Abe Gordon served on its Board of Directors for several years.

Coordinator: Abe, Bob, Jatin

Bridgeport Rotary's International committee became involved in GOL when the Newtown Rotary club formed the NEWTOWN CHALLENGE, a sub foundation of the Newtown RC's foundation. The "CHALLENGE" was formed to commemorate the lives of the twenty children who lost their lives during the Newtown elementary school massacre. It was under Abe's guidance that we made our first contribution of \$6,000, and to date over 200 children have had heart surgeries in India, Zambia and other countries, and our last report indicated that, in total, 17,000 children have been operated on in 70 countries under the GOL program.

Currently (Rotary year 2017/18) ISC has committed \$10,000 for a global grant for up to 50+ children in Manila, Philippines under a global grant. The GG has not been finalized, and funding has not been requested at this time.

**ESTABLISH STUDY CENTERS (ABHYASIKA) UNDER GG1759607- INDIA**

Establish study centers in Pune, India to enable students to enhance their education levels during and after school hours. These centers will be established for students in underprivileged communities, of slum areas and poor rural areas.

Each center will benefit 75 to 100 students by trained teams consisting of teachers, local volunteers. Rotarians and Rotaractors.

This project has been approved and is the process of being funded (\$7,350).

Coordinator: Jatin

### **ST. MARY'S TWINNING MEDICAL MISSION TO MARBIAL, HAITI**

Medical missions to Marbial, Haiti are sponsored by St. Mary's church in Milford, CT paired with a parish in Marbial. These missions are led by Dr. Richard Garvey (now a Bridgeport Rotarian), head of general surgery at Bridgeport Hospital and includes medical volunteers from the hospital. The mission members provide general surgery to the impoverished, medical supplies, birthing kits, water purification materials, and nutritional advice.

Our club has supported this mission for several years because it is staffed by Bridgeport Hospital personnel – "home grown volunteers".

Coordinator: Cass

### **COFFEE FARMERS COOPERATIVE ROASTER – COSTA RICA**

A District Managed Grant has been submitted to District 7980's Grants Committee by our Club in conjunction with University of Bridgeport graduate students who created a detailed economic plan under the guidance of Dr. Tim Raynor, Assistant Dean of the Ernest C. Trefz School of Business for the Coffee Farmers Cooperative (ASOPROLA). The project vertically integrates coffee growing, bean roasting, and packaging thus making the finished product sales ready. Key to the project, for which this grant covers is the purchase, installation, and training for a coffee bean roaster. The project will add 15 new jobs, and increase economic development and increase the farmer's earnings per pound. Project is pending final approval by the District Grants Committee.

Coordinators: Jatin and Bob

### **NICO PHOTO - AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR NEEDY CHILDREN, NAGAROTE, NICARAGUA**

Originally began with a Westport Rotary sponsored District Managed Grant. Its plan was/is to take a holistic approach to support impoverished families and children with disease prevention, maternal and child health, economic development and education and literacy programs. These activities are accomplished by NicaPhoto, Inc., a non-profit based in Connecticut and operating in Nicaragua.

NicaPhoto has property there which is used as the center for all of their classes and related activities including a bio-intensive garden. The garden is used to teach the growing of healthy food as well as a source of sustainable income thru the sale of seeds and plants. Books, computers and furniture are also provided to facilitate the education of the children. Local governmental organizations also provide support to the program.

Coordinator: Bob



### **TREE OF LIFE ORPHANAGE- HAITI**

Originally began with a Westport Sunrise sponsored District Managed Grant. The plan was/is to help the orphanage add classrooms to accommodate additional grades for increasing numbers of orphans. It now houses and educates 15 orphans, and 200 hundred from the village. Also, a second sleeping dormitory is necessary for older children.

In addition to the DMG support, Tree of Life conducts fundraising for teacher salaries, books, supplies and building maintenance.

Coordinator: Kathi

### **SAFE WATER NETWORK –GHANA/INDIA**

This project was introduced to our club by Rotarian Dave Walker, a member of the International Service Committee. SAFE WATER NETWORK, establishes small water enterprises (SWEs) that treat contaminated water to World Health Organization standards, sells the water at 1 cent a gallon, and uses the revenue to cover operating costs. Safe Water Network has 260 SWEs that provide safe water to over 1,000,000 people in 300 communities in Ghana and India.

Their innovative enterprise approach to safe, affordable water uses market based methods that incentivizes participation while serving the poor.

Coordinator: Dave Walker

### **CALL TO CARE – UGANDA**

This project is being funded with a Global Grant sponsored by the Guilford club, and supported by the Clinton, Groton, Bushenyi (Uganda) clubs plus our club. Its purpose is to provide clean, safe water to the people of Bushenyi by drilling borehole wells. Each well will serve a remote villages in western Ghana.

Each well costs \$6,100 and this project is for 10 wells plus ancillary material and training for an estimated cost of \$71,000. Our club's contribution of \$1000 has been made during District Governor Pearson's visit in October.

Coordinators: Anne/Bob



**"Service Above Self"**

### **ASO PROLA COOPERATIVE – COSTA RICA**

This project is being funded, in part, by our club's first District Managed grant. It involves the development and funding of an economic plan, developed by graduate students at the University of Bridgeport under the supervision of Dr. Tim Raynor, to assist the AsoProla Cooperative to vertically integrate the growing, roasting and packaging of the members' coffee beans. It also includes the purchase and installation of the equipment required to complete the project. The Trumbull, Newtown, Westport, Westport, and Westport Rotary Clubs are also partnering with our club.

Coordinators: Bob, Jatin, Dr. Tim Raynor

### **SYRIAN REFUGEE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT PROJECT**

This project is being funded by a Global Grant sponsored by the New Haven Rotary club in the amount of \$51,600; our contribution is \$1,000. Two Turkish clubs and involved in the project with one acting as the Host Sponsor Also, the Yale Rotaract club is also involved. With thousands of refugees leaving Syria and flooding into Turkey, the Kadirli Ouzel 7 Mart Hastanesi hospital in Adana, Turkey is in dire need of this medical equipment.

The project calls for X-ray and neonatal equipment to purchased and installed at the hospital. By providing this equipment these refugees will have access to critical and long term healthcare.

Coordinator: Bob

