

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF DOING GOOD IN THE WORLD

END
POLIO
NOW

THANKS
ROTARY

Rotary



THE ROTARY FOUNDATION



The mission of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

Celebrating 100 Years of Success!



**Celebrate all we've done and think about
all we can do — with you!**



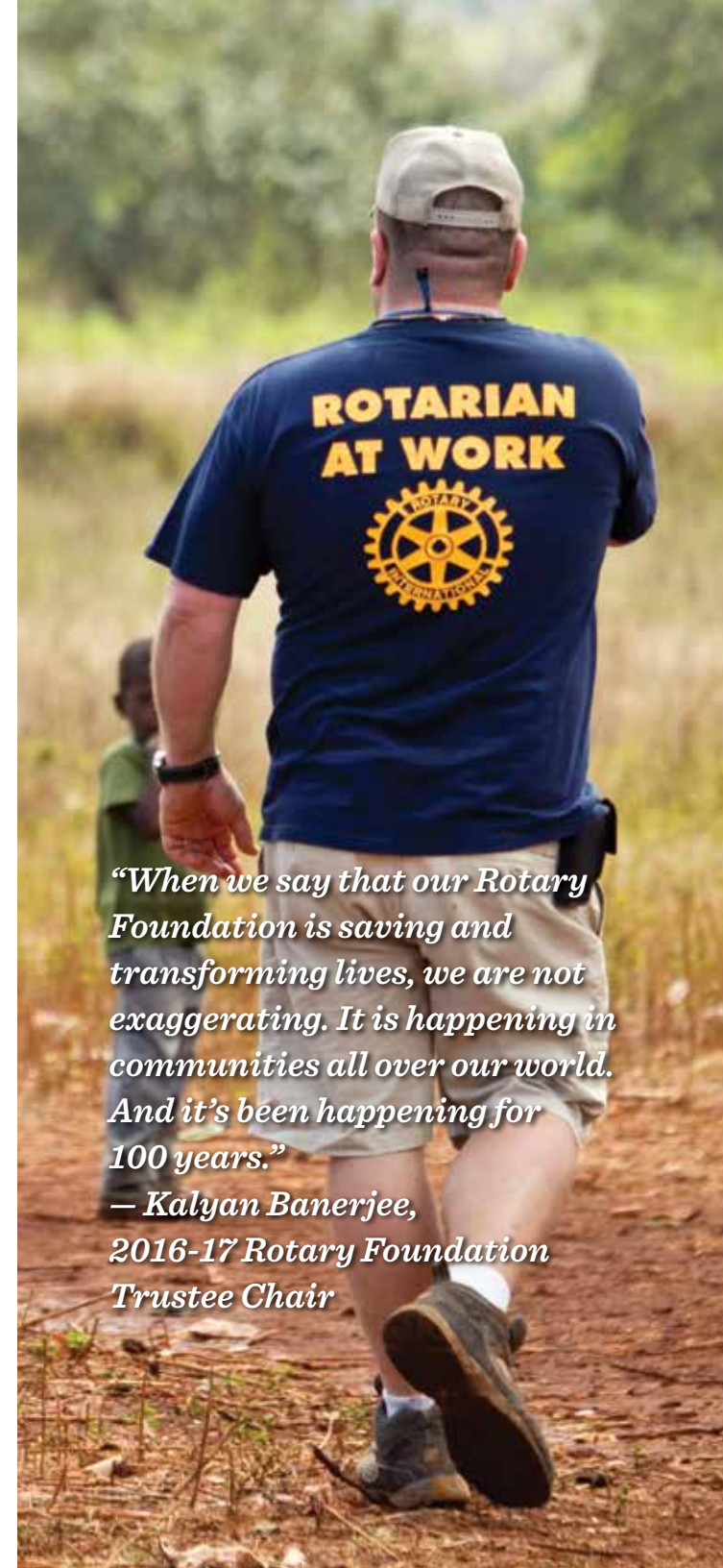
When Rotary President Arch Klumph made his suggestion in 1917 that Rotary create an endowment fund “for the purpose of doing good in the world,” chances are few people in the Atlanta convention hall remembered his words. In keeping with the traditions of the day, Arch spoke for about 40 minutes, focusing mainly on the war that was raging in Europe.

Fortunately, his idea did catch the attention of the Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri, USA, which donated \$26.50 to “be deposited to the Endowment Fund suggested by President Klumph.” That small contribution — about \$536 in today’s dollars — did not inspire an influx of others, but it helped to establish an endowment fund. It also set Arch Klumph off on a lifelong mission to build a powerful force for good that officially became The Rotary Foundation in 1928.

Throughout the Great Depression and World War II, Rotarians were preoccupied with keeping their businesses afloat and aiding in the war effort. However, when Rotary founder Paul Harris died in 1947, The Rotary Foundation received contributions of \$1.3 million in his honor. Finally, the resources were available to make Arch Klumph’s vision a reality, and the first class of Rotary Scholars set off to study abroad and act as goodwill representatives for their homelands.

During the 70 years since, The Rotary Foundation has grown tremendously in both assets and programs. It has extended its reach to every part of the world, and expanded its scope to include large and small projects that address the most pressing problems — all made possible through the growing generosity of Rotarians. The increased financial resources have enabled our Foundation to take on larger projects with greater impact — from developing countrywide literacy programs to training tomorrow’s peacemakers to helping bring polio to the brink of eradication.

Arch Klumpp once noted that “The Rotary Foundation is not to build monuments of brick and stone.” Instead, he envisioned a growing, evolving entity that would be fueled by the active support and participation of all Rotarians. Throughout 2016-17, Rotarians worldwide will celebrate Arch Klumpp’s vision and the many thousands of Rotarians who have made that vision a reality.



“When we say that our Rotary Foundation is saving and transforming lives, we are not exaggerating. It is happening in communities all over our world. And it’s been happening for 100 years.”

*— Kalyan Banerjee,
2016-17 Rotary Foundation
Trustee Chair*

PolioPlus: A History-making Effort to Eradicate a Disease

When Rotary leaders began to think about commemorating Rotary International's 75th anniversary, the upcoming 1979 Year of the Child inspired them to launch a campaign against childhood diseases. Early on, Rotary leaders made the eradication of polio a priority.

It was an idea that built on well-established Rotarian interests. From Rotary's earliest days, its members had worked to help disabled children. The Rotary Foundation made its first grant to the International Society for Crippled Children, and clubs throughout the world had always supported a range of rehabilitation projects.

Polio immunization was also attractive from a practical standpoint. Two safe and effective vaccines had already reduced the incidence of polio throughout much of the world. The vaccines were affordable, and delivery methods existed. Rotary leaders were excited about the prospect of taking on the disease.

However, much of the membership did not initially share the leaders' enthusiasm. They feared that such an effort would weaken the clubs' autonomy and detract from their other projects. The international public health community was also skeptical. The World Health Organization initially rebuffed Rotary's overtures, citing the frequent failure of well-intentioned organizations to follow through on their lofty promises.

But those objections faded after Rotarians stepped up to meet the challenge and raised \$247 million in just three years. Members also came out in force in polio-endemic countries, helping to promote National Immunization Days and to deliver the precious vaccine to millions of children.

Rotary and its partners faced many obstacles over the years. Armed conflicts, political resistance, and religious concerns all slowed progress. But Rotarians persisted, using their connections with political and religious leaders to keep the immunization campaigns going.



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Rotary's partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative came to respect and value Rotary's determination and leadership. One by one, countries and then entire regions were certified polio-free. Rotary took its place on the world stage, no longer regarded as a collection of small clubs doing local service but as a dynamic organization that remains wholly committed to its promise of a polio-free world.

“Rotary in particular has inspired my own personal commitment to get deeply involved in achieving [polio] eradication. ... The world wouldn't be where it is without Rotary, and it won't be where it needs to go without Rotary.”

— Bill Gates

“For more than a generation, it has been Rotary that has led the drive to eradicate polio.”

— Time magazine, July 24, 2015

“Thanks to PolioPlus, the world has discovered Rotary, and Rotarians have discovered themselves.”

— Kalyan Banerjee,
2016-17 Rotary Foundation
Trustee Chair

A TIMELINE OF POLIO ERADICATION

1979 Rotary launches a project to immunize more than six million children against polio in the Philippines.

1985 Rotary International launches PolioPlus, pledging to raise \$120 million.

1988 Rotary members raise \$247 million for PolioPlus, more than double their original goal.

The World Health Assembly passes a resolution to eradicate polio, which is endemic in 125 countries and affects 350,000 children every year.

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is launched, spearheaded by the World Health Organization, UNICEF, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Rotary International.

1994 The Western Hemisphere is declared polio-free.

1996 The reported incidence of polio is 85 percent lower than in 1988.

2000 The Western Pacific region, stretching from Australia to China, is declared polio-free.

2003 The Rotary Foundation raises \$119 million from Rotarians in a 12-month campaign.

2006 The number of polio-endemic countries drops to four (Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, Pakistan), the lowest in human history.

2009 The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation pledges \$355 million and issues Rotary a \$200 million challenge grant.

2014 The Southeast Asia region, which includes India and is home to one-quarter of the world's population, is certified polio-free after going three full years without a new case caused by the wild poliovirus.

2015 Nigeria is removed from the list of polio-endemic countries, leaving only Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Only 74 new cases of polio caused by the wild poliovirus are reported during the year.

2016 Over the preceding 30 years, Rotary has contributed more than \$1.5 billion to help immunize more than 2.5 billion children against polio, and helped secure over \$7.2 billion from donor governments.





Humanitarian Service: Focused, Sustainable, and Effective

More than a century ago, Rotary began its service mission with small projects that addressed local needs. Today, the world's 35,000 Rotary clubs continue that tradition in their home communities. But the growing resources provided by The Rotary Foundation have encouraged Rotarians to take on greater challenges with increasingly ambitious and far-reaching projects.

Today, Rotary Foundation global grants are supporting high-impact, sustainable projects with measurable goals in six areas of focus. Each of these areas has its own rich history of Rotarian service and support. But over time, the projects have become larger and their outcomes more enduring. Where a club once built a well and moved on, clubs are now installing entire water and sanitation systems and teaching local residents how to maintain them.

In 2014-15, The Rotary Foundation awarded 1,078 global grants totaling \$68.7 million, a 24 percent increase over the previous year.

Disease Prevention and Treatment

PolioPlus not only taught Rotary a great deal about fighting disease, it also put some valuable systems in place. When the Ebola virus struck West Africa in 2014, Nigeria used the polio surveillance network to stop the outbreak. Health workers and first responders also use the polio networks to provide vaccines against other diseases and insecticide-treated bed nets to protect against malaria, and to reach affected populations after natural disasters.

From blood banks to cancer-detection centers to health camps in remote areas, Foundation global grant projects are ensuring that thousands of people are living longer and healthier lives. In Africa, Rotary Foundation-funded Family Health Days treated 344,000 people in 2015, many of whom had seldom or never seen a doctor before. The project was conducted at 402 sites in four countries, providing immunizations as well as screenings for tuberculosis, malaria, HIV, hypertension, and diabetes. “This was a gift from God,” said one patient after receiving free treatment from a doctor at the Uganda site.



“Whether it’s Ebola ... or the drought in the Horn of Africa or the earthquake in Pakistan or the tsunami in Southeast Asia, often it was the polio infrastructure that was front and center for the emergency response.”

*— Oliver Rosenbauer,
World Health Organization*



DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

2014-15: **329** global grants totaling

\$19.8 million

Water and Sanitation

In 1907, the Rotary Club of Chicago launched a community movement to build public toilets in Chicago. Almost 110 years later, those facilities, though primitive by today's standards, would still be considered progress in some parts of the world. More than 660 million people worldwide live without safe access to clean water, and almost 40 percent have no sanitary toilet facilities.

Rotarians have expanded on their early interest in this area of need. Today, an estimated 10,000 clubs participate in water-related projects that are bringing clean water and sanitation to remote areas and greatly reducing the incidence of disease. In a partnership with USAID, Rotary clubs have built wastewater treatment plants in the Philippines, developed water treatment and safe storage systems in homes in the Dominican Republic, and are working to improve sanitation throughout Ghana. The Foundation also funds vocational training teams made up of experts in water and sanitation who visit developing areas and train local residents.



“Several years ago, Rotary recognized the innate need of Rotarians to address inequalities in water access around the world by making water and sanitation one of the areas of focus. We now stand in a strong position to work with global partners to find meaningful, sustainable solutions to the single largest threat to humankind.”

*— Rotary Foundation Trustee
Tom Thorfinnson*



WATER AND SANITATION

2014-15: **302** global grants totaling

\$20 million

Basic Education and Literacy

So many children today are denied even basic education that 775 million people over the age of 15 cannot read and write. As adults, they suffer the long-term consequences of unemployment, poverty, and shame. Through literacy and basic education programs, Rotarians are giving people the tools for a more productive, stable, and happy life.



One of The Rotary Foundation's most successful literacy projects dates from the 1980s when an Australian Rotarian brought the concentrated language encounter teaching method to Thailand, where many people in remote villages spoke only tribal languages. With the support of several Rotary Foundation grants, the project taught tens of thousands of children and their parents to read and write in the Thai language. That alone represented great success, but the project achieved two other important goals: The Thai government adopted the program for the entire country, and other Rotary clubs adapted the method for use in literacy projects in several other countries.

Rotary Foundation projects approach the problem of illiteracy in a variety of ways — from providing technology, teacher training, and low-cost textbooks to communities to furnishing uniforms and school supplies to low-income families. No single solution will solve the world's problems, and Rotary is uniquely equipped to address regional needs in order to foster literacy in people of all ages.

“No matter what else we do, there can never be sustainable progress to lift people from poverty unless we teach them to read and write and do basic arithmetic. No one can even get a toehold on the lowest rung of the economic ladder without these functional skills.”
— Past RI President Glen Kinross



BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY

2014-15: **33** global grants totaling

\$8.0 million

Economic and Community Development

Economic self-sufficiency is a path to a better life for so many. Rotarians have long recognized that poverty lies at the root of many health problems, family discord, and even local and regional conflicts. As business and professional leaders, Rotarians have the skills to help struggling communities reach a higher level of economic stability.

For years, Rotary Foundation grants have supported microfinance projects that provide small loans to help poor women start small businesses. The women repay the loans with a little interest, which provides the project with funds to make more loans.

For example, a Rotary Foundation-supported microfinance project underway in Ecuador is teaching women to sew and bake so they can start or expand businesses and support their families. In partnership with a microfinance organization, the local Rotary club established a training center where loan recipients learn vocational skills and basic business management practices. The global grant provides seed money for the loans and was also used to buy sewing and baking equipment for the training center. As with other successful projects, it is expected that these women, their children and the community at-large will benefit from Rotary's investment and their own determination.



“The developing world is full of entrepreneurs and visionaries who, with access to education, equity, and credit, would play a key role in developing the economic situations in their countries.”

— Muhammad Yunus, founder of Grameen Bank, Nobel Peace Prize winner, and recipient of the 1999 Rotary Award for World Understanding and Peace



ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2014-15: **168** global grants totaling

\$11.2 million

Maternal and Child Health

Although the risks of childbirth have been largely mitigated in much of the world, it remains the number one cause of death among women in developing countries: More than 300,000 women die every year from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth. Child mortality statistics are equally troubling. In 2015, nearly six million children under age five died, largely from preventable diseases and conditions. That is more than 16,000 deaths per day.

For many years, Rotary clubs supported the work of the Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia, which provides free reconstructive surgery to young women suffering from obstetric fistula caused by childbirth. In 1998, The Rotary Foundation recognized the hospital's life-changing contributions to maternal health with the Rotary Award for World Understanding and Peace, presented to Dr. Catherine Hamlin, the hospital's medical director.

Today, Rotary Foundation global grant projects are training midwives in Malawi, testing pregnant women for HIV in Liberia and providing appropriate follow-up care, and equipping “the pink jeep” in Haiti, which transports Midwives for Haiti volunteers to provide prenatal care to women in remote areas.



“My district carried out a global grant project with a district in India, which resulted in successful heart surgeries on 44 children with congenital heart disease. ... When Rotary can impact more souls, real peace in the world can be achieved sooner.”

— Hong-Joo Yoon and Kyung Hee Lee, Arch Klumph Society members



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

2014-15: **78** global grants totaling

\$5.7 million

Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution

Peace has always been a major objective of Rotarians. In 1914, the convention adopted a resolution that Rotary “lend its influence to the maintenance of peace among the nations of the world.” In 1921, delegates to the Rotary Convention in Edinburgh, Scotland, incorporated into Rotary’s constitution the goal “to aid in the advancement of international peace and goodwill through a fellowship of business and professional men of all nations united in the Rotary ideal of service.”



Through two world wars and dozens of regional conflicts, Rotarians have worked to bring peace in their communities and throughout the world. In the 1930s and ’40s, Rotary clubs held Institutes of International Understanding with support from the Foundation to help cover speaker costs. More recently, Foundation-sponsored peace forums and seminars have brought members together to promote cultural understanding and discuss ways to prevent and resolve conflicts.

The Rotary Foundation also funds projects to bring those in opposing groups together at an early age — be they Israeli and Palestinian youths or young people from Ireland and Northern Ireland. In Kenya, a former Rotary Scholar established Children Peace Initiative Kenya with the support of a global grant. This program conducts peace camps for children and teachers from warring tribes, whose communities have been trapped in a cycle of violence.

Peace is an objective that cannot be bought; it is an endeavor that Rotary works toward step by step in communities worldwide.

“Through the [Rotary Peace] program, children are directly participating in intercommunity peace, and coaching their parents and influencing the communities to live peacefully with each other.”
— Monica Kinyua, 2011-12
Rotary Scholar and co-founder
of Children Peace Initiative
Kenya



PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION
(excluding Rotary Peace Centers)

2014-15: **68** global grants totaling

\$4.0 million



Rotary Peace Centers: A Growing Cadre of Professional Peacemakers

For many years, Rotarians had dreamed of creating a permanent forum for promoting peace. As Paul Harris said, “Perhaps dreaming is not so bad if one dreams good dreams and makes them come true.” In the 1990s, Rotary leaders set about realizing that very good dream. They discussed many ideas and finally agreed on one that seemed both essential and doable: filling the growing need for professional peacemakers by training graduate-level students in the art of conflict prevention and resolution.

In 2002, the first class of Rotary Peace Fellows entered the newly established Rotary Peace Centers, ready for an intensive two-year program in peacebuilding. Today, six Rotary Peace Centers at seven universities are preparing students from a variety of backgrounds for a career dedicated to making our world safer and more peaceful.

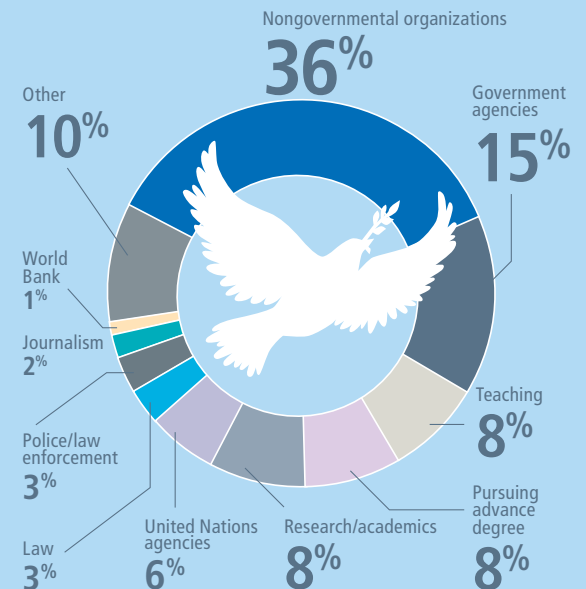
More than 900 Rotary Peace Center graduates are now working throughout the world in a variety of capacities. Some are teachers, passing on their knowledge to a new generation of peacebuilders. Others work for nongovernmental organizations that address the root causes of conflict — poverty, inequality, ethnic tension, and lack of access to education. And some work for United Nations and government agencies, creating policies designed to address issues that cause conflict.

Most recently, Rotary Peace Fellows are filling the escalating needs generated by the refugee crisis, which affects more than 60 million people forced from their homes by conflict. One peace center graduate is in northern Iraq, working with Syrian and Yazidi refugees who have been targeted, tortured, and driven out of their homes by Islamic State militants. Another graduate is leading a crisis response unit in Nairobi, Kenya, which last year supported about 40,000 refugees from neighboring countries as well as Kenyans uprooted by conflict and natural disaster. Still another is teaching refugees in Germany how to code, giving them a marketable skill that will also help meet the high demand from German technology companies.



“This program is an incredible opportunity, especially for people who are thinking outside of the box on peace issues.”
 — Taylor Stevenson, 2011-13
 Rotary Peace Fellow,
 International Christian
 University, working for Design
 and Waste Prevention Specialist,
 Samdrup Jongkhar Initiative

WHERE ROTARY PEACE CENTER ALUMNI WORK



“The needs are endless. Even though we cannot supply everything, we listen to their demands. They are fighting to survive, but because their voice hasn’t been heard much, there is a lot of frustration and anger.”
— Etsuko Teranishi, 2005-07
Rotary Peace Fellow, working for the International Organization for Migration in Kenya

“When you give refugees hope, by training them and giving them a skill and a chance to earn a living, they become people who can stand on their own.”
— Mahmoud Ahmad, 2008-10
Rotary Peace Fellow, working with the Norwegian Refugee Council’s Ethiopia program

For Rotarians, peacebuilding has always come in many forms. It has come from Rotary Foundation person-to-person exchanges that have broken down cultural barriers and expanded international understanding. It has come during Foundation peace forums and seminars, when people from all parts of the world join together to work through problems. And now, peacebuilding is coming from a highly educated cadre of professional peacemakers.

ROTARY PEACE FELLOWS AROUND THE WORLD





GOOD-BYE POLIO
THANKS ROTARY



All of these projects and programs — along with so much more good work — have been funded by the generous support of Rotary members like you. Your gifts are helping Rotarians do good every day, in every part of the world. You can take pride in the knowledge that you are truly making a difference for millions of people in need — from the most desperate refugee to a young mother undergoing a difficult birth to the children all over the world who will now enjoy a polio-free life.

Thank you for all that you do.

