

VICTORIA HARBOURSIDE ROTARY BEEKEEPING IN LIBERIA

KRISTI PHILPOTT: MAY 24, 2023



WORLD BEE DAY: MAY 20, 2023



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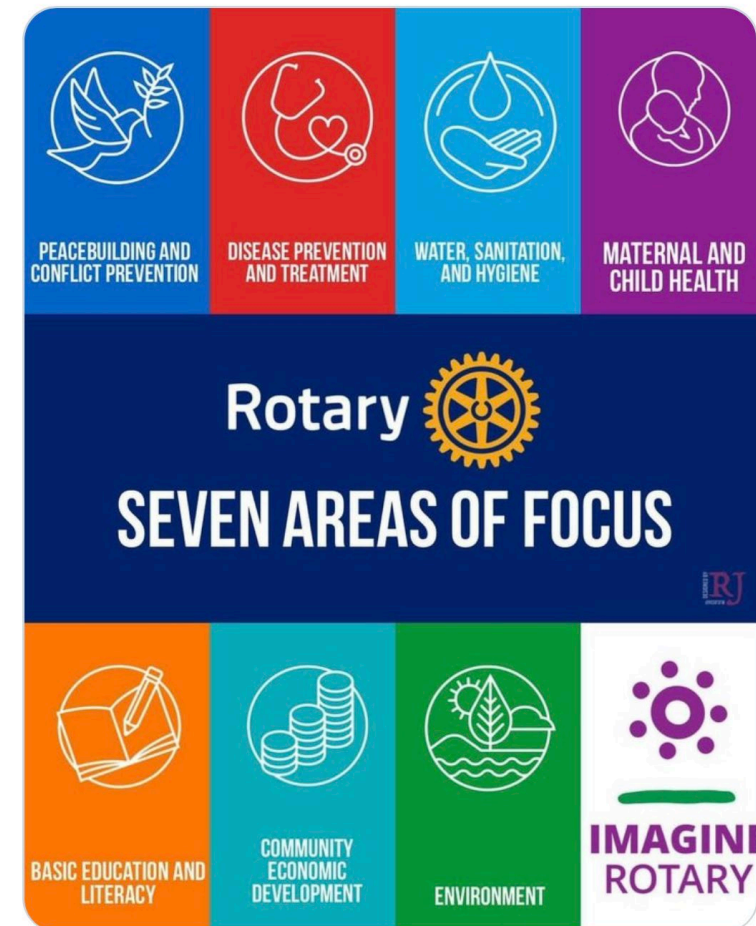
- Pollination is fundamental to the survival of our ecosystems
- UN calls for global action to support pollinator friendly agricultural production
- Protect bees and other pollinators
- Raise awareness

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL GOALS



1. Peace
2. Fight Disease
3. Clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
4. Mothers and Children
5. Education and Literacy
6. Grow Local Economies
7. Environment

”Courage my friends; it’s not too late to build a better world” Tommy Douglas



LIBERIA: WHERE & WHY?



One of the poorest countries in the world.

Universal Outreach Foundation: Trusted NGO

Equal opportunity (Mothers & Children)

Supports existing agriculture (Environment & Grow local economies)

UN: By 2034 more African youth (19-24) will be entering the workforce than the rest of the world combined

PROJECT GOALS (YEAR I)



Year I: July 2021 – May 2022

Create an annual supplemental income through sale of honey
Equal opportunity for women
Community development

10 beekeepers in Kpagamai (Lofa County)
Supply equipment
Construct 60 hives
Monthly mentorship
Grow the program

Club \$2000 + District \$3500 + PUC \$1500

INITIAL TRAINING (AUG 2021)



Jarbor-Jarkei Beekeepers Association of Kpagamai



YEAR I: SUCCESSES



- + 69 hives built
- + 16 colonized
- + 70 more beekeepers joined
- + building hives from materials on hand
- + honey reached 60% capacity in March



YEAR I: CHALLENGES & LEARNING



- Deaths due to COVID
- No honey harvest
- Expectations set too high
- Distance

Key take aways

- More people with fewer hives
- Communication differences
- More oversight at harvest time
- Tracking over 5 years



PROJECT GOALS (YEAR 2)

Year 2: June 2022 to May 2023

Expand Lofa County to 5 more communities

Build their own hives

Provide 200 top bars & zincs

Bi-monthly training

Start a program in Margibi County

10 men & 10 women

Provide hives (3 each) & equipment

Monthly mentorship

Club \$7675 + District \$5000 + PUC \$1500



YEAR 2: GROWTH



- 140 beekeepers in Lofa County
- 5 communities
- March = 12.2 gallons
- Feb = 18.5 gallons
- Harvest continues to July

- 22 beekeepers in Margibi County
- 25 colonized hives
- No harvest yet

SUCCESSSES (YEAR 2)



- Honey! 30.8 gallons so far
- 21 beekeepers harvesting
- \$520 USD as of March
- First female beekeeping extension worker in Liberia
- Growth
- Self sustaining
- Some honey used for personal consumption

TRENDING THIS WEEK




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Angelina Jolie is working with UNESCO and Guerlain on a Women for Bees initiative that will ultimately build 2,500 bee hives and restock 125 million bees by 2025 —while training and supporting 50 women beekeepers in their own operations. In March 2021, Dan Winters photographed Angelina using the same technique Richard Avedon employed for his iconic portrait, "The Beekeeper" over 40 years ago. <https://on.natgeo.com/3Org3ql>





HARBOURSIDE, ROTARY AND UNIVERSAL OUTREACH

<  **Kristi Philpott** is with **Gord Clark** and **8 others**.
18m · 🌐

Harbourside Rotary has partnered with Universal Outreach Foundation in Liberia to train and equip farmers in beekeeping practices. So far we have built 343 hives with 162 trained beekeepers in 6 different communities. 95 of them are female. We have also trained the first woman beekeeper trainer (extension worker) in that country. And the program continues to grow! Beekeeping targets the poorest people in the country (average earnings are \$1.70 USD per day). Harvested honey can be used as food or sold to create an annual supplemental source of income. Those funds are used for education, healthcare or to improve their farm. Do you want to learn more? Join us ([Harbourside Rotary Victoria](#)) for breakfast at the Victoria Union Club 7am this Wed. Or check out [Universal Outreach Foundation](#)



QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?



Thank you Harbourside Rotary!