

World Immunization Week is coming

Story by Ed Kolybaba on Apr 18, 2020



As scientists work to find a vaccine for the new coronavirus, we can do our part to keep our communities healthy by helping Rotary spread the word about the importance of vaccinations during [World Immunization Week](#), 24-30 April.

Immunizations save millions of lives every year and are widely recognized as one of our most successful and cost-effective health interventions. Yet outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases continue to put children's health at

risk around the world.

Rotary knows firsthand that #VaccinesWork. Since 1985, Rotarians have contributed more than \$2.1 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect nearly three billion children from polio. When children receive the polio vaccine, their pinkie fingers are marked with purple ink so health workers will know which children received the vaccine. Today, only two countries continue to report cases of polio caused by the wild poliovirus: Afghanistan and Pakistan.



How can our Kelowna Sunrise Rotarians take action?

We can raise awareness of vaccination and polio eradication efforts by painting our nails — or pinkie — purple, or customize our new End Polio Now [artwork](#) with our signature and words of support. We can also post our pictures on social media using the hashtags #EndPolio and #VaccinesWork.

We should donate to Rotary's PolioPlus Fund. Our contributions will be tripled, thanks to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

We can invite our friends and our community to join with us in this campaign.