



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

**RCS
ANNUAL REPORT
2023 - 2024**

Rotary Community Service, Inc.

P.O. Box 9046, Spokane, WA, 99209

www.rotaryspokane.com



ABOUT ROTARY COMMUNITY SERVICE

Rotary Community Service (RCS) Committees work throughout the year to seek and fund projects and support charities and individuals in need. More than 80 grants and scholarships were given this year. We are so thankful for the hundreds of volunteer hours our members committed to seeing these funds make a difference in the lives of so many.

RCS Board of Directors:

Julie Kelsey, Vice President (Chair)

Rod Price, President

Stefanie Page, President Elect

Amy Higgins, Immediate Past President

Nicolle Laporte, Secretary/Treasurer

Adam Brigham-Althoff, Director

James Johnson, Director

Louise Joss, Director

Kristine Meyer, Director

Molly Pepper, Director

Richard Repp, Director

Kevin Weir, Director

Donor Recognition

Rotary Community Service grants are made possible by the generosity of Rotary Club 21's members. Thank you to the Rotarians below who donated to the 2023-2024 Rotary Community Service Campaign to help Rotary continue to make our community and world a better place!

Alene Alexander

Nathan S. Batson

Leland Brown

Lawrence Coulson

Robert Allen

Brian Behler

Lisa Brown

W. Stacey Cowles

Beverly Amstadter

Mirjeta Beqiri

Joe Bruce

Margaret Crawford

Ira Amstadter

Kevin Berkompas

Nadine Burgess

Barbara Cruz

James Armstrong

Leyna Bernstein

Dan Cadagan

Alan Curryer

Rodney Bacon

Matt Berry

Shanna Cejka

Jim Czirr

Major Bambino

Neal Boling

C. Eric Christiansen

Chad Dashiell

Chandima

Catherine Brazil

Michael Church

Pat DeVries

Bandaranayka

Clark Brekke

Chuck Clegern

Joy Drake

Mark Barnes

Adam Brigham-

Jon Cockerton

John Driscoll

Bridget Barrington

Althoff

Robin Corkery

Rick Eichstaedt

Jeffrey A. Barton

Christine Brischle

James Cortner

Todd Eklof

Richard Ellingwood	Julie Kelsey	Frem Nielsen	Mark Sonderen
Anthony Escobar	Jimmy King	Paula Nordgaarden	Matthew Sonderen
Philip Faris	David Kliewer	Skyler Oberst	Shelli Sonderen
Nancy Fike	Chad Kubik	Georgia Oxford	Peter F. Stanton
Roger Flint	Richard Kuhling	Stefanie Page	Thomas Stevenson
Terry Fossum	Nicolle Laporte	William Papesh	Gary Stokes
Colleen Fox	Greg Larratt	Tom Patrick	Jerry Storhaug
Cassie Frederiksen	Alan Leshner	Chris Patterson	Tom Swanson
Paul Fruci	John Little	Fred Peck	Tim Sweet
Carrie Funke	Brian McCann	Lee Pennell	Greg Tenold
Joe Garst	Bruce McEachran	Molly Pepper	Shannon Thomas
Daryl Geffken	Paul McFadden	Ben Phillabaum	Jennifer Thompson
Theodora Gibbon	Jennifer McPherson	Stephen Phillabaum	Homer Todd
Erica Hallock	John Meekhof	Lisa Poplawski Lewis	Anton Toth
Deborah Harper	Barry Merrell	David Powers	Greg Tripp
Angelique Heinzen	Kristine Meyer	Lisa Price	Cynthia Tripp
Mary Heitkemper	Susan Meyer	Rodney Price	Dave Troyke
Tim Henkel	AT Miller	Debbie Rauen	Borre Ulrichsen
Amy Higgins	Jared Miller	Paul Read	David Van Hersett
Manny Hochheimer	Jason Miller	Harley Reckord	Mimi Vimont
Beth Hodgson	Scott Millsap	Richard Repp	Paul Viren
Catherine Howell	Karen Mobley	Marcus Riccelli	Rick Voit
Jim Johnson	Amanda Moorhouse	Ryan Rodin	Edward Walker
Patrick Jones	Jackson Morgan	Josiah Roloff	PJ Watters-Hawley
Sabrina Jones-Schroeder	Julie Morin	Omar Sabouni	Kevin Weir
Louise Joss	Dennis Murphy	Brooks Sackett	Kyle Weir
Peter A. Joss	Trina Murphy	Steven Schneider	Chud Wendle
James Kalamon	Brian Newberry	Tim Schwering	Gerald Winkler
	Ben Nielsen	Eldonna Shaw-Davis	

Donor Recognition (cont.)

The Rotary Spokane Foundation Legacy Club members have endowed their RCS annual gift through the Foundation, and we recognize these generous donors, both active and *deceased, as being truly exceptional.

Legacy Club I Donors:

Tim Boze	*Barry K. Jones	Christina Sceva
Lee Brown	*Nancy Kennedy	*Bob Small
Micheal Church	Rik Kiszely	Peter Stanton
*George Cole	Rich Kuhling	Dave Van Hersett
Jim Coulson	Scott Milsap	PJ Watters Hawley
D.A. Davidson Spokane Branch	*Bob Morrow	Kevin Weir
Laurie Dolan	*Ted Morse	Kyle Weir
Lloyd Gray	*Richard Munson	*Jerry Walmsley
Terry Hunt	Benson A. Nielsen	Gerald Winkler
	Paula Nordgaarden	*Wendle Satre

Legacy Club II Donors:

*Gene Bronson	Tom Patrick
Robin Corkery	Lee Pennell
Larry Coulson	John Pilcher in Memory of
Jim Cowles	Art & Betty Sontgerath
Anonymous	Jack Reeves
Randy Fossen	Mark Sonderren
Murray Huppin	Larry Stanley
*Sam Huppin	*Frank Storey
James Johnson	David Troyke
John W. Lee	Paul Viren
Bill Papesh	Yadon Estate

COMMITTEE SPENDING

Community Impact Committee

Budget \$45,500 - Grants Given \$52,493***

The Community Impact Committee provided grant awards to 20 different community service organizations. Our committee partnered with the Youth Services Committee on 4 requests, and we received matching funds from Rotary District 5080 to help respond to local wildfire relief efforts. Highlights include grants to Wishing Star Foundation for gift cards during the holidays and MusicFest Northwest for facilities rental expenses. The committee provided support for gas and maintenance to keep Feed Spokane's delivery vans running and support for the Bite2Go program at Stevens Elementary. The Community Impact Committee evaluated how best to leverage member donated dollars for maximum impact where the community expressed a pressing need.

Disability Services Committee

Budget \$25,000 - Grants Given \$25,878*

The Disability Services committee participated in awarding a total of 13 grants while leveraging an additional \$20,000 by partnering with other organizations. Among the grants awarded, we provided a therapeutic pony for physical therapy, prosthetic liners, a prosthetic leg, custom wheelchair, wagons, dentures, hearing aids, a bed, and partial funding for a van. This year was exceptional, with many creative and impactful ways to support and bless individuals in our community. The collaborative efforts and innovative solutions have made a significant difference in the lives of those we serve.

Foster KidFest Committee

Budget \$4,200 - Grants Given \$1,764*

The Foster KidFest Committee hosted 22 foster families and 74 children at various events throughout the year. Beginning with a stargazing event in the fall, a roller-skating party in the spring, and the 15th traditional KidFest party at Mobius Discovery Center. Some of the events are designed to support area foster families and celebrate the stability they provide for children in foster care. The traditional KidFest party is designed to bring children in foster care together with the potential of finding their forever families. In total, 65 children have been adopted as a result of this event since inception and 7 more children are in transition to their forever families from the most recent KidFest party. That's an adoption rate over 51%. The magic continues!

International Services Committee

Budget \$35,000 - Grants Given & Committed \$36,000***

Impact from grant funds leveraged from the given grants ~ \$

The International Services Committee supported 9 grant projects this Rotary year and also supported International Exchange students (1 for full year, 1 for short term). They awarded grants in several countries, Thailand (eye exams and glasses), Ecuador (clean water in rural NW), Belize (school equipment in concert with other 5080 clubs), Fiji (water in concert with other 5080 clubs), India (cleft lip and palate surgeries with Rotaplast and Kenya (HIV education, school desks, school sinks, scholarships for high school students). They continue to work on a Global Grant with a Maasai women's CBO in Kisamis, Kenya. The grant is nearing completion.

Youth Services Committee

Budget \$45,000 - Grants Given \$52,883*

The Youth Services Committee awarded 25 grants to community organizations to improve the lives of youth in our community. Grants included support for programs involving childhood hunger, urban native youth, youth job internships, youth clothing, Rotaract, childhood cancer, refugees, early learning, youth sports, and youth leadership. The committee also made cash awards to two emerging artists in dancing, and the visual arts.

Support Our Veterans Committee

Budget \$10,000 - Grants Given \$12,551*

The Support Our Veterans committee awarded 14 grants to community organizations including support to for Honor Flight to help aging veterans visit the WWII, Korea, and Vietnam memorials in Washington D.C. supporting veterans career transitions into vital agricultural jobs essential for food security (Vets on the Farm), Lockers for Homeless Veterans to store their personal belongings (Volunteers of America), school supplies for active duty members families out at Fairchild AFB (Operation Homefront), providing necessities & essential household items to Veterans, active military & their families during the holidays (Newby-Ginnings Christmas Program, 2 families), and restocking an emergency food pantry for veteran families in need (Newby-Ginnings).

COMMITTEE SPENDING

Vaccinations Committee

Budget \$2,500 - Grants Given \$370

The Vaccinations Committee was founded in the 2017-2018 Rotary year. Since then, it has supported about 35 health clinics and supported the vaccination of an estimated 1,000 people. In the Rotary year 2023-2024, the committee supported two health fairs for the Slavic community (including Ukrainian refugees) to promote health and wellness and connect them with local health resources. The committee provided snacks, crafts, and game tables for the children and handed out free hats. The committee also supported a vaccination clinic for school-age children on May 23 at Stevens Elementary School. Again, the committee provided games, snacks, and free hats.

Vocational Services Committee

Budget \$15,340 - Grants Given \$17,863*

During meetings this year, the Vocational Service Committee honored 14 students. The students recognized were seniors in Spokane Public Schools and represented five large area high schools and four project & option schools within the district. Additional funds earned, through the successful RCS Campaign and March Madness Event(s), allowed the committee to grant six students awards of \$1500 each in scholarships. The scholarship awardees will use this fund towards their post-high school academic institution or vocational program of their choosing within the next two years. In addition, the committee selected five students to receive the Katy Reeves Performing Arts Scholarship. Thank you for your work in recognizing and awarding these exceptional students this year. We look forward to continuing to work alongside you this coming year in Rotary 21 and on the Vocational Service Committee.



*Committee received additional grant funds thanks to the generosity of club members donations.

**Committee received additional grant funds from matching District or Rotary International Grants.