



# THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

## RCS ANNUAL REPORT 2024 - 2025

**Rotary Community Service, Inc.**

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

[www.rotaryspokane.com](http://www.rotaryspokane.com)

**Rotary**  
Club of Spokane 21



# 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:*

Karen Mobley, Vice President (Chair)

Stefanie Page, President

Julie Kelsey, President Elect

Rod Price, Immediate Past President

Nicolle Laporte, Secretary/Treasurer

James Johnson, Director

Patrick Jones, Director

Kristine Meyer, Director

A.T. Miller, Director

Molly Pepper, Director

Lisa Price, Director

Richard Repp, 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 2024-2025 Rotary Community Service Campaign to help Rotary continue to make our community and world a better place!

Alene Alexander

Mirjeta Beqiri

Joe Bruce

Elizabeth Cowles

Beverly Amstadter

Kevin Berkompas

Nadine Burgess

Margaret Crawford

Ira Amstadter

Matt Berry

Dan Cadagan

Dan Curley

Brice Anderson

Sara Berry

Shanna Cejka

Jim Czirr

James Armstrong

Neal Boling

Eric Christiansen

Doug Daehlin

Major Bambino

Catherine Brazil

Michael Church

Chad Dashiell

Chandima

Clark Brekke

Chuck Clegern

Pat DeVries

Bandaranayka

Adam Brigham-

Keoni Coleman

Kevin Dix

Mark Barnes

Althoff

Robin Corkery

Joy Drake

Jeffrey Barton

Christine Brischle

James Cortner

John Driscoll

Nathan Batson

Leland Brown

Lawrence Coulson

Rick Eichstaedt

Brian Behler

Lisa Brown

Stacey Cowles

Todd Eklof

Richard Ellingwood	David Kliewer	Paula Nordgaarden	Matthew Sonderen
Philip Faris	Chris Knoll	Rick O'Connor	Shelli Sonderen
Nancy Fike	Richard Kuhling	Skyler Oberst	Peter Stanton
Colleen Fox	Nicolle Laporte	Georgia Oxford	Gary Stokes
Cassie Frederiksen	Greg Larratt	Stefanie Page	Tom Swanson
Paul Fruci	Alan Leshar	Tom Patrick	Tim Sweet
Carrie Funke	John Little	Chris Patterson	Greg Tenold
Daryl Geffken	Bruce McEachran	Lee Pennell	Shannon Thomas
Theodora Gibbon	Paul McFadden	Molly Pepper	Homer Todd
Chelsey Graves	Ellie McIntyre	Bridget Perry	Anton Toth
Deborah Harper	John Meekhof	Erin Peterson	Greg Tripp
Mary Heitkemper	Barry Merrell	Stephen Phillabaum	Cynthia Tripp
Tim Henkel	Kristine Meyer	David Powers	Dave Troyke
Amy Higgins	Susan Meyer	Lisa Price	Borre Ulrichsen
Manny Hochheimer	A.T. Miller	Rodney Price	David Van Hersett
Beth Hodgson	Jared Miller	Debbie Rauen	Mimi Vimont
Sandra Jarrard	Jason Miller	Paul Read	Paul Viren
Steve Jensen	Scott Millsap	Harley Reckord	Rick Voit
James Johnson	Karen Mobley	Richard Repp	Edward Walker
Patrick Jones	Amanda Moorhouse	Marcus Riccelli	PJ Watters Hawley
Sabrina Jones-Schroeder	Julie Morin	Ryan Rodin	Kevin Weir
Louise Joss	Dennis Murphy	Josiah Roloff	Kyle Weir
Peter Joss	Trina Murphy	Brooks Sackett	Chud Wendle
Julie Kelsey	Misty Meyers	Steven Schneider	Jennifer West
Jimmy King	Brian Newberry	Tim Schwering	Gerald Winkler
	Ben Nielsen	Mark Sonderen	

## 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:

Lee Brown	Rich Kuhling	Christina Sceva
Micheal Church	Scott Milsap	*Bob Small
*George Cole	*Bob Morrow	Peter Stanton
Jim Coulson	*Ted Morse	Dave Van Herset
D.A. Davidson, Spokane	*Richard Munson	PJ Watters Hawley
Terry Hunt	Benson A. Nielsen	Kevin Weir
Ed Lester	Paula Nordgaarden	Kyle Weir
Rik Kiszely	*Wendell Satre	Gerald Winkler

### Legacy Club II Donors:

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

# COMMITTEE SPENDING

## Community Impact Committee

***Budget \$57,500 – Grants Given \$63,020\****

The Community Impact Committee awarded grants to 25 organizations responding to critical needs across Spokane County. In alignment with Rotary's focus on Service Above Self, the committee supported projects ranging from food security and housing to youth development, civic engagement, and creative recovery. Highlights include weekend food for schoolchildren through Bite2Go, and swim lessons and safety for over 150 youth through the Spokane Parks Foundation. The committee also funded access to hygiene kits, art supplies, and translation services that expanded access to civic life. Each grant was selected with care to maximize the impact of member-contributed RCS dollars, and every story reflects Rotary's deep commitment to community resilience and equity.

## Disability Services Committee

***Budget \$25,000 – Grants Given \$20,929\****

The Disability Committee successfully approved 20 applications and distributed funds to support community members in need. Through the committee's programs, Rotary has established itself as a trusted resource for accessible hearing solutions. The committee's ongoing partnership with Rockwood has been particularly impactful, enabling 12 individuals to receive the transformative gift of hearing through free hearing aids. The committee also addressed mobility challenges by funding wheelchair ramps for two individuals whose families were struggling to provide safe home access for their loved ones. These portable ramps offer the added benefit of adaptability, if living situations change, the ramps can move with the families who need them. Looking ahead, the committee is energized by the positive impact it has made and excited about the opportunities the coming year will bring to serve our community.

## Foster KidFest Committee

***Budget \$4,500 – Events Hosted \$3,821***

The Foster KidFest Committee, composed of 30 dedicated members, hosted two successful events this year. A Roller-Skating Party for foster families brought together 22 foster families and over 100 total guests. Everyone enjoyed pizza and each skater received a roller-skating gift bag. The Annual Foster KidFest welcomed 11 children in foster care and 11 potential adopting families supported by staff from the Department of Children, Youth and Families.

Each child received a goodie bag and a duffel bag, generously donated by Embrace Washington. Pizza was donated by Mark Starr from David's Pizza. While fewer adoption matches were made due to extended clearance timelines, the event continues to offer a joyful and meaningful experience for all involved.

## **International Services Committee**

***Budget \$40,000 – Grants Given & Committed \$36,331\*\****

The International Services Committee supported 9 grant projects this Rotary year and also supported International Exchange students (2 for full-year, 2 for short-term). The committee awarded grants in several countries: Thailand (eye exams and glasses); Ecuador (clean water in rural NW); India (cleft lip and palate surgeries with Rotaplast); and Kenya (HIV education, school desks, school sinks, scholarships for high school students). The committee continues to work on a Global Grant with a Maasai women's CBO in Kisamis, Kenya. Drilling for that grant started September 12, 2025.

## **Youth Services Committee**

***Budget \$50,000 – Grants Given \$54,353\****

The Youth Services Committee awarded 24 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, swimming lessons, outdoor activities, childhood cancer, refugees, early learning, foster children, youth sports, and youth leadership. The committee also made a cash award to an emerging artist in dancing.

## **Support Our Veterans Committee**

***Budget \$12,000 – Grants Given \$16,874\****

The Support Our Veterans committee awarded 11 grants to community organizations including: support 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); school supplies for active duty members families at Fairchild AFB (Operation Homefront); providing necessities & essential household items to Veterans, active military, and their families during the holidays (Newby-Ginnings Christmas Program, 2 families); funding program needs specifically for combat veterans (Newby-Ginnings); Supporting Heroes Homestead project to eliminate Veteran Suicide in the Spokane area through their retreat center; and buying guitars for veterans with PTSD to go through a music- as-therapy program to dramatically reduce their PTSD symptoms (CreatiVets).

# COMMITTEE SPENDING

## Vaccinations Committee

**Budget \$2,500 – Expenses \$68**

The Vaccinations Committee was founded in the 2017-2018 Rotary year. Since then, it has supported about 36 health clinics and supported the vaccination of an estimated 1,100 school-aged children. The Committee assembled a team of Rotary 21 Volunteers who supported the Spokane Regional Health District back-to-school vaccination clinic on August 28, 2024. This was a year of strategic analysis for the committee. The committee maintained the website [vaccinefacts4u.com](http://vaccinefacts4u.com) to provide credible information on vaccinations to parents. Committee leadership met with the SRHD regional immunization program leadership to discuss how Rotary 21 can best support them in a changing policy environment. The committee also launched a strategic review effort on April 1, 2025 to consider new partnerships in light of decreased SRHD resources.

## Vocational Service Committee

**Budget \$18,161 – Grants Given \$17,720**

The Vocational Service Committee honored 14 students during Rotary meetings this year. The students recognized were seniors in Spokane Public Schools from the five large area high schools and project & option schools within the district. All nominees, their families, and school guests were invited to the award luncheon to be recognized. Five of these students were awarded additional scholarships to continue their education at the school of their choosing to be used within the next two years. In addition, the committee selected five student applicants to receive Katy Reeves Performing Arts Scholarships.



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

\*\*Committee received additional grant funds from matching District 5080 or Rotary International Grants.