**Shared Membership FAQ**

1. Who can be a Shared Member (SME)?
   1. Any associate, employee or co-employee of a Rotary member’s organization or business or the spouse of a Rotary member.
2. What is the purpose of the program?
   1. Primarily to increase membership by casting a wider net to businesses and organizations that presently are not represented while also exposing the club to younger individuals who may not have the financial means or time availability to be a regular member.
3. Can a SME be a member of a Rotary committee?
   1. A SME can be a member of any club committee provided the Chair of the committee accepts that person as a member. The responsibility of the SME to the committee is the same as that of a regular member (non-shared member).
4. Can a SME hold a board position?
   1. Yes, however the SME would need to be slated by the Slating Committee, nominated by the Nominating Committee, and checked by the club, as is the case with all members.
5. How is the program fair to all concerned?
   1. An associate member can only join the Club if there is a primary member who has paid the full dues payment that is required of all regular members. All primary members (whether individuals or SMEs) must pay the same amount for primary membership in the Club. The Shared Membership program is not intended to represent a discounted way for individuals to join Rotary. It is intended to provide an opportunity for individuals and SMEs to bring additional members into the Club, potentially maximizing the value of the primary membership, and diversifying our membership while covering all of the costs of the associate members.
6. What happens if the primary member ceases to be a Rotarian?
   1. Each SME must have a primary Rotarian for purposes of billing and designation of associate members. If the primary Rotarian leaves, the position may be filled by one of the associate members, or another employee of the SME. In the latter case, the new primary would go through the same membership application process that applies to all Rotarians. In the case of a husband/wife, the remaining party would need to convert to a primary individual membership.
7. How can I help get the program off the ground?
   1. By contacting or reacquainting with leaders in organizations/businesses that previously had expressed interest in joining but had expressed concerns about time commitments (school districts, churches, non-for-profit organizations, civic groups, retailers, etc.).
   2. By appointing up to three of your co-associates or co-employees as associate members to represent your organization/business while exposing them to the myriad benefits of Rotary.
   3. By designating your spouse as an associate.