



Seattle 4 Rotary Community Service Committee

Our Mission:

*To promote community service
and to create projects for club members
to respond to community needs,
particularly for youth, education and the homeless.*

We typically embark on projects right here in Seattle,
where we can “get our hands dirty” and create
a direct connection with the community.

Our projects are Champion driven.
We want to thank all of the champions and volunteers
who have helped make our projects successful.

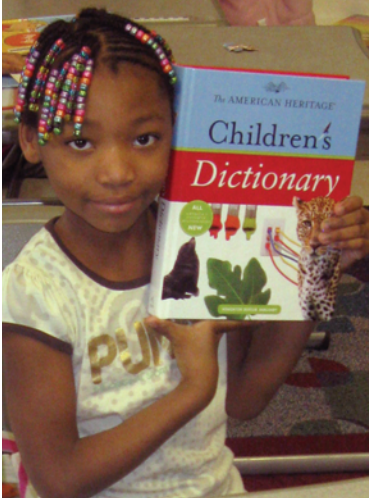
Service Committee Co Chairpersons:

Melinda Partin and Cathy Burnell

Service Committee Members:

Janis Avery	Joel Ferrell	Marty Kooistra
Todd E. Bonime	Heather Fitzpatrick	Anna Machan
Becky Borek	Dennis Fleck	Whitney Mason
Jerry Burtenshaw	Danner Graves	Lisa Mayfield
Paul Cressman	Audrey Halvorson	Mark Okazaki
Jann Curley	Einer Handeland	Jay Prince
Ralph Davis	Wier Harmon	Jon Schorr
Theresa Dowell Jones	Ruthann Howell	Sue Sherbrooke
Jim Duncan	Paul Ishii	Jeff Van Duzer
Marlys Erickson	Bob Johnson	Sheila Vortman

The following pages highlight the accomplishments of this past year.



The Dictionary Project

Champion: Dennis Fleck

The Dictionary Project is a nonprofit initiative that strives to make sure every young child has access to this important reference tool so they can become an active reader, good writer and creative thinker. Our mission with respect to the dictionaries is to support the cause of literacy. A dictionary may be a small thing, but it is a powerful tool, and when it is a gift from a child's community, it becomes a direct example of community service.

During the 2009-2010 Rotary year, Seattle Rotary Foundation funds allowed the Seattle Four Community Service Committee to purchase 208 dictionaries at a cost of \$10

each. Committee members distributed these dictionaries to needy third grade students at First Place, Leshi, Madrona, and Brighton schools. For many of these students, the gifted dictionary is the first book of any kind that they own. For many it is the only dictionary in their home, and their entire family now uses it. Providing dictionaries to third grade students is a wonderful way to open eyes to the world of words and promote learning. Letters and thank you notes from students and teachers poured in. Many thanks to all the volunteers for warehousing, transporting and presenting the dictionaries in the classrooms.

I just wanted to let you know that we use our dictionaries daily and my students enjoy reading them. This is such a great gift and one my students truly enjoy! We now have a daily contest of who can find the word the fastest when looking up a word. They like it, I love that they are learning and are able to use your gift daily.
- Kristy J. Flagel, Education Administrator, First Place School

Marilyn and I presented dictionaries to the 2nd/3rd grade class at First Place School. We were warmly received and the dictionaries were much appreciated. Marilyn gave a brief lesson on using the dictionary. She started with the four way test and used the word "fair". We had a lot of fun. The girl in photo above came up after we were finished and gave me a big hug. - Einer Handeland, Rotary volunteer



Employment Roundtable

Goodwill

Champion: Cathy Gibson

Seattle Goodwill helps low-income and disadvantaged people in our community prepare for and secure jobs so they may achieve self-sufficiency for themselves and their families. The people Goodwill serves face poverty, lack of education and job skills, and limited English proficiency, all of which have kept them from finding or keeping employment. Via its comprehensive, free job training and education programs Goodwill students gain the skills and training to find and keep a job.

During this year's Rotary Week of Service five Rotarians graciously donated their time to visit the Seattle Goodwill Job Training and Education Center where they met with the current retail and customer service students. In a roundtable format, the Seattle #4 Rotarians shared their practical experience, insights and advice about work in the retail sector. During a lively Q&A session, the Goodwill students had an opportunity to get their specific questions answered in a fun and friendly environment. *There was no cost to Rotary for this project.*



Arts, Crafts & Summer School Supplies

Champion: Sue Sherbrooke

First Place is service agency devoted to educating and nurturing children whose families struggle with the risk or reality of homelessness. They offer housing, culturally relevant education and support services enabling families to achieve permanent stability. The Vision: Hope, home, and education for every child, one family at a time. Rotary volunteers gathered, donated and "procured" enough supplies for 125 needy preschool age children to use during the summer months when they otherwise would have few resources for education or constructive play.

You may never know the names of the children you helped with your donations in 2009, but you put a smile on their faces. You made learning possible by donating one of those little extras that bring joy to a child. You brought hope to their families. - Dr Doreen Cato, Executive Director



Food and Clothing Drives

Champion: Ralph Davis

Our November clothing drive benefitted the YWCA Clothing Services Program and the Union Gospel Mission. Food donations benefitted Pike Place Market Foundation's Downtown Food Bank

The morning drop off was moderately busy, and picked up well at noon. We had a total of 110 bags of clothing. We collected a lovely assortment of women's business wear. The volunteer support for this project was unparalleled. This project was so well received, that we will implement a "spring cleaning" clothing drive in June 2010. The project cost funded by the Seattle Rotary Foundation was \$600 for the printing of the donation bags.

I just visited our YWCA Clothing Services program, and everyone there is absolutely delighted with all the clothing our wonderful Rotarians contributed! Thanks so much for all the work you did to make that generosity possible! - Sue Sherbrooke, YWCA



THANK YOU, thank you for selecting the Downtown Food Bank for this week's food drive. On Wednesday, we guessed about 80-100 pounds of food was collected. And today I learned from the Food Bank manager that it was really a whopping 245 pounds WOW! A special thanks to you, Ralph, for spearheading the drive. And thank you, Cathy, for being such an enthusiastic committee chair and hard worker. With gratitude, Marlys Erickson, Pike Place Market Foundation





Habitat for Humanity Work Days

Champion: Marty Kooistra

Habitat for Humanity is an organization which builds and provides housing for low income families who are not able buy a house in this area.

The Habitat Rainier Vista project consists of three 4-plex buildings which are being built in three phases – A, B and C. The block is designed to accommodate a variety of family sizes with an emphasis on creating a safe, accessible site with front yard gardens and ample rear yards. The buildings are arranged so that every home will have a front porch and garden as well as a fenced back yard. The Rainier Vista homes will be Energy Star Certified, meet the Evergreen Sustainability Standard of 50 or more points, and meet Built Green 3-star standards.

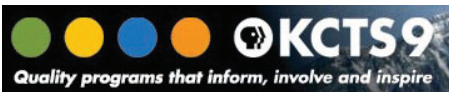


Seattle 4 Rotary volunteers helped on final projects on Phase A so the families could close on their houses the first week of March 2010. The families were given keys to their houses at the house closings and are now residing in their beautiful new homes. Rotarians also helped with the grand opening event and the beginning work on Phase B. *There was no cost to Rotary for these projects*

Holiday Shopping

Champion: Joel Ferrell

Coordinated in conjunction with the Seattle Boys and Girls Club, Rotary volunteers accompanied homeless and very needy children on December 12th, to shop for necessities during the holiday season. Volunteers donated a specified amount per child. *There was no cost to Rotary for this project.*



KCTS Pledge Night March 11th

Champion: Paul Cressman

The Seattle 4 Rotary has been supporting the KCTS9 Pledge Night since the sponsorship of KCTS9 as part of our 75th Seattle 4 Rotary anniversary project. 26 Rotarians, including friends and family participated, answering phone calls from people pledging support to KCTS9. The response was more than double the national average, with a total of \$40,000! Dinner was fabulous our many thanks to Kasper's Special Events and Catering located on Queen Anne for such a generous donation. *There was no cost to Rotary for this project, except for donations from individuals and Kasper's Special Events and Catering.*

Packing Parties Northwest Harvest & Food Lifeline Distribution Centers

Champion: Cathy Burnell

Twice each year, we host work parties at our local food bank distribution warehouses. Packing apples, beans, or oatmeal, we all pitch in and have a terrific time. Best of all, the net

results are meals for thousands. A little "elbow grease" goes a long way! The warehouse managers especially appreciate the total effort Rotarians put into the tasks at hand. Thank you, Everyone for work well done! *There was no cost to Rotary for these packing parties.*



Treehouse

Children in foster care live in an uncertain world. Stability and permanence, things that most children can take for granted, are not guaranteed to foster kids. Treehouse fills the gaps for kids in foster care, providing services no other agency addresses, including extra-curricular activities and summer camp, professional educational support, resources to fully participate in everyday activities, clothing and supplies to help them fit in at school.

Treehouse Career Panel

Four Rotarian volunteers participated in career panels with groups of middle and high school aged foster children who are developing understanding about career and college pathways. Youth interviewed the Rotarians about their career and the path to get where they are today. Then Rotarians turned the tables and interviewed the Treehouse youth about their interests, goals, strengths and areas for growth and development.

Treehouse Walk A Mile

This 20 year old program was developed at the University of Washington School of Social Work to match beneficiaries of social benefits like Temporary Aid for Needy Families and foster care with policy makers. As a modification, Treehouse partnered with the University to match Rotarians with a foster care alumnus with the goal of learning more about the challenges young adults face who have lived in the foster care system and providing mentoring over the course of a month. While several matches worked well, in 4 of 6 matches we learned that youth who had known about the program as a way to connect to policy makers were reluctant to reach out to community leaders, not seeing the benefit to themselves. *There was no cost to Rotary for these projects.*



You Be the Judge

Puget Sound Speech & Debate Association

Champion: Jeff Van Duzer

During Rotary Week of Service, roughly half a dozen Rotarians from Seattle #4 participated as judges in the NCFCA Regional Qualifying Tournament for speech and debate on February 18-20. The tournament involved approximately 125 high school age competitors from an eight state region. Events included: Team debates on environmental policy. Lincoln-Douglas value debates on cooperation versus competition. Ten speech events – including Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Apologetics, and Original Oratory. Rotary's participation was gratefully appreciated. *There was no cost to Rotary for this project.*



Toy 'n' Joy

Champion: Jeff Van Duzer,
At the Salvation Army Toy 'n Joy project, approximately half a dozen volunteers from the Community

Service Committee Rotary, along with friends, helped needy families select toys and books for the children in their families. Overall, the Toy n' Joy event served 9000 children in a day and a half

(up from 6000) the year before. This was a fun project where the volunteers "shopped" with the parent, to pick out age appropriate toys and books for their children. All the parents were very grateful for the opportunity to provide their children with some holiday joy. *There was no cost to Rotary for this project.*



YWCA Angeline's Center for Homeless Women provides food, phones, counseling, job training, and a safe environment to 200 homeless women daily. It also provides beds for 40 women nightly expanding to 75 over the colder months.

Lunch at Angeline's

Champion: Audrey Halvorson

Four times a year for the past three years, the Community Service Committee served a delicious lunch to the ladies at YWCA Angeline's. These lunches are funded by SRSF and served by Rotary volunteers.

Approximately 120 women are served each time. Seattle's YWCA Angeline's Meals Program is a critical part of their services and relies heavily on donations from volunteer groups, food banks, and other sources. The total cost for all lunches serving approximately 480 women was \$1200, or \$2.50 per person. Many thanks to SRSF for funding the lunches, and thank you to the volunteers in support of Service Above Self.



This is my favorite volunteer group... They get the job done! -Robert, Chef, YWCA Angeline's

Experiencing the joy and appreciation of the women we served was both humbling and spiritually uplifting.

That was a terrific Rotary Crew we had on board too and made for a great fellowship event. All in all it was the best 3 hours I have spent in a long, long time. - Sten Crissey, Rotary Volunteer

Valentine's Bingo at Angeline's

Champion: Todd Bonime

February 17, 2010 was a terrific afternoon at the YWCA Angeline's Center. Todd was the champion for their annual Rotary bingo games, and was joined by additional Rotarian volunteers. There were fabulous prizes! This event has become so popular, the room filled quickly. Rotary provided 25 gift bags for bingo winners, so almost half the participants received a gift bag. These bags contained good quality, practical necessities at the cost of \$24 per bag for a total of \$600, funded by SRSF. Many thanks also to Bartell Drugs for their generous discounts on the practical necessities. Bonus fragrance products were provided by a private donor. The enthusiasm was heartwarming and we are all looking forward to next year's games!





Champion: Jann Curley

Grand Opening of the Rotary Support Center for Families

In celebration of a century of Rotary in the Pacific Northwest, on June 26, 2009, nearly 400 members of Seattle Rotary #4 converged on the site of Wellspring Family Services Rotary Support Center for Families. This inspiring day was the culmination of a 3-year project in which 96% of the member donated more than \$4.2 Million to build the Center to help end homelessness for families.



We are thrilled to welcome Rotarians to our new home, the Rotary Support Center for Families – as our partners in serving families for the next century – Ruthann.

In the entry way of our new family support center hangs a 25-foot cascading glass sculpture to honor the Rotary Club of Seattle’s incredible gift to our community.

Annual Recognition Event

Wellspring Family Services honored Seattle Rotary #4 by presenting the Community Partner Award to current president Tim Bendokas and immediate past president Nancy Sclater. We are tremendously honored by your dedication to see our organization grow into the future and thrilled by your commitment to the children that we serve as theirs is the future that we must all strive to make better. The award resides in the Rotary office, and the inscription reads as follows:



*Rotary Club of Seattle
The honor and recognition of being selected as the Rotary Centennial Project propelled us to heights we had never dreamed of. Seattle Rotary’s support and key partnership will sustain our work for generations to come. Because of the dedication that each Rotarian brings, the Rotary Support Center for Families is an extraordinary place where generations of families and children can make lasting change in their lives.*

Holiday Toy Drive

More than \$500 and lots of toys poured into festive Seattle 4 Rotary holiday luncheon. The clubs drive combined with other community groups allowed more than 200 children served by WFS received a new toy over the holiday season. A huge “thank you!” to Jann Curley and the Rotarian Community Service Committee volunteers for their hard work in making this drive successful.

Rotary Week of Service

Sheila Vortman and Jerry Burtenshaw joined the Rotary service week by helping homeless families at Wellspring Family Services. They spent the morning sorting, folding and preparing clothing items at Baby Boutique, a free store for homeless families located at the Rotary Support Center for Families.





New Project Proposal Addressing Infant Food Shortfall

Champion: Cathy Burnell

In mid-2009, it was brought to the attention of the Seattle 4 Community Service Committee, that there is a serious shortage of infant food at the community food banks.

Small scale community food drives are simply not adequate to meet the overwhelming need which surged 30% over the previous year. The Community Service Committee supports several hands-on projects for food banks during the year. But the scale of need is far larger, and better suited to be addressed by the broader Rotary community.

Our committee took on the task of quantifying the challenge. With careful research and input from the Rotary First Harvest, Northwest Harvest, Food Life Line, Solid Ground, the Salvation Army, Wellspring, the US Department of Agriculture, The National Center for Children in Poverty, Washington State Department of Health, Nutrition First, and Within Reach, we have developed a simple, viable proposal to bridge the shortfall in the entire state of Washington. Long-term flexibility to adjust to changes is built into the proposal. *There was no cost to Rotary for this research or proposal.*



Rotary Week of Service

Champion: Sue Sherbrooke

February 17 - 24, 2010

A very special "Thank You!" to Sue Sherbrooke for her outstanding leadership as she championed the first annual "Rotary Week of Service". This program rallied almost a dozen of the Service Committee projects together in a one week period, inviting the entire membership of Seattle 4 Rotary to participate face-to-face with our community on projects that mean the most. *There was no cost to Rotary for the Week of Service.*

Our heartfelt congratulations go to Sue, as she has just been elected to serve on the national board for the YWCA. Go Sue!

NEXT: 2010 -2011

As we look forward to next year, we invite other Rotary committees and member non-profits to present to our Community Service Committee, the most pressing community service issues affecting our region. This is an ideal time to collaborate and find solutions to make positive and long-lasting changes in our community.