

# Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan

Charter Date June 21, 1995  
Club Number 30893  
District 2452 Rotary International



## Marhaba

2023-2024  
January 2024 Issue

### District 2452 **Rotary** Club of Beirut Cosmopolitan



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## CREATE HOPE in the WORLD



## Letter from the Editor

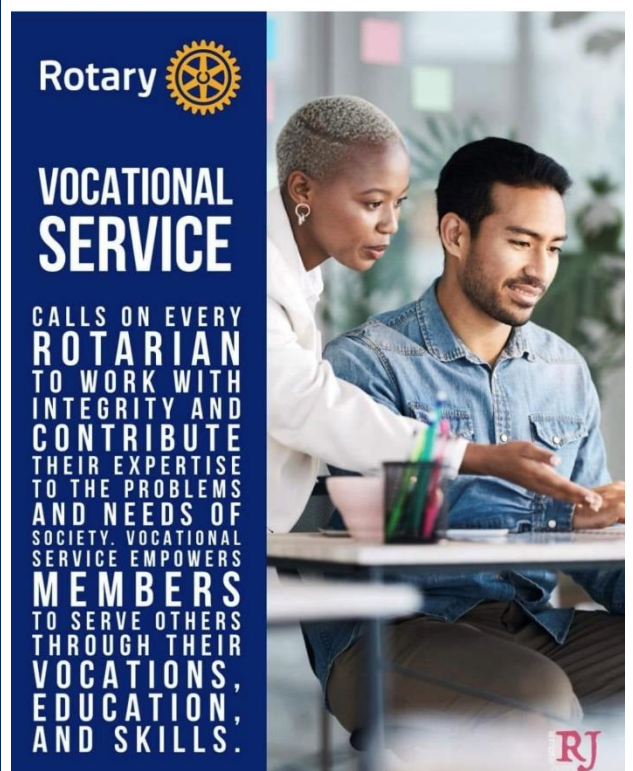
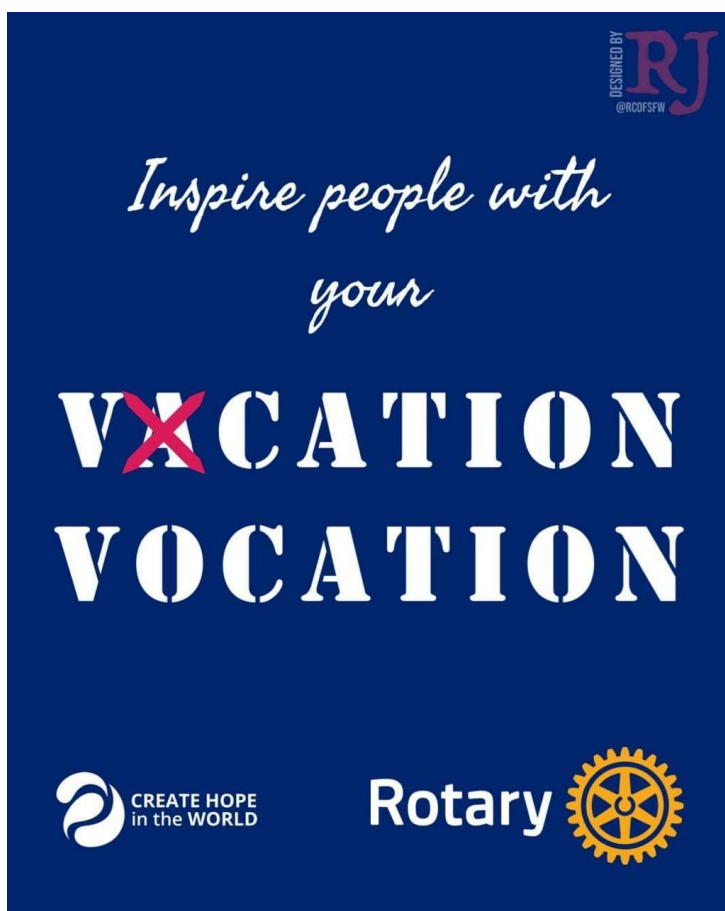
### PP Mona Jarudi

January in Rotary is Vocational Service Month. What does this exactly mean?

Rotary International prides itself in its 1.4 million members with diversity across countries and professions, thus reflecting on how Rotary emphasizes the importance of all occupations and skills. And a successful club, in its classification, attempts to reflect the businesses and professions in its community thus creating a diverse culture of different expertise and perspectives. Vocational Service simply is using every member's occupation or skills in the area of Service, and is a vehicle to help others acquire and refine skills to advance their own professions. Our speakers, covered in this issue, are a fine example of how Rotarians represent their professions in the club while showcasing the Rotary ideals in their workplace.

According to Rotary International, there are many ways to apply vocational service whether by joining a Rotary Action group, volunteering on a service project, sharing one's expertise in one of Rotary's areas of focus or joining The Rotary Foundation's Cadre of Technical Advisors to help Rotarians plan and execute grants, review, and evaluate projects to ensure the proper use of grant funds.

Every month in Rotary has a headline that truly reflects the greatness of the organization in its diversity along membership lines and areas of focus. The fertile ground is provided and it is up to us, Rotarians, to sow the seeds of Service, nourish them with our skills and passion, and hope for a better world!



# ROTARY CORNER



Stephanie Urchick, the visionary RI President-elect for 2024-2025, has unveiled the enchanting theme “The Magic of Rotary.” Embracing the spirit of community, service, and transformation, Rotary International is set to create a year where the magic of collective action illuminates the world. Join us on this extraordinary journey as we conjure positive change, turning dreams of a better future into reality. Together, let’s make the world sparkle with the transformative power of Rotary. “We are not going to end polio or bring peace to the world by waving a wand. It’s up to you. You create the magic with every project completed, every dollar donated, and every new member.”-RI PE Stephanie Urchick.





# RTN RANA GHANDOUR SALHAB

SENIOR PARTNER, MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AT DELOITTE MIDDLE EAST (DME)  
ROTARY CLUB BEIRUT COSMOPOLITAN MEMBER

## "THE WORD OF WORK: NEW FUNDAMENTALS FOR A BOUNDARYLESS WORLD"

Business Meeting

In-Person & Zoom - The Smallville Hotel

January 10, 2024

On January 10, 2024 Rotary Club Beirut Cedars invited Rt. Rana Ghandour Salhab, Partner| Member of Executive Deloitte ME, member of Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan and DEI District Chair (2022-23) to be the guest speaker.

The meeting was conducted jointly between Rotary Club Beirut Cedars with its President Ramzi Abu Samah, Rotary Club Beirut Cadmos with its President Gulshan Saglam, Rotary Club Beirut Praxis with its President Dr. Rosanie Nabbout and of course Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan with its President Amal Talhouk. The meeting was very highly attended by Rotarians and guests.

Our guest speaker always attracts her audience by the topics she chooses and their extreme relevance and timeliness. Her topic for this presentation was **The World of Work: New Fundamentals for a Boundaryless World**, a topic that reflects in every way the evolution of the work space and the major factors that present themselves as pre requisites for success in the new environment. This article will attempt to give a brief picture of a very lengthy and informative presentation. For those interested in the detailed presentation, kindly request that from our speaker Ms. Salhab.

How are we now in a boundaryless World of Work? According to our speaker, organizations lost their traditional boundaries that kept things orderly and are required now to experiment, pilot and innovate to define the new fundamentals. Ms. Salhab in her presentation focused on three areas:

1. Why does this presentation matter to Rotary and Rotarians? As we know, Vocational Service is one of the avenues of Service in Rotary which calls upon Rotarians to use their skills and expertise to Shape and Empower future leaders while applying the newest business technologies, and to address the community needs through their vocations and skills, aligning with Rotary's guiding principles.
2. How does Generative AI impact Rotary? our speaker prefaces this segment by defining Generative AI as a "subset of Artificial Intelligence in which machines create new content in the form of text, code, voice, images, videos and processes." Like all other organizations who are adapting to the use of AI as a tool to improve operations and efficiency, so are non-profit organizations like Rotary who could benefit ultimately from the use of AI.

**What about non profits? A once in a generation opportunity AND challenge**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the potential to significantly impact non-profit organizations in various ways, enhancing their efficiency, effectiveness, and overall ability to fulfill their missions.

Nonprofits are among these organizations looking to learn how AI can help them with everything from data management and donor screening to fundraising campaign optimization. However, it can be daunting to know where to start.

**Some focus areas but choose the right tools**

- Fundraising
- Data & Predictive Analytics
- Evaluating programs
- Managing Rotary Clubs and Volunteers
- Sentiment Analysis
- PR & External comms/Branding

**No, AI will not replace human Rotarians!**

AI is most likely only going to enhance the work that humans are doing at the nonprofit organization.

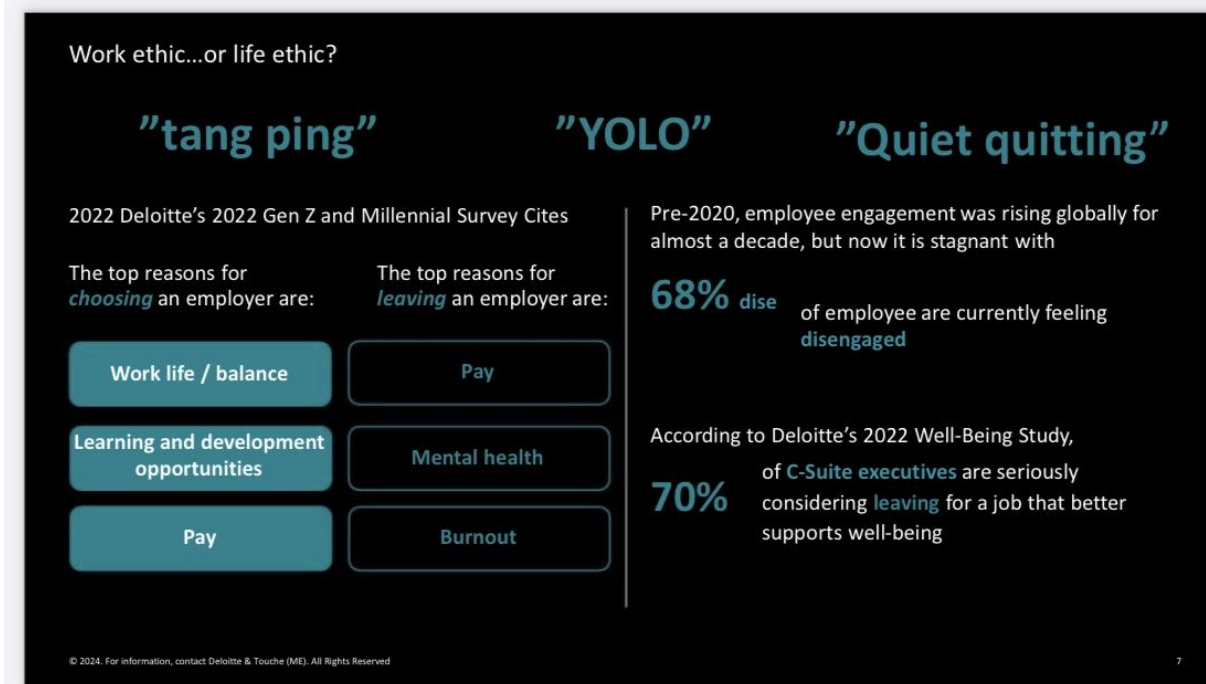
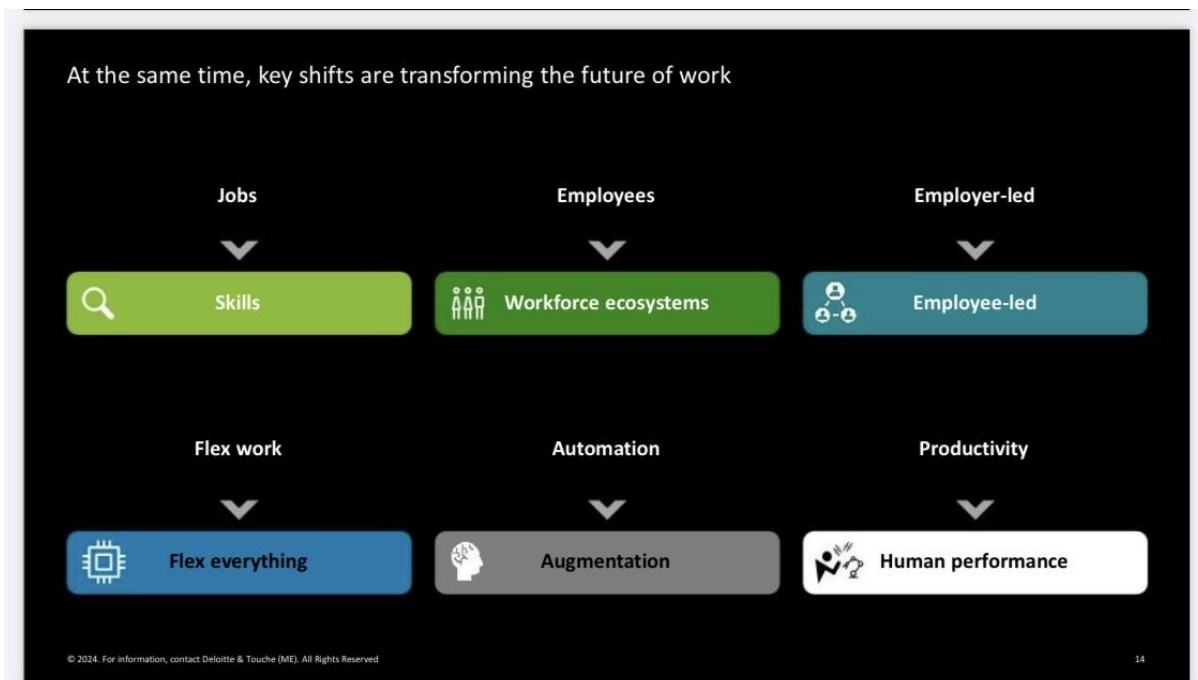
After all, nonprofit work requires people who bring the following to the table:

- Human empathy and the ability to connect with other people
- Strategic decision-making
- Consideration for ethics
- Adaptability and innovation
- Complex problem-solving skills

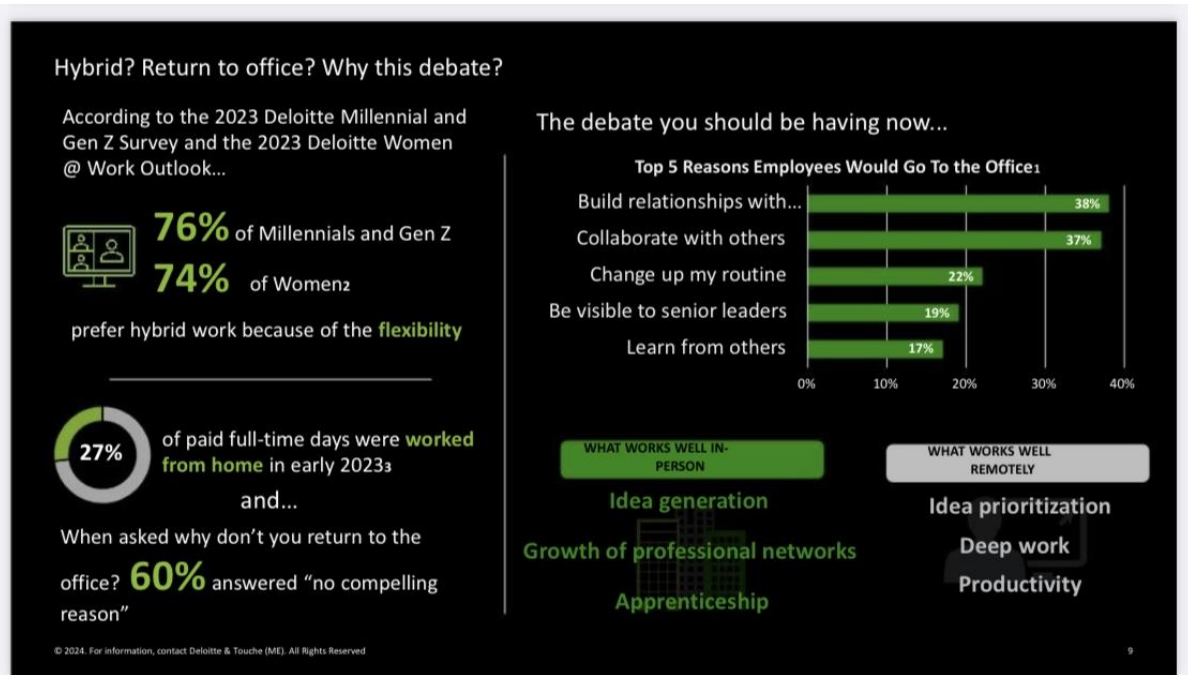
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### 3. The Shifts at play and how to navigate the Future of Work and a Boundaryless World?

- This part of the presentation was extremely informative where our guest speaker took us systematically through the shifts in the workplace. Starting with the structures that were the natural order of things as they were during the Industrial Revolution where the focus was on productivity and output to the Post-Industrial Revolution where a Dynamic world emerged requiring experimentation, piloting, innovating while keeping an eye on flexibility, human performance, workforce agency and ecosystems.  
Post Covid, the world is also experiencing a workforce revolution. New Jobs? New skills? Rana went on to say that by 2027, it is estimated that 69 million jobs will be created and 83 million jobs will be eliminated. More importantly, 44% of workers have to be reskilled as jobs evolve: Technological Literacy, Complex Problem Solving, AI and big data, Agility and Resilience, Lifelong learning and Green Skills.
- Work Ethic...or life ethic? Hybrid? Or Return to office??? The following two slides shed a clear image on the dilemmas.

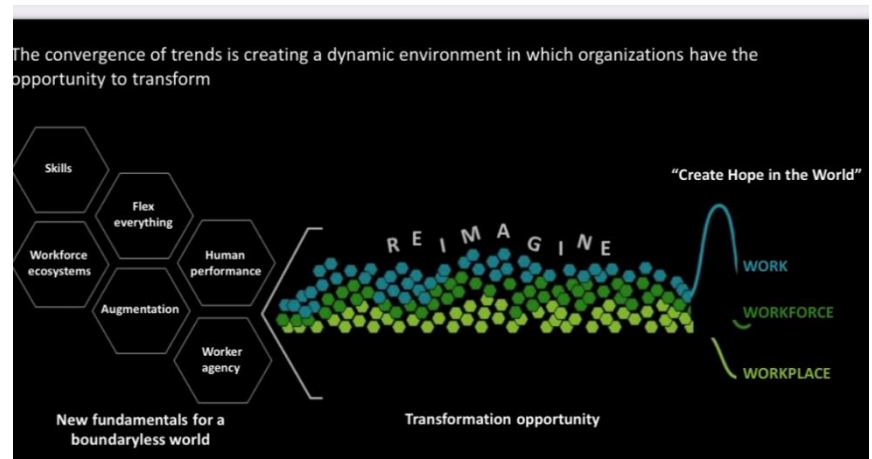


- In addition to all the above, there are key shifts that are transforming the future of work:



In her closing remarks, Ms Salhab stated that "To thrive, leaders must evolve in tandem with their organizations and adopt a new set of fundamentals to mobilize workers and teams against new outcomes" and that involves:

- Organizations and workers should think like researchers, looking at each decision as an experiment, remove boundaries that delineate jobs and use skills as the parameter for success.
- Organizations and workers will need to navigate this new world together, co-creating new rules, new boundaries, and a new relationship.
- Organizations should prioritize human outcomes. They should create impact inside their organizations and in the broader society as well. They should embed DEI and sustainability into their strategy and culture, and design the experience in service of outcomes and value.





# PDG MICHEL JAZZAR

ROTARY CLUB KESROUAN

## "CADRE OF TECHNICAL ADVISORS"

Business Meeting  
The Phoenicia Hotel

January 16, 2024

January in Rotary is Vocational Service Month. Accordingly, Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan hosted PDG Michel Jazzar (D-2452) and a member of the Cadre of Technical Advisors with the Rotary Foundation so he can share his years of experience and his personal touch on all things Rotary. This in person event was attended by President of RC Keserouan and members, President of RC Akkar, PP of Rotary Club Zgharta Zawieh, PP Walid Mouhtar and Rotarian Rana Kanso and members and other Rotarians and guests.

PDG Jazzar's presentation was focused on two things

- The Vocational Month seen differently
- An in-depth glance at The Rotary Foundation as a magic transformer, world leader, changing lives and its uniqueness as a worldwide organization.

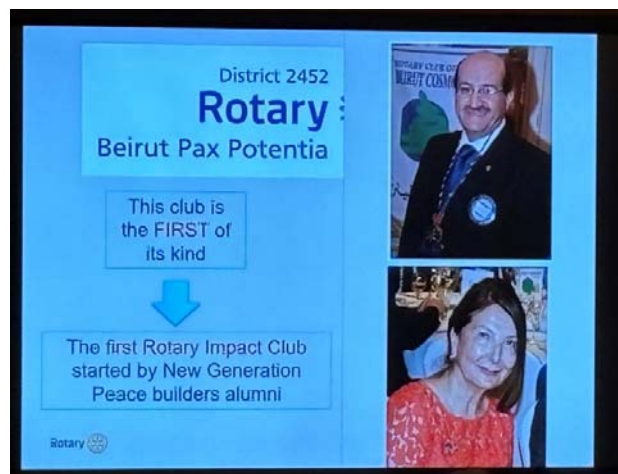
The following slide was his introduction to the Object of Rotary to clarify the mission statement of this organization. The motto of Rotary International is Service Above Self, and in this slide, PDG Jazzar highlighted the word Service and how Rotary is a philosophy of life that attempts to reconcile the conflict between the desire to profit for one's self and the duty and impulse to serve others.



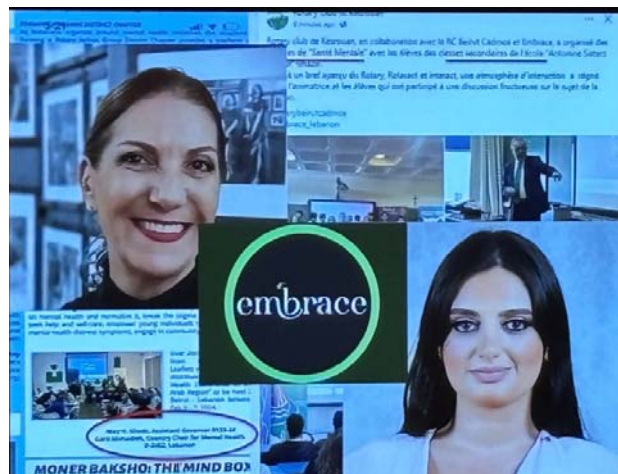
What do we mean by Service? It is responding to community needs, acting for free, volunteering and empathy, using our knowledge, experience, relationships to implement community projects. And who are the players? It is every Rotarian who joined a club anywhere in the world in pursuit of the ideals of Service and it is every Rotary club that creates opportunities for members to serve.

To demonstrate his point on the power of members using their roles to transform themselves, others and their organizations, PDG Jazzar cited three examples of how Rotarians used their expertise in three success stories:

- a. Peace Building as envisioned and implemented by two members of Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan. PP George Beyrouiti and PP Mona Jarudi, both served as District Peace Fellowship Chairs and had tremendous success in sending candidates from all over D-2452 to one of the seven Peace centers in the world to pursue a Masters Degree or a professional certificate to be trained as Peace Fellows. Together, they executed a major Global Grant that brought NewGen Peace Building Program to Lebanon where 100 students were trained and certified to be Peace Builders. Capitalizing on this, PP Mona Jarudi chartered the First Youth led Peace Building Rotary Club in the world, Rotary Club Beirut Pax Potentia (the power of Peace).



- b. Mental Health in a different lens: Rotary Club Beirut Cadmos PP May Khodr in collaboration with Dr. Lara Ahmadieh and the NGO EMBRACE, conducted sessions in several schools in Lebanon sponsored by Rotary clubs in Lebanon to spread awareness about the importance of mental health among students who are forced to live the difficult economic and emotional conditions in the country. A very important endeavor that falls within Rotary International President's area of focus this year, Mental Health. The results of this work will be revealed on February 6 when the District Mental Health Conference will take place.



- c. Mental Health Conference: Arab Region, led by Dr. Rami Sarkis (RC Lebanon International) and the founder of the HEWRAG chapter in D 2452. Together with PDG Michel Jazzar and an extensive committee, preparations were underway few months ago to host this conference in Beirut and was going to be attended in person by RI President Gordon McInally. The daylong conference will take place on February 6, 2024.





The speaker went on to explain about the importance of members using their expertise and experience to serve as Cadre members in TRF. Currently, there are 700+ members volunteering Rotarians with expertise in the seven areas of focus, grant planning and financial management. They operate in 70+ countries and speak 80+ languages. He elaborated on his interpretation of Cadre philosophy, the many different types of grants, programs of scale, how Rotary led to eradicate Polio in the world and how a partnership with MOPH helped in conducting successfully Polio Vaccination in Lebanon.

Polio+ seen differently: RY 2023-2024

➤Partnership with MOPH

Dr. Pediatrician

Club President

Country chair



Joseph Rachkidi



Naji Audi



Renée Boulos

Rotary

TITLE | 40

This presentation was very comprehensive and informative. Many thanks to PDG Michel for his ongoing support and dedication to the mission and vision of Rotary.



# DR. ROBERT SACY

## " THE POWER OF ROTARY: KARANTINA HOSPITAL REHABILITATION UPDATE"

The Phoenicia Hotel

January 23,2024

One of the most important attributes of Rotary are the numerous avenues of Service it provides for Rotarians to feel engaged and improve their club experience. Community needs are assessed and evaluated and based on the parameters that Rotarians work with, the needs translate either to a small project undertaken by the club or to a mega project that is facilitated through The Rotary Foundation.

Our club, Rotary Beirut Cosmopolitan, has a long- standing history with successful matching grants/ Global grants to the tune of over \$ 4 million for the past 28 years. Projects are initiated, completed, handed over to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. To follow up on the impact of our work in the community, we started a tradition of inviting back the organizations we helped to give us an update on their progress.

Post the disastrous Beirut Port Explosion in August 2020, RCBC undertook a mega project to help rehabilitate the Neonatal Pediatric Wing and part of the Maternity Ward at the Karantina Government Hospital that treats the poor, Lebanese and refugees, who otherwise will be left out in the cold. For this purpose, we invited Dr. Sacy, President of Assameh, Birth and Beyond, to update us on the status of the hospital now and how our project with them helped alleviate some of their needs.

In a heart wrenching presentation, Dr. Sacy shared with us facts and images about the dire status of children in Lebanon. Titled Children in Danger: The Fall of a Nation, Dr. Sacy stated the following:

- Assameh was founded by Dr. Robert Sacy in 2014, in cooperation with Karantina Government Hospital. Carlos Slim Foundation was instrumental in funding the construction and equipment procurement and the center launched its work in 2016.
- The facility houses a Neonatal ICU, intermediate NCU, a Pediatric ICU, pediatric ward and OPD with a vaccination program.
- 70,000 babies are born in Lebanon every year, plus 80,000 born to Syrian Refugees.
- Post Beirut Explosion and the total destruction of the hospital, the Swiss Government came to the rescue and started the rehabilitation work. Rotary clubs together with other entities took over rehabilitating different wings and in June 2021, they were all ready to move back to the premises and start receiving poor patients.
- A children burn unit was started in 2024, the first of its kind in Lebanon, thanks to a French district and NGO Humaniterra.
- The center receives abandoned babies, neglected children, and refugees. They perform all sorts of surgeries especially rare cases. They deal with handicapped children, bullied children, children with no legal papers. They provide music therapy for babies and art for joy.
- With the dire economic crisis in Lebanon, the center has to deal with the high costs of electricity and fuel. Migration of doctors and nurses to work abroad for better pay is compounding the problems.
- Despite everything, Dr. Sacy is forever the humanitarian, seeking help from every possible place in order to maintain the human dignity and rights of children, a responsibility totally overlooked and ignored by the government.
- It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words. The following paints a very mild picture of what was actually presented to us.





Our heroes saving lives



August 4 2020 at 6 PM



The New Mother and Child hospital was officially opened on the 4th of August 2023, exactly 3 years after the Beirut explosion!



Pediatric Department



Refugee child sleeping on the ground



BEFORE



17 babies



Also found thrown in Martyr's square  
Her 2 siblings were also thrown and found dead at the same place  
Cigarette burn marks all over her face and body







# REACHING OUT

1. On January 18, Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan participated in a meeting hosted by Rotary Club Kesrouan President Dr. Naji Audi and featuring a prominent guest speaker in the world of Diplomacy Dr. Nassif Hitti. Our club was represented by P Amal Talhouk together with PP Mona Jarudi, PP Subhi Jarudi and PP Joe Boulos.



2. Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan President attended recently the meeting of Rotary Clubs in Lebanon organized by Maternal and Child Health & Gift of Life Lebanon at Hotel Le Gabriel Achrafieh. The purpose of the meeting is preparation for their second Mission of Disease Prevention in Greater Beirut to be held on May 18 and 19,2024.





## January Birthdays

Mona Jarudi (5)

Nada Maalouf (14)