# THE ROTARY CLUB OF CUPERTINO

CHANGE LIVE OF

**2021 - 2022 ANNUAL REPORT** 





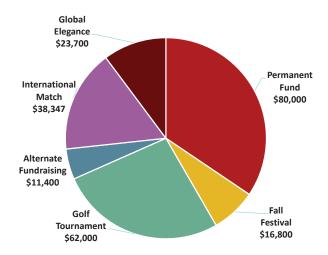


## **SERVICE ABOVE SELF**

#### Sources of Charitable Funds

Funding for the Rotary Club charitable projects comes from four key sources. Our fundraising events - Fun Festival, Golf Tournament, and Global Elegance Dinner - generate revenue from attendees. Secondly, these events count on significant contributions from our corporate and individual sponsors. We could not achieve our good work without this key support. A third source of funds are matching funds from The Rotary Foundation. Our Rotarians donate to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) each year and while some of this money is used to fund global activities such as polio eradication, much comes back to the club as matching funding for our own international projects. Lastly, distributions from the CREF Permanent Fund, our own Endowment Foundation, grow yearly and are now the largest contributor to our charitable work.

#### Sources of Funds: \$232,247 Raised in RY 21-22



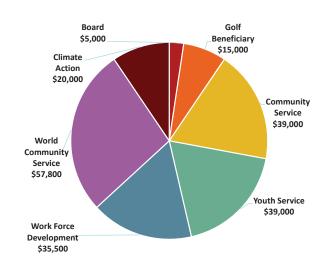
#### Over 12,000 volunteer hours spent

As significant as the dollars raised, is the amount of time committed by Cupertino Rotarians to accomplish our goals. Despite Covid, Cupertino Rotarians spent time creatively re-thinking fund-raising programs, organizing socially distanced hands-on projects, responding to new community needs, and supporting our international partners from afar. The time commitment of Rotarians is a testament to our dedication to the Rotary motto of Service Above Self.

#### **Uses of Charitable Funds**

100 percent of the money we raise from our fundraisers goes to charitable causes. The majority is used for a wide variety of International, Community, Youth, and Workforce Development projects championed by our club members. See the breakdown of project areas below.

#### Charitable Giving: \$211,300 Budgeted in RY 21-22





Led by Cupertino Rotary, five Rotary clubs plus partners Hammond Climate Solutions and LAUMC provided volunteers and funding to build a 60-panel solar system valued at \$85,000 on the rooftop of a nonprofit center in Mountain View, home to Hope's Corner meals & cold weather shelter, JobTrain, Art Changes Us, CHAC and others, which will substantially reduce their electricity costs.

## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - Rod Sinks**



With a diverse membership in age, background and experience steeped in the innovation of Silicon Valley, and with a substantial charitable budget, we are a vibrant club moving mountains. Thanks to our members, a strong leadership team and our donors, we had a banner year in 2021-2022. I'm

proud of our team of changemakers that made it happen.

For some, returning to weekly meetings in Quinlan after a yearplus online was important, while others preferred to continue attending online. We learned to perfect hybrid meetings that kept the interest of the audience in the room as well as those on Zoom. As a result, our weekly attendance has grown a bit since the start of the pandemic. Acknowledging our pandemic funk, we replaced some of our regular meetings with fellowship events; in all, 9 of our Wednesdays were spent on fellowship events or cultural programs.

Our members love to serve, and our club led some 55 projects in our community, over half of which had a substantial hands-on component. Of these, 8 came from our new Climate Action Committee, which received part of our charitable budget for the first time; the committee leveraged its \$20,000 and volunteer labor, bringing in partners which yielded projects valued at \$159,000.

Internationally, we are the sponsor for 8 active projects, and contributed funds to 20 others. We sent delegations to further Rotary projects in Ethiopia, Uganda, Ecuador and Mexico. Our members also responded to the crisis in Ukraine, boosting our contributions to The Rotary Foundation by 50%, and were privileged to have Rotary International Secretary John Hewko speak to us about his experience helping found Ukraine as an independent nation.

We transformed our annual Fall Festival into a day and evening event to attract a wider audience. For the first time, our Permanent Fund balance topped \$3 million, giving us ongoing resources to do more.

Rotary International's theme for 2021-2022 was **Serve to Change Lives**, and our club extended it to become **Serve to Change Lives & Preserve our Planet**. This year, we demonstrated that we are People of Action embracing that ongoing challenge.

Rod Sinler

Rod Sinks President Cupertino Rotary 2021-22 www.cupertinorotary.org



# **PRESIDENT ELECT - Steve Onishi**



Welcome to the new 2022-2023 Rotary year! I am humbled and honored to serve as your club president. Despite the challenge presented by the pandemic, I am immensely proud of how our club has responded and continued our mission of "service above self." I believe we'll emerge from this

pandemic and return to a new "normal" that more closely mirrors life before the pandemic. We will continue with the hybrid meeting format so that members can either attend our club meetings in person or remotely via Zoom.

I am excited about our incoming leadership team - having such talented leaders positions our club to "Imagine Rotary" - to turn a vision into reality. Over the next year, we'll explore new membership options to grow our club - ideally increasing our membership's diversity, equity, and inclusion. With Rotary International's focus on the environment, we'll

continue funding our Climate Action Committee to pursue collaborative projects that reduce our carbon footprint. Finally, we will focus time and effort on deepening our Veteran community engagement over the next year.

While many join Rotary to participate in service projects, fellowship is also essential. We welcome guests to join us on service projects or attend our weekly meetings to learn more about our club.

Steve Onishi

Steve Onishi President - Elect 2022-23



## **AVENUES OF SERVICE**

## **Community Service**

Service Above Self, one of Rotary's most cherished axioms, is clearly demonstrated through Community Service. While we donate funds to various community programs, our focus is on hands-on projects that build club spirit and connect us directly with those in need. We continue to be flexible and responsive to COVID issues.

This year, 800 hours of volunteer work and over \$39,000 were devoted to over 20 projects that made repairs to homes for autistic children, delivered turkey and trimmings to 110 community residents, sent care packages to our overseas troops, purchased toys, books, and art supplies for foster youth, brought comfort animals to visit several senior facilities, and assembled over 60 volunteers to make individual homes safer, healthier, and aesthetically pleasing for low-income seniors. We also helped several local nonprofits expand their services to the community.

Rotarians utilized their skills as pumpkin carvers, painters, wood workers, builders, and cheer-givers to ensure that our local community benefited. We supported young people and seniors, the disabled and the disadvantaged, our veterans, and the hungry and the homeless. Our projects lifted the spirits of others, built bridges to higher quality of lives, and showcased Rotary's commitment to building communities through service.

#### **Youth Service**

Youth Service (YS) projects focus on young people in our community, with the goal of building their confidence, self-esteem, and leadership skills. We also supported four High School Interact Clubs in their efforts to raise money to support local and worldwide causes and, with our Interact clubs, focused on increasing student cycling to school with "Cycle for Change."

Operation Snowflake returned to a winter wonderland with our partner VIA services and our annual Speech and Poetry contest also returned to in person. Partners in Community Service (PICS) - Cupertino Middle School students donated \$1000 to Bay Area Housing Corporation, supporting housing for those with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Dr. Seuss Reading Day was completed again this year using video recordings. Rotary volunteers read Mr. Brown Can Moo! Can You? and Fox in Socks. We continue to support some of our favorite programs such as Gifts of Hope and Back to School with WVCS, Summer learning through the YMCA, student leadership via RYLA, and Scouting (a new girl's troop was chartered).

#### **Climate Action**

Rotary International recently added Supporting The Environment as a 7th area of focus. In response, Cupertino Rotary established a Climate Action Committee. In our inaugural year, we funded and installed a rooftop solar project on WVCS low-income housing in Cupertino, and led five Rotary clubs to fund and install solar on a Mountain View center benefiting nonprofits under the roof: Hope's Corner, JobTrain, Art Changes Us and CHAC. We installed heat pump water heaters replacing gas, recycled batteries, and funded the repair of bikes & new e-bikes for loan to worthy De Anza College students.







## **AVENUES OF SERVICE**







#### **Workforce Development**

Workforce Development enables our Rotary Club to be a driving force for individual success in work or career by supporting:

- Fremont Union High School District (FUHSD) Adult School through the Career Conversations Workshop, held to broaden the scope of Career Awareness for students.
- The FUHSD Educational Options Program through the Springboard into Careers Project to enhance student vocational development.
- FUHSD Teacher Mini-Grants totaling \$4900.
- The FUHSD Adult School Principal's Scholarship for students facing financial barriers that impact their GED or HS diploma completion.
- The Cross-Cultural Partners Program, matching ESL students from DeAnza College and FUHSD Adult School with Rotarians to help students improve their conversational English skills.
- A Monta Vista High School Shark Tank Competition led by the Future Business Leaders of America Club.
- The installation of a mural in the DeAnza VRC Veterans Quad in collaboration with the De Anza College Veterans Resource Center.
- DeAnza Career Technical Education (CTE) through eight \$1500 scholarships to DeAnza students pursuing careers in nursing, automotive technology, health technologies, etc.
- The annual \$7,000 Jackson Family Education Scholarship to a DeAnza college student planning to transfer to a four-year university.
- The Reentry Program, designed to facilitate successful reintegration of formerly incarcerated women back into society.
- The Awarding of the annual Its and Marion Uenaka Memorial SJSU Scholarship, a \$40,000 Scholarship paid out over 4 years.

#### **World Community Service**

Cupertino Rotary partners with other Rotary Clubs to undertake projects that address humanitarian and educational needs around the globe. The Rotary Foundation matches club funds and provides fiscal oversight. Many projects rely on strategic partners with ties to Cupertino Rotarians. While COVID-19 continued to have a significant effect this past year, we were able to complete several projects and initiate new ones.

Some example projects where Cupertino Rotary serves as the international sponsor include: Partnering with RC Tomebamba-Cuenca (Ecuador), we have provided vocational support for a domestic violence shelter, enabling expansion of a commercial bakery and creation of substantial gardens, both to provide valuable skills and experience.

Our project with RC Muthaiga (Kenya) has led to drilling water wells, with supporting technology, leading to better access to water.

We successfully completed two projects in India: with our partner Sankara to assist patients having eye surgery, and to enable supply of laparoscopic equipment to a hospital.

We also support projects in Cambodia, Chile, China, Guatemala, Ivory Coast, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Romania, Taiwan, and Uganda. Club members are now resuming travel to visit projects, meet local Rotarians, and learn about the culture and economic conditions of these areas.

## **FUND DEVELOPMENT**

Our FUNdraisers are designed as community events to foster and develop key local partnerships in addition to being a fun time for all participants.

Our Global Elegance dinner continues to the be the premier fundraising event for Cupertino Rotary's international endeavors around the world. It is a classic example of partnering with local and worldwide non-profits to foster life-changing projects. Back in person, this year's event was a celebration of our international work.

The Cupertino Fun Festival is Cupertino's premier Community Festival, an annual fundraiser held in partnership with the city of Cupertino. This event is Rotary's opportunity to thank our community sponsors. Back in person at Memorial Park, with a new evening component, we celebrated the diversity and generosity of our community.

The 2022 Golf Classic beneficiary was the Northwest YMCA. Our grant enabled this organization to build a community garden at their Cupertino facility. Held in early May, our Golf Tournament provided a much anticipated opportunity for Rotarians and community members to gather safely and enjoy getting back together.





## THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS























































## **ROTARIANS IN THE NEWS**



Jim and Sharon Walker: were honored by WVCS for their instrumental support for the food pantry and housing programs.



Rita Chiang: was awarded the District 5170 Neil Hoffman Award for Outstanding Young District Rotarian.



Liz Gallegos: received the District 5170 Exemplary Service Award.



Joe Hamilton: received the Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award.



Dr. Garry Latshaw: received the April 2022 Sustainability Champion CREST Award.



Polly Bove: received the Chamber Bridge Award.



Savita Vaidhyanathan: was named the District 5170 Governor-Elect.



Hung Wei Chen: was named the District 5170 Governor-Elect Nominee.



Diana Ding: received a 2021 "Unsung Hero" Award from State Assembly Member Alex Lee.



**Cupertino Rotary** was named '2022 Non-Profit of the Year' by State Assemblymember Evan Low

## PARTNERS LIST FOR THE 2021-22 ROTARY YEAR

It is through partnerships both locally and world wide that we fulfill the rotary mission to do good in the world.

Scouts BSA: P492, T479, T492, C479

City of Cupertino

Cupertino Chamber of Commerce

Cupertino Library Foundation

Cupertino Inner Wheel

Cupertino Rotary Sponsored Interact Clubs

Cupertino Union School District

Cupertino-Copertino Sister Cities Assoc.

Rotary Clubs of Sunnyvale, Los Gatos Morning, Mountain View, and Los Altos

Cupertino-Hsinchu Sister City Assoc. Cupertino-Bhubaneswar Sister City Cupertino-Toyokawa Sister Cities, Inc.

De Anza College

Fremont Union HS District

**FUHS Foundation** 

**Hammond Climate Solutions** 

Los Altos United Methodist Church

Northwest YMCA

Our Daily Bread **PACE** Pratham Rebuilding Together Sankara Eye Foundation Sun Work Shin Shin Education Foundation VIA Rehabilitation Services

West Valley Community Services

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Our weekly programs encompass a wide spectrum of speakers as well as community celebrations and fellowship events. We strive for balance in our programing and speakers that appeal to our diverse membership. Featured is a small sampling of our great programs this year:

Jane C.S. Long: California's Energy Future

Arvind Chari: Vertical Farming

John Hewko: Founding Independent Ukraine

Evan Moss: Let's Talk About Race Pam Dorr: Affordable Housing

Lloyd Holmes: The State of DeAnza College

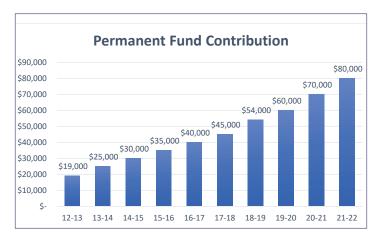




## PERMANENT FUND

#### **CUPERTINO ROTARY ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION**

The Cupertino Rotary Endowment Foundation (CREF) was created to increase funds available for Rotary's charitable giving. A separate entity from both the Rotary Club of Cupertino and Rotary International, CREF's 501(C)(3) status affords individuals, families, trusts, foundations, and corporations the ability to contribute to charitable causes and realize tax benefits from such contributions. Annual contributions from the Permanent Fund have increased yearly and are now the largest component of Cupertino Rotary's annual charitable giving.



## **MEMBERSHIP**



We started the 21\_22 year with 204 members. As the third largest Rotary club in District 5170, Cupertino Rotary is a strong vibrant club, with an active and engaged membership that reflects the rich ethnic fabric of our community. Cupertino Rotary provides opportunities for our diverse members to come together, exchange ideas, enjoy each other's company, and take action to benefit communities both locally and worldwide. At Cupertino Rotary, we serve together to foster goodwill and understanding while building long-lasting friendship.

# **CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-22**

President 2020-2021 **ROD SINKS** 

Director LESLIE HAY

**President Elect** 

Director

STEVE ONISHI

SUNIL NETHISINGHE

Secretary **DANA STERN**  Director

**JANELLE BREEN** 

Chief Financial Officer **JEFF MOE** 

Director **ANNIE HO** 

President, CREF **JO LUCEY** 

Director

**ALYSA SAKKAS** 

Strategic Dev. Officer **JOE HAMILTON** 

Director **GEORGE DENISE** 

Immediate Past President STUART ROSENBERG

Fund Development Officer

KATHY YATES



To learn more about The Rotary Club of Cupertino visit the Club's website at: www.cupertinorotary.org

Please join us as our guest

We meet every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. at Quinlan Community Center, 10185 N Stelling Road, Cupertino, CA.

Meeting in person and via Zoom: See website for details.

P.O. Box 637, Cupertino, CA 95015 T: (408) 658-0077

Email: cupertinorotary@gmail.com