



The Rotary Club of La Crosse

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To All Rotary Club of La Crosse Rotarians:

During November our club will engage in the re-enrollment of our members in their support of the Rotary International Foundation, the Rotary Works Foundation and the Polio Fund. This enrollment will cover the two Rotary years beginning January 1, 2020 and ending on December 31, 2021.

Our **Rotary International Foundation (RIF)** supports Volunteer Service Teams, Ambassadorial Scholars and Peace Scholars and provides the financial assistance that allows Rotarians to engage in over 2500 international service projects each year. "The mission of the Rotary International Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace." Our support for this foundation is the antidote to the miseries of poverty, the absence of health care, medical services and educational opportunities.

Polio Fund.... When Rotary and its partners launched the Global Polio Eradication Initiative more than three decades ago, polio paralyzed 1,000 children every day. We've made great progress against the disease since then. Polio cases have dropped by 99.9 percent, from 350,000 cases in 1988 in 125 countries to 33 cases of wild poliovirus in 2018 in just two countries: Afghanistan and Pakistan. And we remain committed to the end. With polio nearly eradicated, Rotary and its partners must sustain this progress and continue to reach every child with the polio vaccine. Without full funding and political commitment, this paralyzing disease could return to polio-free countries, putting children everywhere at risk. Rotary has committed to raising US\$50 million each year to support global polio eradication efforts. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has pledged to match that 2-to-1, for a total yearly contribution of \$150 million. We are winning the war against polio and our efforts, and our financial support, must continue until polio, like smallpox, has been eradicated.

Our **Rotary Works Foundation**, (RWF) supported by the nine clubs of our area, provides financial assistance for a wide range of community service projects and activities that make the La Crosse area a better, kinder and a friendlier place. The RWF is funded with our individual financial support and with projects such as the sale of our annual fruit baskets.

**EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR**

It is hoped that each of our members will participate in supporting these three great efforts. "**Every Rotarian, Every Year**" is a campaign slogan that encourages us to provide financial support of \$100 or more per year for the Rotary International Foundation. Doesn't this slogan also apply to the Rotary Works Foundation? Consider that a pledge commitment of \$100 for each of the foundations is less than \$4.00 per week, the price of a latte at

Starbucks! Each dollar of support for the Rotary Foundation, or for the Polio Fund, moves a contributor closer to the Paul Harris Fellow which is awarded to those whose cumulative contributions are \$1000.

We hope all will participate in the enrollment. If your circumstances are such that you cannot contribute at this time, we, in the spirit of Rotary, understand but would ask that you, nonetheless, complete the enrollment form

All pledges are confidential between you and our club administrator. All contributions are tax deductible and a tax receipt will be provided by the foundations.

Thank you as you consider your support for the great work of Rotary and on behalf of all who will benefit from your generosity.

We have enclosed YOUR personal pledge form which lists the Foundations and what you gave previously. Please return the form by November 30th. If your form is not returned, we will assume your pledge will be the same as last year. If you have any questions, please contact us at rotarylax@charter.net.

The Foundation Committee

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