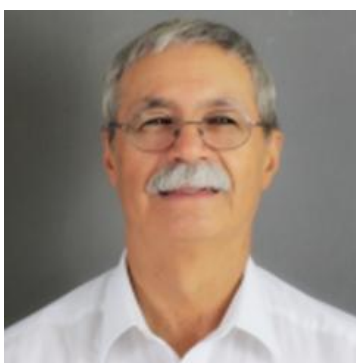


The Foundation of the Rochester Latino Rotary Club was incorporated on July 23, 2014 as a not-for-profit charitable corporation. The purpose of the Foundation is to receive and dispense funds for the charitable service of the Rochester Latino Rotary Club. The club focuses its charitable services to humanitarian projects that address the needs of the Rochester Community and other countries.

FOUNDATION OF THE ROCHESTER LATINO ROTARY CLUB, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Charol Rios, Chair



Julio Vázquez, Chair Elect



Iris Alvarado, Secretary



Dr. Miriam Vazquez, Treasurer

ROCHESTER LATINO ROTARY CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Elba Williamson, President



Iris Alvarado, President-Elect



Aida Veras, Secretary



Idalia Chang, Treasurer

LITERACY PROJECTS: RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT ROLE LITERACY PLAYS IN IMPROVING LIVES AND EMPOWERING PEOPLE, THE ROCHESTER LATINO ROTARY CLUB IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING UNIVERSAL LITERACY AND EDUCATION INITIATIVES.

1. **Rochester Latino Rotary Club College Scholarship:** The Rochester Latino Rotary Club awarded two \$1,000 college scholarships to Gadiel Pedraza and Laila Perez, graduates of the Eugenio Maria Hostos Charter School who demonstrated service above self.



2. **Parents as Reading Partners-Kindergarten Project:** The Rochester Latino Rotary Club members read the book “The Girl Who Planted a Forest”, to 70 kindergarten students. The students learned about the value of trees. The students collected \$78 to donate to OneTreePlanted. The Rochester Latino Rotary Club matched the students’ donations. A total of \$156 was donated to OneTreePlanted.



3. **Storywalk® at El Camino:** The Rochester Latino Rotary Club in partnership with the City of Rochester, Genesee Land Trust and Ibero Development Corporation installed a Storywalk® at El Camino Trail. The purpose of a Storywalk® is to encourage families in our community to spend time together, walking and reading, thus promoting healthy habits and good reading habits. A Storywalk® takes an illustrated children's book and disassembles it, displaying each page sequentially along a walking path. The Storywalk® concept was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library. The club replaces the Storywalk® book monthly or bi-monthly during Spring, Summer and Fall. In September, the Rochester Latino Theater Company, sponsored a book reading, where they read the book as we walked the trail and provided activities and books to families.



4. **Little Library at the International Plaza:** A little library is a free book exchange where people can take a book or share a book. The Rochester Latino Rotary Club members restocked the little library as needed.



5. **Essay Contest:** The Rochester Latino Rotary Club sponsors an Essay Contest for middle school students within the City of Rochester. Students are invited to participate by researching and writing about a social justice issue in the Rochester Community. Cash prizes are awarded for first, second and third place.



First Place Winner: Angelina Marie Ceravolo-Mercado, Thurgood Marshall Middle School
Second Place Winner: Justin Goings, Loretta Johnson Middle School

6. **Oratorical Contest:** Rotary District 7120 sponsors an Annual Oratorical Contest for high school juniors. Contestants present a 5 to 7-minute speech on how they plan to live their lives based on the four-way test. Is it the TRUTH? Is it FAIR to all concerned? Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned? The top winners are awarded Scholarships to local colleges.



Jamari Sanders, Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School

7. **Parents as Reading Partners-Pre K Reading Project:** The Rochester Latino Rotary Club members read the book “Lola Plants a Garden” to Pre-kindergarten students. The students all received a copy of the book and planted flowers. When the plants began to bloom they invited the seniors from El Centro de Oro for a visit where they shared treats and gifted their plants to the seniors.



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS: THE ROCHESTER LATINO ROTARY CLUB PROVIDES SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY AND PEOPLE IN NEED.

1. **Holidays Meals:** Two holiday meals during Thanksgiving and Easter were provided to our homeless community. Sixty dinners were served at each event.



2. **Parranda:** The Rochester Latino Rotary Club sponsored a parranda where music, hot chocolate and hot soup were shared with the community around the Father Tracy Advocacy Center.



3. **Father Tracy Advocacy Center:** The Rochester Latino Rotary Club donated \$500 to the Father Tracy Advocacy Center to help out with the center's mission of providing access to addiction treatment, case management and street outreach to the community of North Clinton Avenue.



4. **Hispanic Youth Baseball League:** The Rochester Latino Rotary Club donated \$500 to the Rochester Hispanic Youth Baseball League to help children that need help with registration fees.



5. **Women's Tea:** The Rochester Latino Rotary Club sponsors a Women's Tea where women are invited to share a time of fellowship, food and inspiration.



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: THE ROCHESTER LATINO ROTARY CLUB MEMBERS CONTRIBUTE AND FUNDRAISE TO SUPPORT THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION TO HELP FUND HUMANITARIAN HEALTH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY.

1. **Polio Campaign:** To help eradicate polio worldwide, the RLRC sponsored a 50/50 raffle and members made donations during meetings. The winning ticket was pulled by the Puerto Rican Festival Queen at the Annual Walk-A-Thon event. The club donated \$786.00 to the End Polio Now Rotary International campaign.



2. **Fund Share:** The Rochester Latino Rotary Club donated \$1,000 to the Rotary International Fund Share. Rotary International makes those funds available for clubs that want to collaborate on bigger projects (i.e. clean water projects, educational projects, etc.).

AWARDS BANQUET: THE ROCHESTER LATINO ROTARY CLUB HELD AN AWARDS BANQUET IN JUNE, 2025 TO HONOR THE LUISA BAARS AWARD RECIPIENTS, THE YOUTH INSPIRATION AWARD RECIPIENTS AND ALL OTHER CONTESTANT WINNERS.



Luisa Baars Award Recipients: Natalie Rodriguez & Miriam Cortez Rodriguez
Youth Youth Inspiration in Action Award: Mayrolin Jerez Suarez

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT: THE FOUNDATION OF THE ROCHESTER LATINO ROTARY CLUB, INC PLANS AN ANNUAL EVENT THAT WILL GENERATE THE FUNDS NEEDED FOR THE CLUB’S PROJECTS FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

Fourth Annual Walk-A-Thon: This year’s event took place on May 17, 2025 at Seneca Park. Twenty-eight participants came out and walked the 5K course. The event generated \$12,134.84. The club is grateful to this year’s sponsors.



NEW MEMBERS: The Rochester Latino Rotary Club welcomed two new members at it's September Club meeting.

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Lieutenant Luis A. Menéndez, The Salvation Army
Maria Tovar, Assistant Vice President | M&T Bank Bilingual Branch Manager | Waring Branch

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Foundation's starting balance for the year was \$18,964.75.

\$12,078.82 was expended on the 2024-2025 Club projects.

The foundation ended the year with a fund balance of \$6,885.93.

The Walk-A-Thon Fundraiser generated 12,134.84 for the 2025-2026 projects.