



Chartered October 26, 1925
Wednesday 12:00 noon
La Mesa Community Center
4975 Memorial Drive
La Mesa, CA 91942

Board Members

President Bonnie Welch
President-elect
Gabriella Misirlioglu
Past President
Becki Schwartz
Secretary Kathy Olsen
Treasurer Ryan Barnhill

Board Members

Directors

Dale Bailey
Marsha Darling
Mary Elington
Greg Erickson
Mike Fellows
Louise Herr-Marshall

Membership

Greg Erickson

Youth Service

Mark Matthews

Speaker Chair

Bill Ashman



Chicano Federation: Supporting Families Through Education, Housing, and Advocacy



Denisse Newell, Housing Director for the Chicano Federation of San Diego County (CFSDC), shared the organization's mission and the wide-ranging impact of its programs. Founded 60 years ago, the Chicano Federation works to cultivate opportunities and advocate for a more equitable comunidad, focusing on five key areas: Early Childhood Education, Affordable Housing, Workforce Development, Community Empowerment, and Advocacy. Their Early Childhood Education programs train women to operate licensed in-home childcare businesses, while partnerships with Feeding San Diego and the San Diego Food Bank ensure healthy meals for more than 7,000 children each day across 850+ daycare homes in San Diego, Orange, and Riverside counties.

Believing that housing is a fundamental human right, the Federation owns eight affordable apartment communities, providing stable homes for over 500 residents. Families and seniors also receive wraparound support—from fresh produce and diapers to school supplies and other essentials.

Denisse also described the immense challenge she faced just four months into her role, when the January 2024 floods severely damaged the Federation's Delta Street Apartments, displacing 83 residents. Through determined effort, the team rehabilitated the building and welcomed residents back within five months.

Lunch Assignments

March 25, 2026

Greeter Mark Matthews
Pledge David Petri
Thought Mary Elington
4 Way Test Kathy Olsen

April 1, 2026

Greeter Marsha Darling
Pledge Mark Matthews
Thought Louise Herr-Marshall
4 Way Test Mary Elington

April 8, 2026

Greeter Ron Morrell
Pledge Martin Brickson
Thought Jay Thompson
4 Way Test Bonnie Welch

Please exchange with someone if you're unable to perform your assignment.

Charitable Giving

The Spring cycle for Charitable Giving is open until March 31, 2026.

Please read the guidelines below.

District 5340 CLLS

What is CLLS, you ask.

District Training Assembly (DTA) has a new name- Club Leadership Learning Seminar (CLLS). The event will be held at Liberty Station on **March 28th at 8 am.** The focus is on training, engaging and empowering club leaders.

To participate in the District Grant and Global Grants we need two club members to participate.

More information to follow.

Sunrise Service



Becki Schwartz is looking for volunteers to assist with loading buses at Grossmont High School for the 2026 Sunrise Service on Mt. Helix. Legacy Church of La Mesa is putting on the service.

Volunteers are needed at Grossmont High on Sunday, April 5th from 5:30 AM to 6:30 AM.

Please let Becki know if you can help.

Mexican House Build



Mark Matthews is busy putting together our annual Mexican House Build project to take place on Friday, April 3, 2026. At this time, the Santee Lakeside Club will also be participating in the very worthwhile event.

Funding for the \$8000 project with Project Mercy is also needed. Mark is coordinating the following funding events:

March 28^h - Swap Meet (new date)

Clean your garages, take your items you want to donate to Mark or bring them to club meeting.

You can also donate to the La Mesa Rotary Foundation for the project using the following QR code.



Rotary



Celebrating Those Who Serve

Multi - District District Conference

5300 5320 5330 5340

GAYLORD PACIFIC
RESORT & CONVENTION
CENTER IN SAN DIEGO

JOIN US!



SAVE THE DATE!

- Rotaract Assembly
- Entertainment
- Outstanding Speakers
- Community Project
- Brand New Waterfront Hotel

Scan for more
information



Better Together Better the World

April 24-26, 2026

Phone: (619) 310-9800

1000 H St, Chula Vista, CA 91910

www.UnitedForGood2026.com

SPRING 2026 CHARITABLE GIVING CAMPAIGN – Deadline 03/31/2026

The Rotary Club of La Mesa, California, Foundation (the “Foundation”) is proud to support deserving programs in need through its Charitable Giving Program. Through the generous contributions of community members and members of the La Mesa Rotary Club, the Foundation offers semi-annual donations following a review and approval process for each Charitable Giving Request submitted to the Foundation by the Rotary Club of La Mesa. The following are the Foundation’s guidelines for Charitable Giving Requests. The Foundation reserves the right to waive, amend or supplement these guidelines at any time or as circumstances may require.

- 1. Charitable Giving Requests may be made be submitted by any person on behalf of a charitable organization qualified as a charitable entity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.**
- 2. Each Charitable Giving Request must be accompanied by a separate letter from a member of the La Mesa Rotary Club who shall serve as the sponsor for the Request. Each sponsor letter shall specify why the Foundation should consider the Request.**
- 3. Each Charitable Giving Request shall specify how the charity will use the funds being requested.**
- 4. The combined amount of Charitable Giving Requests submitted by any one charitable organization during each fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) shall not exceed the sum of \$1,000.00.**
- 5. Each Charitable Giving Request must contain the organization’s federal and state tax identification numbers.**
- 6. Each organization must be able to attend a La Mesa Rotary Club meeting via a representative for the purpose of receiving the donation subject to the deadlines set forth below.**
- 7. Charitable Giving Requests will be provided to the Foundation through the La Mesa Rotary Club.**
- 8. The Foundation will duly consider Charitable Giving Requests recommended by the La Mesa Rotary Club. However, the Foundation reserves the right to increase, decrease, deny, approve, or place any limitations or restrictions on any Charitable Giving Request.**

The La Mesa Rotary Foundation was created as an Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) Foundation to accept donations to support the work of the La Mesa Rotary Club. The La Mesa Rotary Club supports activities to benefit underprivileged, elderly, children, and world-wide projects. Evaluation of competing applications to determine which activities will be funded and the amounts shall be based on “impact”: Relative Impact. Preference shall be given to activities that will be significantly impacted by the amount of the contribution. For example, a contribution of \$1,000 to an organization with a \$25,000 budget has more impact than one to an organization with a \$1,000,000 budget. Impact might, however, be assessed on specific projects within an organization.

Local Impact. Preference shall be given to projects that specifically benefit La Mesa and East San Diego County. Organizations that serve East County shall be given preference even if the organization is located elsewhere.

Member Impact. Preference shall be given to projects in which La Mesa Rotary Club members have invested substantial time and treasure. All submissions need to go to Kathy Olsen, Chair of the Community Giving Committee at kolsen@rcpblock.com by March 31, 2026.

Service Opportunities

Event	Date/Time	Location
Charitable Giving Opens	March 1, 2026	
Swap Meet - Mexican House Build	March 28 th	Spring Valley Swap Meet
Model UN	March 21 - 22, 2026	
Music Competition Next Level	March 23, 2026	Carlsbad Sea Retirement
Club Leadership Learning Seminar (CCLS) Formerly DTA	March 28, 2026	Liberty Station
Charitable Giving Closes	March 31, 2026	
Mexican House Build	April 3, 2026	
RYLA	April 10-12, 2026	Idyllwild
NAMI Walk	7 - 11 AM April 25, 2026	NTC Liberty Park
Multi-District Conference Register on line at rotary5340.org	April 24 - 26, 2026	Gaylord Pacific Resort & Convention Center 1000 H Street, Chula Vista
Camp Enterprise	April 23 - 25, 2026	
Epic Day of Service	May 16, 2026	TBD