



The
Rotary
Foundation



District 9999 Rotary Foundation Newsletter - January 2023

Welcome to the first of two District 9999 Rotary Foundation Newsletters for the 2022-23 year. As a new District Rotary Foundation Chair in a newly-formed District I have been on a steep learning curve, but thanks to the efforts of a dedicated Foundation Committee, I am happy that our Foundation activities are functioning well and very pleased to present this first Newsletter.

Our District Grants process is well under way; Clubs are busy raising money for Foundation, Polio Plus and Rotary Give Every Child a Future (RGECAF), and our District is involved in or originating a number of exciting Global Grants. Read on for more details on all of these activities!

And in hot-off-the-press news, Rotary International has just announced that another tranche of Disaster Grant funding for Ukraine will be made available later this month. We hope this will allow our application for water purification equipment for the Kharkiv District – a project facilitated by our own e-Club of WASH - to be revived and be successful.

Your Foundation Committee is very keen to make sure that each Club has the opportunity to hear first-hand about Foundation activities each year. To arrange this, Clubs should contact their Assistant Governor who will contact us to arrange either an in-person speaker or a Zoom meeting. Alternatively Clubs can contact me directly and I'll be happy to assist.

Thank you

DRFC Joan Kiernan, RC Queenstown

Fundraising

Huge thanks to the Clubs who have already made significant contributions to TRF and Polio Plus, especially Ashburton Plains, Dunedin Central and Rangiora. Thanks also to

Clubs for continuing to donate to RGECAF, and to the many individual Rotarians who are members of the Centurion Club or the Paul Harris Society.

Clubs have now received commitment notes, and we would be grateful if Foundation contributions could be forwarded by end April at the latest to make sure they are processed in the correct year.

Polio Plus update

The number of Wild Polio Virus cases to end November 2022 was 30 – 2 in Afghanistan, 20 in Pakistan and 8 in Mozambique. While this is increase over 2021's 6 cases, it is still significantly down on 2020's 140, although those were concentrated in Afghanistan and Pakistan only. In the same period, there were 528 cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV), from locations including Indonesia, DR Congo and Yemen.



A vaccine to combat the Type 2 strain of the virus (nOPV2) has been in use since 2021. Approximately 525 million doses of nOPV2 have been administered across 25 countries and an additional 15 countries have met the requirements for nOPV2 use in the event of an outbreak.

In October 2022, 3000 scientists and public health experts endorsed the following Polio Eradication Strategy 2022-26 as scientifically valid and achievable:

Goal One: To permanently interrupt transmission of all poliovirus in Afghanistan and Pakistan by end of 2023 and certify them as polio free by end of 2026.

Goal Two: To stop transmission of cVDPV Type 2 by end 2023 and prevent outbreaks in polio-free regions.

In addition, at this year's World Health Summit held in Berlin in October, USD2.6 billion was pledged by various countries and philanthropic organizations to support the Polio Eradication Strategy 2022-26. Key donors included the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (USD1.2 billion), Rotary International (USD150 million) and the Australian Government (AUD43.55million).

We would appeal to all Clubs to continue or even increase your efforts in this area. Polio elimination continues to be Rotary's highest humanitarian priority, and we have to persevere to the end.

For more details on the 2022 Scientific Declaration on Polio check out <https://www.poliodeclaration.org/>

Rotary Give Every Child a Future

The Rotary Give Every Child A Future (RGECAF) project continues to be rolled out across nine Pacific Island countries. After the delays and frustrations caused by the pandemic, travel restrictions have now been lifted and implementation is going according to plan. RGECAF is

delighted to report that in November the HPV vaccine

was rolled out across Tonga and preparation is now underway to launch the HPV program in Vanuatu in early 2023.

This project – which actually comprises a total of 23 Global Grants from the Rotary Foundation in order to vaccinate 100,000 children across nine countries against HPV, rotavirus and pneumococcal bacteria – is the result of a massive amount of organisation and co-ordination between the Rotary Foundation, UNICEF, and many Rotary clubs across Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific.

Rotary International President Jennifer Jones will be in the Pacific in March 2023 to visit Fiji and Kiribati with the objective of highlighting to the accompanying journalists the impact that Rotary is having, in this case particularly in the area of maternal and child health, one of the Foundation's Areas of Focus.

Over US\$3.7m of the US\$3.9m budget has now been raised, but there is still time for Clubs and individual Rotarians to donate.

Donations from D9999 should be directed to the District Westpac bank account - 03 0903 0613828 000 - as specified in the District Foundation Financial Management Plan. On receipt of the funds, RI staff will allocate them to the appropriate Global Grant.

D9999 is already a participant in two of the ongoing RGECAF Global Grants, in the Cook Islands and Kiribati.

For more details, check out <https://everychildafuture.com/>



District Grants update

District 9999 policy is to always request the maximum amount of available DDF for our District Grant. This year we received NZ\$77k of which NZ\$21.6k was applied to the former D9970 Clubs and the balance to the former D9980 Clubs, who have historically had a much higher giving level. Once we are spending money that was raised by the new District 9999, it will all be available equally to all Clubs.

We received a total of 22 applications of which 20 were approved, and the grants were paid in the final quarter of 2022. One notable successful project was put forward by nine Clubs from both D9970 and D9980, and was to provide packs of feminine hygiene products to supplement Emergency Response Kits. This was a wonderful example of multiple Club co-operation and co-ordination which District strongly encourages.

Other successful projects included provision of safe drinking water in Nepal, improvements at the Orokanui Ecosanctuary, provision of playground equipment and dictionaries in schools, as well as several mental health & resilience and environmental projects.

Clubs should note that as of the 2023/24 year – ie from July 1 2023 – repeat projects such as dictionaries in schools will NOT be considered for District grants.

Not all of the money available for the former D9980 Clubs was allocated, so these Clubs will (around the time of publication of this Newsletter) be given another opportunity to apply under the existing rules.

Global Grants update

D9999 is involved in, or has recently completed, a number of Global Grants projects.

Recently completed projects include provision of WASH facilities to seven schools in the Niger Delta area of Nigeria, a partnership between the D9999 e-Club of WASH and District 9142, and the upgrade of the Osiligi Training Farm in Kenya, a location in which Waimate Rotarians have been involved for a number of years.

The WASH project was part of a larger WinS program in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria, the main objective of which was to work in collaboration with local Rotary clubs (each "adopting" a school), school and community leadership to provide improved sanitation facilities, access to clean water, and hygiene education for teachers and students, to improve school attendance, knowledge of WASH, and health outcomes at 7 schools, while also providing access to improved sanitation, water and hygiene facilities.

Many schools in the Niger Delta, both primary and secondary, have no access to water, and no functioning toilets. Students frequently leave school grounds to defecate and often don't come back. Girls frequently drop out of school due to lack of menstrual hygiene facilities. Improved WASH facilities at schools have a significant impact on school attendance, overall health, and behavior change through education and adoption of improved practices. Collaboration has been developed with Rotary District 9142 and a local NGO, Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta. A district team was put together, and local clubs were given an opportunity to nominate schools in their area needing WASH services with whom they have relationships. Local clubs proposed schools and a short list developed. PIND foundation staff along with local Rotary club representatives met with school leadership to discuss needs and assess the attitudes and capacity of the school staff. Together, PIND, Rotary Club members and school leadership undertook full needs assessments and developed a plan.

This project was successfully completed in mid-2022.

Osiligi Training Farm Upgrade Project

This project targets greater sustainability with a hoped-for achievement of a profitable enterprise at the Osiligi Training Farm near Kibera, a well-known Nairobi slum area. The Project budget was \$115,000 and covered the following contributing infrastructure:

1. Upgrading the existing six independent tunnel houses to raise the roof level for a more efficient growing environment as well as building six brand new co-joined tunnel houses including water reticulation and secure doorways.
2. Guttering on buildings and rainwater collection infrastructure on all the buildings
3. Solar inverter, switchboard and cabling for connection to the borehole 3 phase pump system.
4. 300,000 litre in-ground water storage tank with 100m² office block/classroom atop the tank roof beams with independent solar pump.
5. Solar pump for rainwater reticulation and distribution and irrigation.
6. Systems Training in Farm Operations.





7. New pig rearing facilities including auto-feeder and auto-drinkers.

The investment by the Waimate Club and TRF has allowed the development of other initiatives that also contribute significantly to the project viability and sustainability. Two such initiatives are the introduction of an aquaculture (Fish Farming) venture with the introduction

of Tilapia into the river storage pond as well as the establishment of an Aquaponics unit in one of the tunnel houses for growing restaurant vegetables, microgreens and salad lettuces.

The Project funding from TRF was issued in two tranches.

First tranche of 70% was released in 2020 and when these funds were fully expended, the second tranche of 30% was released in 2022. The final item being finished is the

300,000 litre in-ground lined concrete water tank. A short time extension has been approved to change the concrete domed tank top to a structural floor to allow for the construction of a 100m² classroom/office block over the storage tank. This is all being undertaken within the existing Project budget.



This project was scheduled for final completion in late 2022.

A full report on this grant is available on request.

New Global Grant project – support needed please!

D9999's e-Club of WASH is developing a project for which they would appreciate donations from Clubs or individuals.

This project will upgrade the WASH facilities at Namasalima Health Centre in Zomba, Malawi. Namasalima Health Centre is 31Km North-West of Zomba District, and caters for a catchment area of 25,354 people from 45 villages. It has three buildings, a staff of 48, and deals with almost 400 patients each day. Overall, the facility is in a reasonably good state as it is well taken care of despite the wastewater management problems they have.

The facility needs to be assisted with an additional 5000L tank to meet the current demand, maintenance on the water distribution system, establishment of piping to points in need of water supply, fixing plumbing issues, waste disposal management and conducting a water quality test.

A Community Assessment has been carried out and the Global Grant application is in progress. The total budget for this project is US\$72,000 and so far, US\$26,000 approx has been committed, mainly by US Clubs and Districts. Given that the project has been originated by one of our own Clubs, D9999 would like to encourage Clubs and individual Rotarians to consider supporting this very worthwhile project.

If you would like to know more, or to make a contribution, contact DFC Joan Kiernan joan.kiernan@queenstownnz.net or 021 356 265.