

## President's Letter

### FUNDRAISING NEEDS FOR 2024-2026

The Rotary Club to End Human Trafficking (RCEHT) Board has identified three strategic priorities for the next 2 years for the club. As with any organizational priorities, funding is usually required. With that in mind, we have estimated the financial needs to support these exciting initiatives. We know that we are a small club and do not expect that our members will be able to raise these funds on our own. BUT we ask that you reach out to your own networks and ask them to support our club initiatives as well. We will be including these ideas in our newsletter with links to the RCEHT Foundation PayPal link for easy donations. **PLEASE help achieve our goals!!!!**

1. **Economic Development Initiative:** We are looking to provide seed funding to support entrepreneurs starting businesses as options to trafficking. Major Assumptions for this initiative:
- Lack of economic opportunity is a key component to vulnerability to trafficking.
  - If we serious about eradicating human trafficking, we need to address basic economic opportunity around the world.
  - Despite massive investments over long periods of time, the trajectory of economic opportunity in much of the world has not changed.
  - A different approach is required.
  - That approach must be systemic and not transactional.

This Initiative:

- Focuses on geographic areas where trafficking is known to be a problem.
- Identifies candidates who are open to change and are ambitious despite the circumstances they are in.
- Recruits mentors who are passionate about the mission, empathetic, supportive, understand business, and are good teachers.
- Delivers core teaching (learning management system) in a manner easy for candidates to absorb.
- Provides capital and on-going support and community to overcome inevitable challenges.

**FUNDING NEEDED for 2024-2026: \$2,000 USD**

#### 2. Support of our Club Branches and Branch members:

Rotary International is encouraging new and innovative ways to bring in new members including multiple meeting times, special interest groups (wine groups, gardening groups, Book Clubs, travel groups, other). The Rotary Club to End Human Trafficking has created "branches" which are clubs in countries where we have a significant number of members. We currently have 2 branches—one in Ghana and one in South Sudan/Kenya. The two branches have over 20 people and represent the largest membership recruiting opportunity for our club. Unfortunately these members cannot afford the costs of membership so we are looking for others to support these amazing people who have overcome so much and are improving lives in their own countries.

There are two ways you can help:

1. Support an individual with their annual dues: 20 individuals at \$250 USD/year/person
2. Support a branch=2 branches at \$2,500 USD/year

**FUNDING NEEDED for 2024-2026: \$5,000**

#### 3. Partner with other Rotary clubs for Rotary District and Global Grant matching grants

More clubs within our District are interested in projects that can impact other countries to end human trafficking. Our district has many clubs who are generous and great collaborators and know the power of leveraging dollars. Our club has already contributed only \$500 to a grant that another Rotary club submitted to Rotary International and was ultimately awarded more than \$20,000. We want to continue to support great work with other clubs to increase the power of collaboration.

**FUNDING GOAL FOR 2024-2026: \$2,000 USD**

**TOTAL FUNDRAISING GOAL FOR 2024-2025 \$9,000**

Please consider a donation now!

**LINK FOR DONATIONS:** [https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=525MMAAWSPK54](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=525MMAAWSPK54)

## HIGHLIGHTS

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## EDI Update



presented by Michael Podolny

The Economic Development Initiative (EDI) currently is actively promoting the launch of its Pilot Projects.

Here is our current status;

- Pilot Project with Rotary Club of Tamale (Ghana)
- Completed Preliminary MOU
- Mentors selected
- An initial questionnaire for a survey of the target village created
- Scheduling of the mentor training is taking place. The target is for completion by Nov. 1
- Need to set up a survey app for use with the target village survey. The target is for the end of October.
- Pilot Project with Communities for Conservation and Enterprise Development (CCED) (Zambia)
- Initial evaluation of work being done by CCED by Colin has been completed
- Negotiating the Preliminary MOU. Target is end of the year
- Potential Pilot Project with Muslim Family Counseling Services (Kumasi, Ghana)
- Proposal has been presented
- MFCS has a high degree of interest.
- We need to determine if they can provide mentors (they can provide entrepreneurs).
- If they cannot, we will need to look for a Kumasi based Rotary Club to partner with us as well. I have one contact. Maybe the club Erin has referred to would be a possibility.
- Initial discussion with Rotary Club of Monrovia Suonu (Liberia)
- Initial meeting held between representatives of the Liberia club and our allies in Accra, Ghana, Albert Agbemenu & Jonas Ayi

We'd promised getting club members a short set of talking points you can explain to other Rotarians what we're doing and how we can collaborate. Sorry, I've let that one slip through the cracks. Will try to get it done before our next newsletter.

## RCEHT BOARD SUMMARY: SEP/OCT

The RCEHT Board meets on the first Thursday of every month. Below are topics from the meetings on September 5 and October 3. Let a board member know if you have any questions or comments!

- **President-Elect:** Voted to approve the nomination of Bassey Kooffreh
- **New Members**
  - Maryjane Festus (Ghana)
  - William Tognotti (USA)
  - Clever Musonda (Zambia)
- **Branch Club (Ghana):** Working to visit other Rotary clubs in Ghana
- **Economic Development:**
  - MOU signed with Rotary Club of Tamale
  - Significant work is being done regarding Economic Development efforts in Africa
- **Funding and Fundraising:**
  - Approved funding of 500 USD for **SACT** video gaming project for 11- to 13-year-olds
  - Approved scholarships for two members
  - 300 USD earned from Pampered Chef (initiated by member Toni Lucas)
- **Club Meetings:** Organized through end of 2024

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

Please complete [this form](#) to submit relevant information or news you would like to share with the club in the next month's release. The more we collaborate and connect with each other, the stronger our club is in creating effective change to achieve our Rotary mission.

Our club is full of **opportunities to serve**. See below for a brief description of our many committees and task forces. Reach out to President [president@endhrotaryclub.org](mailto:president@endhrotaryclub.org) with any questions or interest in helping! Good ideas don't get implemented without the hands to get the job done. Many thanks to those who are already stepping up to volunteer!

## Programs & Projects

**Meetings:** 3rd Thursday morning of month (8 AM Central Time)

**Description:** Makes recommendations to Board whether to...

- Endorse a particular project
- Fund a particular project (by reviewing grant applications)

**Where we need help:** We welcome interested committee members!

## Membership

**Meetings:** Non-Virtual (Phone Calls & Emails)

**Description:** The Membership Committee is responsible for recruiting, welcoming and guiding new members as they join our mission to end human trafficking.

**Where we need help:** We warmly welcome new committee members who are interested!

## Fundraising

**Meetings:** None at this time

**Description:** Responsible to raise funds to support projects and programs approved by Board

**Where we need help:** Assistance to help raise

1. Funds for Branch members: \$250 USD/year or \$2500 per Branch
2. \$5,000 USD for EDI project (\$500 USD for pilot project)
3. Increase fund balance to contribute as a partner for District/Global grant partners (goal= \$2,000 USD)

## Foundation

**Meetings:** AdHoc (usually bi-monthly)

**Description:**

- The Rotary Foundation exists to support Rotarians and their clubs in the charitable activities that clubs choose and undertake themselves. The mission of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.
- RCEHT Foundation is our club's foundation and it provides financial support to non-profit organizations and projects that are making a difference in the fight against human trafficking.

**Where we need help:** see Fundraising Committee :)

## Public Relations (PR)

**Meetings:** 5th Thursdays and as needed

**Description:** We have an active committee who puts together the newsletter, club website and social media.

**Where we need help:** We always welcome content that is written and ready to publish! Share articles or social media posts with us for publication.

## Sunshine

**Meetings:** None

**Description:** Keeping in touch & getting to know one another better

**Where we need help:** Non-USA residents are emailed, please open your email

We have birthdays. Let me know of other significant life events.

## Speaker

**Meetings:** None

**Description:** Brainstorm, schedule and communicate with speakers for club meetings.

**Where we need help:** Speaker ideas are always welcome!

## Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

**Meetings:** As needed

**Description:** Work to establish sustainable, scalable, locally owned business activities in areas where human trafficking is prevalent.

**Where we need help:** This is a complex project that will include identifying and mentoring entrepreneurs as well as funding projects through partnerships or fundraising. Attend the meeting on October 10th to learn more!

## Branches

**Meetings:** As needed

**Description:** We currently have 2 branches in Africa. These are groups of 8 or more club members who live geographically close to each other who are interested in working together on end human trafficking efforts.

**Where we need help:** We could use mentors to work with our new Rotarians!

## Social

**Meetings:** None

**Description:** Brainstorm and organize social events for our club. These can occur as a part of our meetings or outside of our meetings.

**Where we need help:** If you are interested in this committee let us know!

# CLUB NEWS

## CONNECTIONS VIA ROTARY

Monica Morton spoke to our club in June and is an active contributor to the meetings she attends.

Her extensive experience as a human trafficking advocate and recovery agent has been helpful in guiding our club and many of our members in their efforts.

She and Brenda Pearson, one of our club's charter members, were able to meet and chat in person. As a virtual club we often build friendships and have fellowship with people around the world.

We encourage our members to share their experiences whenever they actually get to see each other in person!



## GRANT APPROVAL

Our club's Foundation is excited to announce support of a SACT grant.

Students Against Child Trafficking (SACT) has a mission to empower students through peer-to-peer communications to detect, defend, and disrupt predators in their own environment by raising awareness, preventing victimization, and reducing the demand.

SACT International is endorsed by our club to further the mission to end human trafficking across the globe.

Funds have been approved to support their most recent video education project.

You can learn more about SACT at <https://www.sactedu.org/>

## MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

We want to hear from you!

Please help us make improvements by sharing your opinions with us. We invite members as well as visitors to participate in this survey. Please click on the link below:

<https://forms.gle/4Gv2BZHHtf3sV7736>.

Thank you in advance for your time!

# NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Mark is Currently Board member for several for profit and non profit businesses. Past President of Rotary Club of Research Triangle Park, NC



Mark Zorko

Mark is joining RCEHT as a full member because of his Strong interest in ending slavery, especially in the USA.

Clever Musonda

**Clever** was born in Lusaka Zambia. With vast experience in projects & finance, having served in many portfolios with many international NGOs

Clever has founded an NGO (CCED) & developed an exciting community change model that focuses on collaborative ownership, inclusiveness & self-sufficiency.

"I am applying for the Associate membership level and will remain a full member of my other club.

Want to make a contribution to improvement of communities using my various skills & experience in community work"

Maryjane was born in Nigeria. She's a business oriented lady, an advocate for diversity and inclusion in the business world. currently working with Theodora Ghana as a virtual assistant



Maryjane Festus

"Joining the rotary club is an opportunity that resonates deeply with my values and aspirations, which represents an opportunity for me to contribute to meaningful projects, grow personally and professionally and connect with a network of individuals who are equally passionate about making a difference."

Marc is Co-Founder of Infinity Point CDFI, an impact-investment fund and business accelerator founded in 2021 to bring next-generation employee owned enterprise paradigm to scale across the United States



William M. Tognotti

An internationally-recognized expert in designing large-scale, multi-stakeholder action planning initiatives, his methods for engaging all stakeholders in discovering system-level solutions to complex problems are used by governments, business and non-profit organizations worldwide.

Joining RCEHT as full member due to Deep values, mission & strategy alignment with the RCEHT's economic-development approach to end human trafficking, and a big fan of Michael Podolny and Colin Christensen.

# HIGHLIGHTS



## STUDENT ACTIVISM

### Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year!

This year there are plenty of worldwide activities in which our students can take part allowing them to show support in confronting human trafficking and take the lead in this fight.

#### OCTOBER

A21 Walk for Freedom - October

The [A21 Walk for Freedom](#) is a global event where participants walk in single-file lines to raise awareness of human trafficking and unite communities to end modern-day slavery.

#### DECEMBER

[Dressember Foundation](#) & International Justice Mission hosts Dressember

Dressember is a global campaign where participants wear dresses or ties throughout December to raise awareness and funds to fight human trafficking and support survivors.

#### December 2nd - Youth Summit

If you are in Georgia, USA please save the date for our 3rd annual Anit-Human Trafficking Youth Summit, to be held at Atlanta International School on December 2nd 4:30-8pm.

#### JANUARY

National Human Trafficking Awareness Month & National Human Trafficking Awareness Day January 11th, 2025

In support of our partners at the Department of Homeland Security's Center for Countering Human Trafficking, we celebrate [#WearBlueDay](#). The Blue Campaign encourages people to wear blue, share photos on social media with [#WearBlueDay](#), and tag [@DHSBlueCampaign](#). Photos may be used for training, awareness, and media purposes.

#### MARCH

Freedom United Youth Campaign

Thank you to our partners at [Freedom United](#) for honoring our students by highlighting [International Youth Day](#) yesterday, 8/12/24, and promoting [#MyFreedomDay](#).

[#MyFreedomDay](#) March 11, 2024\* (tentative date - I will send more details in the coming months.)

[CNN Freedom Project's](#) global student-led day of action against human trafficking. Save the tentative date March 11th, 2025. For examples from last year's 8th annual event see [here](#). We have had billions of impressions on social media in over 140 countries and thousands of students participate and we aim to further that impact more this year!

This was submitted by Veronica McDaniel. Please reach out to her with any questions at [vmcdaniel@aischool.org](mailto:vmcdaniel@aischool.org)

## ROTARY MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

Join our Rotary network to end human trafficking

Traffickers are organized, so we need to be too. The Rotary Club to End Human Trafficking (RCEHT), a 100% virtual club, is building our Rotary network via our Associate members, who are already members of community-based Rotary clubs.

RCEHT hosts 2 meetings a month where Rotarians everywhere can join to share ideas, listen to speakers related to ending human trafficking, and network with others committed to this fight.

Full members of community based Rotary clubs are invited to become Associate members of our club. They can form a link between their home club and ours to support our Economic Development Initiative where we are working to implement solutions in high risk areas via our local Branches.

If you would like to learn more, please join us at an upcoming meeting by E-mailing [President@endHTrotaryclub.org](mailto:President@endHTrotaryclub.org) or contact our membership chair at [membership@endHTrotaryclub.org](mailto:membership@endHTrotaryclub.org).



by Erin Maloney, Board Member

In a recent issue of the international Rotarian Magazine, I saw an article called "[Mind Your P's and Q's: a Rotary Alphabet Soup SOS](#)" (September 2024). It asked Rotarians if they knew responses to a short quiz about Rotary acronyms (such as "RCEHT" for "Rotary Club to End Human Trafficking").

As a relatively new Rotarian: I failed miserably!

I assume there are others in RCEHT who feel the same, so I edited this article for our club's newsletter, including helpful information about these tricky Rotary acronyms.

The article also had suggestions for avoiding confusion in our use of acronyms (Rotarian or otherwise):

- Remember your **audience** when deciding whether to use acronyms
- Consider using a **shorter term** instead of its acronym (such as "governor" instead of "DG")
- Use the **full phrase the first time**, with its acronym in parentheses
- **Don't overuse acronyms**, and don't use at all if only used a few times

### Rotary Acronym Quiz

1.If someone is **RIPE** and then **RIP**, what will they be next year?

- a.PRIP
- b.compost

Perhaps most of us got this correct, because we assume the answer isn't "compost". But what do all these acronyms mean?

- **RIPE**: Rotary International President Elect
- **RIP**: Rotary International President
- **PRIP**: Past Rotary International President

**ANSWER:** PRIP

2. Where are you likely to find a DGE?

- a.GETS
- b.GELS
- c.IA
- d.the hotel bar

I had no idea, though I assumed "the hotel bar" was not correct. Here is the meaning of the acronyms:

- DGE: District Governor Elect
- GETS: Governors-Elect Training Seminar – a name which has been changed to...
- GELS: Governors-Elect Learning Seminar
- IA: International Assembly

**ANSWER:** both GELS and IA. The District Governor Elect is expected to go to a learning seminar, and additional sessions can take place at the International Assembly.

3. Which of the following acronyms is not related to The Rotary Foundation?

- a.PPP
- b.MD
- c.AF
- d.FOMO

Again, I had no idea, because I knew none of these acronyms!

- **PPP**: PolioPlus Partners
- **MD**: Major Donor
- **AF**: Annual Fund
- **FOMO**: Fear Of Missing Out

**ANSWER:** FOMO

4. GPS stands for :

- a.Global Positioning System
- b.Global Polio Sector
- c.Global Philanthropy Seminar
- d.Giant Panda Species

Okay, I guessed it wasn't Giant Panda Species. And, I assumed they wanted a Rotary acronym, so I ruled out Global Positioning System. But both Polio and Philanthropy are important in Rotary, so which to choose?

**ANSWER:** Global Philanthropy Seminar

5. An RC, DMC, and RRFC bump into their DGN at the airport and wonder if she is going to the COL. Which city is she travelling to?

- a.Huh?
- b.Calgary
- c.Chicago
- d.This trip has nothing to do with Rotary – let her take her vacation already!

This one is tricky. But I assumed "a" and "d" were not what they were looking for. So, I thought Calgary, as it is where the International Rotary Convention is taking place in 2025.

Wrong again!

With the complete terms, this question would read:

A Rotary coordinator (RC), district membership chair (DMC), and regional Rotary Foundation coordinator (RRFC) bump into their District Governor Nominee (DGN) at the airport and wonder if she is going to the Council on Legislation (COL, held in Chicago every three years). Which city is she travelling to?

**ANSWER:** Chicago

# CALENDAR & UPCOMING EVENTS

## 2024-25 LEADERSHIP TEAM

Many members work together to keep our club moving forward. Without their time and dedication things would simply not get done. Many thanks to our newly elected leadership team for stepping up and tackling the task needed for our club to thrive!

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

- Co-Presidents - Lisa Podolny, Michelle Seets, Karen Walkowski
- Past President / Foundation Chair - Lisa Podolny
- Treasurer - Karen Walkowski
- Secretary - Mary Fiadese
- Director - María Julia Moreyra

### **Committee Chairs on the Board**

- Programs & Projects - Erin Maloney
- Membership - Bassey Kooffreh
- Public Relations- Michelle Seets
- Fundraising - Karen Walkowski
- Economic Development - Michael Podolny

### **Committee Chairs not on the board**

- Speaker - Maria Julia Moreyra
- Social - Anne DeLain
- Branch - Michael Podolny
- Sunshine - Toni Lucas

## STANDING MEETINGS

The General Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month @ 7:00 AM CT (US / Canada). Visit our [website](#) for details.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### **ACTION DAY**

Presented by co-presidents Lisa, Michelle and Karen.

### **DATE**

Nov 14, 2024 @ 7:00 AM CT (US / Canada)

### **TOPIC**

**Our club and Rotary Foundations.**

**Come learn about the Rotary Foundation as well as our club's Foundation.**

For more information, check out the [website](#)

**VISIT RCEHT SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES.**

