



## What the Rotary District 5470 International Service Committee does:

- Encourages us to expand our definition of community.
- Educates and nurtures Rotarians and clubs working in the Seven Areas of Focus.
- Connects clubs
- Builds relationships
- Educates, assists and may help finance clubs' international project development and fulfillment efforts.

It also inspires Rotarians, like you, who chose to visit international projects and see first-hand how to Imagine Rotary.

In this newsletter, we'll continue to show more of our many global grants as well as upcoming projects.

Share your club's international projects and interests with District International Service Chairman, Rebekah Kiser. We want to know what YOUR club is doing.

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## **GLENWOOD SPRINGS SUNSET RC**

**GG#2235406: Construct a wetlands sewer treatment system for the village of Ojo de Agua, Poncitlán, Jalisco, MX**

SUBMITTED BY PETER JESCHOFNIG

The Chapala Sunrise Rotary Club, Jalisco, MX has been working in the village of Ojo de Agua for over six years and has established a good rapport and credibility with the citizens of Ojo de Agua. The Wetlands Septic system is part of a WASH project we started with the community five years ago. Initially, the club wanted to increase the water storage capacity for the pueblo because, during the dry season, they frequently ran out of water. The club paid for the construction of a water storage tank adjacent to an existing water tank, but that was still not a sufficient water supply to meet the needs of a growing village.

A Global Grant was opened in 2018 to drill a well which was successfully completed in 2021. In addition, the club supplied the residents with 70 tinacos (roof water tanks) and the infrastructure to deliver water to each of these including individual water pumps. This was phase one.

The second phase is the sanitation and hygiene component. The water to each house dramatically increased the amount of effluent. There are two lateral sewer lines running down the north and south sides of the village, and they connect to a single manhole at the west end of the village. From there, the sewage empties into a ditch that takes the wastewater to the lake. The coliform levels are very bad, the odor increases with the warmer weather and it is a mosquito breeding ground.

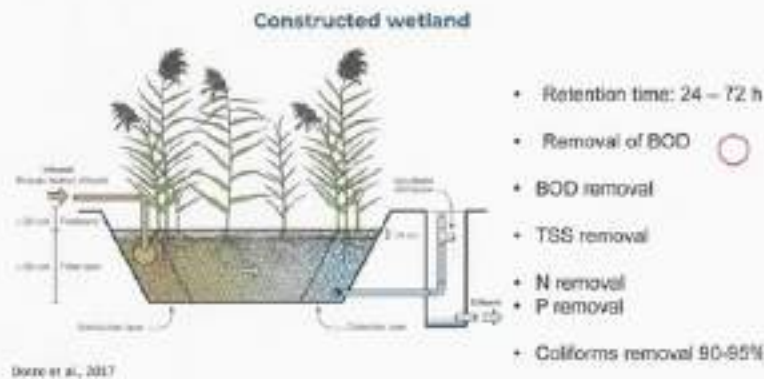


Project Overview: Raw sewage flows in a ditch directly from the village into Lake Chapala; 250 citizens live in the village just above the ditch.

Project Purpose: Stop the flow of raw sewage directly into Lake Chapala; Eliminate the villager's exposure to coliform bacteria and other dangerous pollutants carried in the wastewater; Improve the health of the citizens by Reducing the abundant mosquito population and the potential exposure to Dengue Fever; End the odor coming from the drainage system; The level of Coliform contamination is 1,300,000 NMP/100ml. The standard for wastewater allowed to flow into the lake is 1,000 NMP/100ml, in other words, it is 1,300 times worse than the standard.

The Rotary Club of So. San Francisco (D-5150), as the international sponsor, will help financially and check project progression. The Rotary Club of Chapala (D-4140), the host sponsor, will work with Ponci-tlán, the local community, and the regional council to obtain permission to use the property on which the wastewater system will be built. Poncitlán has also provided engineering support from the Director of Public Works, Rodrigo Amilcar Solis.

The total project cost is approx. \$ 88,000, and there are commitments for approx. \$50,000. The Vail RC from our district has committed \$ 3,600 and they are in the process of asking for a matching DDF from our district. Any additional contributions would be most welcome.



# The Importance of ROTARY ACTION GROUPS

## GLENWOOD SPRINGS SUNSET RC

By Peter Jeschofnig

Rotary Action Groups are independent, Rotary-affiliated groups made up of people from around the world who are experts in a particular field, such as economic development, peace, addiction prevention, the environment, or water.

Action groups offer their technical expertise and support to help clubs plan and implement projects to increase our impact, one of Rotary's strategic priorities. This support includes helping clubs find partners, funding, and other resources. Action groups can also help clubs and districts prepare grant applications, conduct community assessments, and develop plans to monitor and evaluate their projects.

Anyone who wants to share their expertise to make a positive difference can join an action group. Only Rotarians, Rotaractors, and Rotary Peace Fellows can serve in leadership roles.

Rotary Action Groups can help your club:

- Get expert advice on planning and implementing service projects, including those funded by the Rotary Foundation district and global grants.
- Connect with potential project partners, both within and outside of Rotary
- Get help fundraising and obtaining resources for projects

Join a Rotary Action Group to share your expertise and make a difference in projects outside your club or district. Check the next page for a list of Action Groups and links.



## Global Grant for Kabale (Uganda)

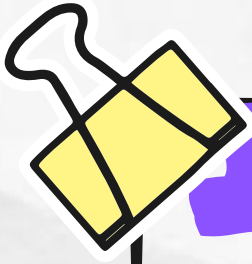
By Becky Smith, Past District Governor

A search committee was formed in the spring of 2022 consisting of Past District Governor David Wood (now our District Foundation Chair), District International Service Chair Rebekah Kiser, and myself. After several failed attempts to establish a working relationship with other clubs in Africa, we were able to connect with John Bosco Agaba and the Rotary Club of Kabale in Uganda. His club had proposed a WASH project that was looking for funding assistance. It would build gender-specific bathrooms, provide water catchment systems for sustainable water, and teach hygiene education to all students. After numerous email exchanges and several Zoom meetings with John, our steering committee agreed that the Karuhinda WASH project would be a good partnership for District 5470 and the Rotary Club of Kabale. As a result, Rotary District 5470 became the International Sponsor and the Rotary Club of Kabale the Host Club for a global grant.



Our grant proposal is currently under review and expected to be approved soon. We are eager to begin implementing the project later this year. We report our progress in our monthly district and international newsletters. We've also taken this opportunity to explain the vigorous process a club goes through to get a global grant. Our progress reports include data, photographs, and stories from the community. It is important to keep focused on the humanity of the project, as well as the numbers.

To expand supporting girls in partnership with the Rotary Club of Kabale, we will partner with our "Empowering Girls" task force to raise funds to supply girls with reusable monthly sanitary supplies. Two of our Interact clubs want to be the foundational support of this effort. There is also a group of students in Colorado Springs who want to develop direct communication with students in Kabale. We are thrilled the students want to learn from one another and are figuring out how to facilitate their communication. So, you see, our entire district is unified in our support of this global grant. We may not make the headline news in the media, but our true goal is to support the future of generations of children in Uganda. As a side benefit, we are building Rotary pride in our district and expanding our desire to do more on the international level. I couldn't be more proud of my fellow District 5470 members and participants.



# A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS



PP PENNY KELLY  
ROTARY CLUB OF EAST COLORADO SPRINGS

"I understand." What easy words to utter when you don't know what else to say or when you are trying to identify with the plight of the one speaking.

What empty words, I tend to want to say, "Really, when did you walk through this situation?" You see, you may know something about what the other person is experiencing but you don't really know and understand unless you have walked through it. You can try to imagine but that falls far short of understanding.



Wisdom is your own experience giving knowledge meaning.

The next time you are really listening to someone be aware of quickly saying, "I understand," if you haven't experienced the same thing. Even if you know someone who knows someone who experienced something similar, you don't understand. Possibly, "I can't imagine what you must be feeling.;" "I can't imagine what this must be like for you." Many things can be said that will tell a person they are being heard instead of an empty "I understand".

Penny's thought for now, think about how you are empathizing before you blurt out "I understand" when you really have no idea what they are experiencing.

## WE STILL WANT YOUR HELP!



District 5470 will welcome a Ukrainian RYE student, Oleksandr, this August. Alex, as he will be called, will be hosted by the Glenwood Springs Noon Club.

Unfortunately, Alex's city experienced intense fighting and his family had to flee for their safety. Alex was unable to raise the funds necessary for a standard Rotary Youth Exchange experience in the US.

We are looking for 16 clubs to donate \$500 to cover the costs of Alex's exchange. The costs include his travel to and from the US, his required insurance, US Dept of State fees and European fees. We will also use the funds for clothing and other personal needs.

Please consider responding to this request with your support for Alex! If you have the availability of funds, please consider adding another \$250-\$500 to the effort.

Send your check to:  
Mountain and Plains District 5470 Rotary Youth Exchange  
2853 Picardy Drive  
Grand Junction, CO 81501

Please help open the door of opportunity for Alex to have a life experience he'll never forget!

PDG David Wood  
PDG Becky J. Smith

# Enriching International Vacation with a visit to a Local Rotary Club



## TRI-LAKES DYNAMIC ROTARY CLUB By Khurshid Qureshi

I love to travel around the world, and I love to get involved and immerse in the culture, people and environment of foreign lands. Rotary provides me with this opportunity to find Rotarians and Rotary clubs no matter where I am traveling. I have visited Rotary clubs in faraway places like Bali, Tahiti, and Mombasa but also in cosmopolitan areas of Singapore, Luxembourg, London, and Paris. Those visits made lifelong memories for me to cherish and appreciate what Rotary does.

There are over 46,000 Rotary and Rotaract clubs in the world. As a member of the Rotary Club, you can enjoy the privilege of being able to attend any of them as a guest! Use [Rotary International's Club Finder](#) to find a club that will be meeting where you might be on a pleasure or a business trip. If you have a smartphone, you can download the Rotary Club Finder app. I generally plan ahead to make sure that club meeting is going to take place at that time. I also ask the club secretary or the president if I could get introduced to a couple of members who have similar interests as mine. Many times I get invited to a member's home, a local restaurant, or a theater. Most of the time, I end up with long-lasting friendships where we stay in touch through social media.

A few years ago, my wife Gloria and I were planning to go visit Bali, so I called the Seminyak Rotary Club. They were very helpful in guiding us where to stay and enjoy the local culture and beaches. They asked if we can donate a few laptops for their school. We took 8 used laptops donated by our club members with us which put happy smiles on students' faces. In the evening Gloria and I were honored in a beautiful banquet for helping the local school. Visiting a foreign Rotary club could be intimidating at first because they have their own ways of running their club meeting. I observe, try to understand and never give judgmental remarks. You may be invited to introduce yourself and give a short talk about your club activities. I try to keep my talk very short but also try to find out any joint project opportunities.

While every club has its own customs and "vibes," you'll find that common Rotary values will make you a familiar and welcome guest in their midst. A visit to a Rotary club is a great way to learn about new ways to serve your own community and to make connections with people in your fields of work and interests. Combining international travel with a visit to local Rotary clubs builds friendship, goodwill, peace, and understanding and doubles the joy of travel.

For other venues of cooperation with international clubs, please visit <https://www.rotary.org/en/get-involved/rotary-clubs>  
(Khurshid Qureshi is a member of the District 5470 International Service Committee. He can be reached at [kqureshico@yahoo.com](mailto:kqureshico@yahoo.com))

## TIPS

If you are planning to visit a Rotary Club in a faraway place:

1. Download the RI Club Finder App
2. Check out the club website of the club you want to visit and confirm by email or phone about the meeting date, time, and place. Schedules and places of meetings do change sometimes.
3. In some cases, you may request a ride from your hotel if it is not inconvenient for the host.
4. Please pay for your own meal.
5. Take a couple of your club flags/pins for exchange. Some clubs have very elaborate flag exchange ceremonies.
6. If you are planning to visit a school, take some coloring books and coloring pencils for a class. I generally buy that stuff from a Dollar store.
7. Pre and post-talk about your visit to your own club. It will encourage others to do the same.



## **INTERESTED IN A ROTARIAN EAST AFRICAN TRIP IN 2024 ?**

Currently, we are planning a rotary trip to East Africa for early 2024.

If you want to become more educated about malaria and Africa, and you like meeting new Rotarians, we think you will love this trip. Some small aspects of the adventure will also introduce you to the incredible world of the wild game and birds of Africa.

Please call Dr. Dan (303-601-6013) if you're interested in more details.

## **ROTARY CLUB OF DURANGO**

1. Help build a medical clinic building in a small village in Nepal. We have a member who is from Rage village.
2. Another year we provided funding for a birthing bed to be placed in the clinic (mothers would frequently give birth at home on a dirt floor). We also provided training materials for the health clinic.
3. Supported educational materials for a school in Mexico ( in conjunction with the High Noon club).

## **NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT PEACE COMMITTEE**

By Andy Sweet

We will be promoting positive peace. We're planning a training at the District Conference. We're planning to plant peace bells at 3 clubs in our district.

Positive peace is: The attitudes, structures, and institutions that create and sustain peaceful societies.

We are recruiting new members of the committee, and searching for a Peace Fellow to join us.

## **CHALCHUAPA, EL SALVADOR ROTARY CLUB OF THE BROADMOOR**

By Lauren Hallaros DeSutter

The Rotary Club of the Broadmoor travelled to a Chalchuapa, El Salvador last spring (2022) to teach business classes to aspiring entrepreneurs. We received a district grant to help conduct this training. Would this be something we should submit for the newsletter even though it was not with an RI grant? We also had 2 members travel to Kampala, Uganda to teach business to young SA and SV victims this May. They represented our club and connected with the local club in the community but were not sponsored or funded by the club. Let me know if you'd like details on either project.





**YOUTH EXCHANGE OFFICER 2022/23**  
ROTARY CLUB OF DURANGO HIGH NOON  
WRITTEN BY TAMI DUKE

Greetings Fellow Rotarians!

It is a great day to be a Rotarian and one of my happiest days to date! Today we wired the funds for the purchase of Nash's family's house!!

For those of you who do not know Nash (Tinashe), he is an exchange student from Zimbabwe who is here on a full financial need-based scholarship. As I learned while doing the "Rotary First Night Questions" with Nash when he arrived, he had not had a bedroom or a bed before he came here. His family cooks most of their meals outside on the fire as they only have a small camping stove inside, and they rent 3 rooms (1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 kitchen/living space) in a home that houses a total of 8 families in a very poor part of Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe (Chinotimba). He has experienced food insecurity his whole life and had not tried almost every food we eat here. His meals back home consist of sadza (like cornmeal porridge), bread, peanut butter, mopani worms, some vegetables and chicken or goat on very special occasions. Every year on Christmas they splurge with a Hawaiian Pizza, a once-a-year treat.

My husband and two oldest stepchildren met Nash while visiting Victoria Falls in 2019. They were visiting because my Mother In-Law has a non-profit, [www.makeallchildrensmile.org](http://www.makeallchildrensmile.org), there and the kids were learning about all the great projects she has been working on. They were staying at the small lodge of my Mother In-Law's local partner and met Nash who was there waiting while his mom cleaned rooms. She has been a housekeeper since Nash was born and used to clean rooms with Nash strapped to her back. My husband, also a Rotarian, talked with Nash about Rotary Youth Exchange and encouraged him to apply with the local club there. Our District had exchanged students with the Zim District before but only students from wealthy families had been able to participate and he thought it would be beneficial to both Nash and our local community to host someone from a normal, village family.



Fast forward to 2022, Nash's exchange was delayed due to Covid, and Nash was thrilled to be accepted and coming to Durango. He made the long 12-hour bus ride with his mom to the capital, Harare, to get his visa. We were all shocked when he was denied the visa because this had not happened to any of our district's Rotary kids before in all the years my husband and I had been involved. Nash was denied because, unlike the other Rotary students, he was from a very poor family, and it was determined he would be too much of a flight risk. We were about to give up as visa appointments could not be rescheduled within 6 months of a denial when a fellow Rotarian, Meg Foley, said she knew a Congressman, Chris Smith of New Jersey, who might be able to help. Long story short, Nash and his mother took the bus back to Harare and he was approved for his visa!

Nash arrived in Durango in September of 2022 and has made a huge impact on our Rotary Club, high school, and community. His teachers told me how refreshing he was to have in class as a student who genuinely wants to learn and appreciates every learning opportunity. Countless community members have shared how wonderful a person they think Nash is. His soccer coach loved having him on the Varsity team as well! Because of Nash's outstanding character, we were able to come together as a community and club to make the dream of owning a home happen for his family.

How did it unfold? In April Nash told me that I may notice all his savings leave his account (he has saved money working soccer camps, selling African crafts, doing yardwork, shoveling snow) and it was because his family had an opportunity to buy land (a stand as they call it there) in Victoria Falls. He didn't ask me for a penny. The cost was \$9,500 and his family had saved \$5,000 over the course of 20 years to have this opportunity when it became available (the cost of the stands was \$5,000 the last time they were offered). He was going to send them what he had to help make up some of the difference.

I thought our club members may want to help by giving our "happy dollars" to Nash, and it also coincided with his birthday, so I asked our Club President, Luke Albert, if we could dedicate that week's donations to this cause. I was hoping to make a few hundred dollars to help Nash support his family's fundraising efforts. I brought a single cupcake to the meeting for Nash and planned to acknowledge his birthday. As it turned out, Nash had a test at school that day and was not at our meeting. I explained to the club what was happening and jokingly said that whoever donated the most would get Nash's cupcake. I brought news articles about the stand sales to the meeting which Justin Osborn, our Sergeant of Arms that day, read and said that it looked to him like we needed to raise \$4,500 - meaning all the money needed for Nash's family to buy the land. With Justin's urging, the donations began to fly to the tables! Steve Redding led with a \$1,000 donation, the law firm of Downs, McDonough, Cowan & Foley followed suit and then countless Rotarians donated what they could to help. We were \$926 shy of our goal and Justin donated the remaining amount needed!

I didn't tell Nash what had occurred as I wanted the Rotary Club members to be there when he learned the news. The following Thursday I presented Nash with a wrapped gift from the club in honor of his birthday. He was shocked and overwhelmed when he saw it had \$4,500 inside! After the meeting Nash and I called his mom and gave her the news over WhatsApp video call. The tears of joy began to flow for Nash and his entire family as she awoke his father and little sisters to tell them what had happened.

## MOST AMAZING

A few days later the council suspended the sale of the lots, see attached news article. We learned that more than 15,000 people were on the waitlist for the 400-500 lots available. The chance of Nash's family getting the opportunity to buy land was unlikely. Not to be defeated, I looked online and saw that you could buy a decent home for around \$30,000 that included the land it sat on. I spoke with Nash's mom, Ngoni, about using the \$9,500 for a down payment on a house instead of for the land stand. She was so excited about the possibility and agreed to go to the bank to inquire about a mortgage loan. Sadly, we learned that her family did not qualify and if they had, the interest rate would have been extremely high.

I reached out to a local family to see if I could put together private financing for Nash's family. In the meantime, people in the community heard what we were doing and continued to donate. Nash's current host mom (they have three host families while here) Kim Priebe, put on a graduation fundraiser and made \$1,750! The Youth Committee of our Rotary Club decided to allot our remaining budget, \$3,855, to the purchase of Nash's home and then the International Committee did the same with their remaining funds of \$3,750.

When all was said and done, we raised about \$16,000 for the purchase of Nash's family's home! With the family contributing their life savings of \$5,000, I was able to put together a private loan for the remaining \$10,000 balance at a 2% interest rate. See pictures of the home attached. If you are reading this and haven't yet donated and would like to, your funds can help them pay down their loan balance.

Nash's new home has 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and is fully fenced! They are happy to have a home so large that they can take on tenants as a means of additional income. They will also be able to plant a garden and raise chickens because of the special wall around the property that will help to keep the elephants out.

Nash's mother has written to me numerous times sharing her joy and gratitude. Today she told me that she cannot believe she has gone from a poor person to a landlord! She said that we have taken her from grass to grace. The family earns about \$180 per month and their rent was \$150 per month. Nash had been sending his monthly Rotary stipends to his family for food for months. Your generosity has truly made a difference and I cannot thank you all enough!

I have asked Nash to show us thanks by paying this forward with good deeds to others in need. I have no doubt he will make us all proud as he helps others less fortunate.

If you would like to help pay down the loan balance, you can make a check payable to "Tinashe Vareta" and mail c/o me to 3024 E. 4th Ave., Durango, CO 81301. I will first deposit the funds in Nash's account so he gets to see all the funds that come in and then I will transfer it to their loan balance.

# FIGHT MALARIA ASPEN ROTARY

By Dr. Dan Perlman

Aspen Rotary seeks District 5470 clubs that want to join their Fight to End Malaria

July marked the beginning of a new campaign to help Western Kenya combat malaria. Alice Atemo from Kenya visited Dan and Bryna Perlman for a week of "Rotary work". They spoke at Carbondale, West Pueblo, and Aspen Rotary meetings and did a fundraising event at a Redstone outdoor concert called Magical Moments, featuring the Steve Manshel Band.

They are developing a Global Grant and need 20 Clubs to support their efforts. In Western Kenya every citizen is significantly impacted personally and economically by malaria daily. They are building the Rotary WAKAM (Western Alliance of Kenya Against Malaria) Global Grant to change the paradigm for millions of inhabitants in this region, especially to assist pregnant women and children. There are many Kenyan rotary clubs interested in instituting the current toolbox against malaria and developing a partnership with clubs in our district.

To learn more please contact Dr. Dan Perlman at 303-601-6013, or email [dperlman1@mac.com](mailto:dperlman1@mac.com).



ALICE WITH ROBIN SMITH, ASPEN PRESIDENT



ALICE WITH DRS. PERLMAN AND PORTER AT ASPEN



ALICE WITH ANN HARRIS, CARBONDALE PRESIDENT



ALICE WITH BRYNA PERLMAN



### TELLURIDE ROTARY CLUB

The culmination of this grand journey into community empowerment, the highly anticipated graduation ceremony for the 28 Indigenous midwives and 4 traditional medical doctors, took place at a facility near San Felix on June 28, 2023. There are no adequate words to describe the pride exhibited in the hearts and faces of 135 participants and guests present. Milestones along the way include: the hiring of our amazing team of 4 talented Ngabe trainers to be known as the Manchichi team on March 15, 2020 when the training began for assessment of people, health needs and resources in 10 communities (eventually reduced to six for the Global Grant); the completed application for the grant in June of 2020 and Rotary International approval of the project in August; the commencement of Phalarope trainings of the Manchichi team for midwife instruction in prenatal and postpartum evaluation with specific emphasis on detection of high-risk conditions in October, 2020; after several month of intense hands-on trainings of the midwives, as they visited their patients, all had qualified to receive their own "medical bag" of basic diagnostic equipment (another proud moment); trainings continued including a total of four visits by the medical vocational team of Phalarope and various local trainings from medical members and friends of our Boquete Rotary Club.

Final Statistics for the six communities during the project are as follows: 98 pregnancies and 83 births (1 set of twins) ; of this 65 born in hospital (almost 80% compared to under 50% before project); a total of 69 referrals were made to hospitals and clinics (10 emergency); 3 deaths were recorded. As mentioned in past reports, midwife emphasis in these communities now focused on prenatal and postpartum care vs labor and delivery in the past. The graduation ceremony featured Patricia Mendoza, field supervisor for the Manchichi team, as master of ceremony to welcome all the participants and guests. Community liaison, Silvia Salina, provided introductory remarks followed by Health Promotor Florinda Zurdo's invocation.

Other speakers congratulating the graduates included Jeff Flynn, Club Rotario de Boquete project manager, Dr. Miriam Rittmeyer, president of Phalarope, Professor Antonio Ureña, National Director of Social Programs with the Panama National Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), Dr. Juan Carlos Montezuma, Regional director of the Ministry of Health (MINSa), Sra. Sandra Gallardo, mayor of San Felix, and Magister Jennie Barb, President of the Fundación Unidos por la Niñez (Foundation United for the Children), widely acclaimed Panama Foundation that has a 19 year history of protecting mothers and children. Also, in attendance was Lic. Maria Elena Rivera, director of MIDES for Chiriqui, Linda Avery, newly installed president of Club Rotario de Boquete, Dr. Rod Gottula (committee member) plus several other members – Doug Avery, Said Doctomomtaz, Ginny Wooley, Martin Santamaria, and Belinda McGhee. Attending from the David Rotary Club, Sr. Antonio Singh, District Governor elect, Sr. Amilcar Cerrud, past district governor, and his wife Nelly Cerrud, Club Secretary. Others resent were Project benefactors Teri and Andrew Nowak (TAN Foundation) and Dr. Donna Robinson who has provided training support.



The Phalarope team present, including Dr. Miriam Rittmeyer, Lic. Tatiana Blanco (from Columbia) and Doris Sepet, dressed in her native Maya (Guatemala) attire, and assisted by Jeff Flynn, John Wiseman (board of director president of Phalarope) and Teri Nowak provided Certificates to the Manchichi Team for their dedication, and successful training in the 6 communities. The Manchichi team then assisted Miriam in awarding diplomas of accomplishments to each of the 28 midwives and the 4 Traditional Medical doctors. The midwives of each community displayed their solidarity and intense pride by wearing matching nahuats (traditional Ngabe attire). The midwives in each community selected a spokesperson to give an address expressing their most heartfelt appreciation for the opportunity, the training, and the respect they received from their participation in this program. There was no doubt but that the experience was transformative for each person and for their communities. As well, Don Armando Sire, a respected elder, trainer and now Manchichi trained traditional doctor, gave an address. Don Armando is the director of the ASASTRAN treatment and training facility in Lajero where the Manchichi office will be moving (more on this later).

Dr. Rittmeyer and the Manchichi team then awarded certificates of achievement to all of the 35 community members who attended the 12-week health training seminars (given by the Manchichi team) in the six communities. Professor Ureña, representing MIDES Ministra Maria Ines Castillo (unable to attend), provided certificates to Dr. Miriam Rittmeyer, Tatiana Blanco, Doris Sepet, Jeff Flynn, and the Manchichi Team of Patricia Mendoza, Silvia Salina, Florinda Zurdo and Bertilia Montezuma; giving official Panama recognition of the Manchichi program and accomplishments. Jennie Barb then presented copies of her book "Arullos", a comprehensive manual for early childhood development to the Manchichi team to demonstrate her Foundation's approval of the program and desire to work with the program in the future.

The ceremony closing, led by Manchichi Health Promoter Bertilia Montezuma, had memorable and sentimental significance. Bertilia summoned a young mother with her 12-day old baby, and her Manchichi trained midwife for a touching and poetic "Luz y Esperanza" – light and hope- reading to give expression to the personal, human significance this program has represented for these communities.

All participants stayed for photos, social interactions and lunch before departing for their various homes. All in all, a fitting conclusion to the first Global Grant and first Manchichi class. The unequivocal success of this pilot scale project can be, in no small measure, attributable to the culturally respectable approach and professional implementation which infused traditional healing arts with western medical approaches. Certainly, we are hopeful that resources can be gathered to foster replication and expansion of the program.



# MANCHICHI CLASS 2022-23

## DISTRITA MIRONO, CERRO OTOE



Valencia

Elena Cuevas

Martin Montezuma,

Francisca Montezuma

Rosa

Silvia Montezuma

Chavela Montezuma

Erminia Montezuma

## DISTRITA MIRONO, HATO PILON

## DISTRITA MIRONO, MAJAGUA



Amerita Montezuma

Carolina Palacios

Emerita Palacios

Isabel Quintero

Aura Palacio

Delia Santo

Elida Santo

## DISTRITA NOLE DUIMA, LAJERO



Alieda Gonzales

Armando Sire, MT

Casilda Salina

Daniela Carrera

Emerita Santos\*

Felicia Zurdo



Marta Tugri

Mirna Montezuma

Petita Sire

## DISTRITA NOLE DUIMA, OLA



Cecilio Guerra, MT

Elicia Cedeno

Juana Herra

Luz Rodriguez

## DISTRITA MUNA, CHICHICA



Emilsa Tugri

Hermelinda Cortez

Marta Case

Eliecer Camerena Quintero

## Looking for Empowering Girls & Women Stories!

Hello Fellow District 5470 Clubs! What local or international project(s) (current or previous), are you doing that has you empowering girls and/or women?

I'll do the leg-work, all you need to do is call me at (970) 384-0027 or email me at [michelle@coachwithmichelle.com](mailto:michelle@coachwithmichelle.com) and tell me your (club's) story. Thank you for your help!

Warmly, Michelle Lefebvre  
District 5470 Empowering Girls Ambassador  
Glenwood Springs Noon Rotary



Through the Empowering Girls Initiative, Rotary members worldwide can enhance girls' safety, health, education, and well-being.

A project for which we are most proud, are most consumed with presently, and with whom we are partnering with other Southwestern Colorado clubs, is our "Protecting our Children" program. The Rotary Club of Montrose is the lead sponsor in providing a venue to help address these issues in our western slope communities.

Sexual grooming, human trafficking, and internet solicitation of young women and children is rampant in our country. The most effective way to fight this insidious problem is to remove the mystery and increase awareness of the methods used to groom victims. The "Protecting Our Children" program will be presented in the Montrose Pavillion Auditorium at 10:30am August 10, 2023. This seminar It will be offered to providers of child and family services, law enforcement and judicial officials, parents, concerned citizens, teachers, churches, childcare services, and doctors in Montrose County and the adjacent counties of Delta, Ouray, and San Miguel. To secure your FREE ticket: <https://events.ourtownmatters.net/>

The seminar featuring the nationally known speaker and author, Anna Sonoda, LCSW, will educate participants on how to better protect children and youth from social media solicitation, trafficking and sexual grooming. Anna will also address how we, as communities, can become "Force Field Communities" to provide a safety net for even more comprehensive protection of our vulnerable youth. If communities are educated about how grooming of young women and children occurs and how to prevent it, we may all have a hand in putting a halt to this organized crime. This event will be live streamed, simultaneously translated in Spanish, to better accommodate all of our communities. There has been a powerful response to this timely offering and the Rotary clubs of Montrose and Delta are thrilled to present this opportunity and are grateful for the additional financial support provided by other sponsoring businesses. To secure your FREE ticket: <https://events.ourtownmatters.net/>. For questions to this Live & Virtual event contact: Past president of the Montrose Club, Lynn Schneider at: [lynnshneider@live.com](mailto:lynnshneider@live.com).



# ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE: HOST SIBLING

## ROARING FORK VALLEY

Shared By JT HABERERN

Posted 06/02/2023 in [SUMMER](#)

### ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE: HOST SIBLING



### Cultural EXCHANGE

The Roaring Fork Valley is home to 6 active clubs of ROTARY INTERNATIONAL.

The organization's work to create peace around the globe ranges from fighting disease to providing clean water and education for millions of families. At the heart of Rotary's mission lives a vision that through friendship, we can bridge cultural differences and create a world where conflict is resolved through mutual understanding.

#### ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

(RYE) Local Rotary chapters sponsor exchanges where high school students from our community live abroad, fully immersed in the language, culture, and traditions of host families in more than 20 countries. It goes both ways, with families in the valley welcoming foreign exchange students into their homes for two-to three-month visits. Let us introduce you to Jonathan Haberern, the host sibling of Maja Wahren from Sweden.

JT HABERERN  
ROARING FORK VALLEY

#### May 2022

As a family, we were super excited to host an exchange student. I am an only child and this would give me exposure to what it is like to have a sibling. At first, we didn't know much about Maja initially. We even thought that Maja was from Somalia as that was what we had heard from Rotary. The first step is to visit host families, which involves background checks and a home visit to make sure RYE students will always be in a safe, healthy situation.



After we were approved to be a host family, we were able to see the profile that Maja submitted to Rotary – basic info – a photo, classes she had taken, and what some peers and teachers said of her. After that, however, we got to email-visit and her family. I altered my social media accounts and we were soon in touch by livechat and instagram whenever time zones allowed. We also set up a zoom call which allowed my family and her family to meet, albeit virtually, for the first time. The excitement was palpable in the days and weeks ahead of Maja's arrival.

#### August

Maja arrived at Aspen/Pitkin County Airport on August 4, surprisingly alert and talkative after 24 hours of international travel. There was definitely a change in the house after her arrival. Dinners were more lively and it was fun to have another person my age in the house. He got into the habit of going on nightly walks when the temperature had cooled off and talking about the differences between the U.S. and Sweden. For example, Maja said, "I do choose individual programs, like economics or civics, instead of choosing individual classes. That is all done for you when you pick a program."

To read more and the original posting, visit

<https://www.mountainparent.com/mountainparent/rotary-youth-exchange-host-sibling?printpage=yes>

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# USEFUL ROTARY RESOURCES ON GLOBAL GRANTS

Compiled by PDG Chehab Elawar, Rotary Club of Las Vegas WON  
"Kindness is not an act, but a lifestyle."

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## **How To Find Partners And Funds**

<https://www.matchinggrants.org/>

## **Regional grant coordinators**

<http://msgfocus.rotary.org/c/12kRRsDf7Me8F1nzWrvyKUCNvimO>

## **Cadre – Technical Advisers**

<https://my.rotary.org/en/take-action/apply-grants/cadre-technical-advisers>

## **Give to the foundation Donate | Rotary International**

<https://www.rotary.org/en/donate>

## **Charitable Remaining Trust**

<https://rotary.planmygift.org/charitable-remainder-trusts>

## **Disaster fund application**

<http://msgfocus.rotary.org/c/1pteO9SscGf8IbuIMYMvR3I7Wh>

## **Google sheet for global grant partners**

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1UP2yBWmNAHglSrz6dO\\_dydaq5YVgJhACsjJ2Rewo49E/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1UP2yBWmNAHglSrz6dO_dydaq5YVgJhACsjJ2Rewo49E/edit#gid=0)

## **To join WhatsApp Global Grant Partners (only if you are serious about global grants)**

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/Cwqvm79MleB59aI7WEHoQU>

## **Raise funds with Rotary**

<https://raise.rotary.org/>

## **Rotary Showcase**

[https://map.rotary.org/en/project/pages/project\\_showcase.aspx](https://map.rotary.org/en/project/pages/project_showcase.aspx)

## **Rotary Public Relations**

<https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/learn-topic/public-relations>

## **Action Groups projects WhatsApp**

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/J9MeDruh0IkBoaBo7Vo7p>

## Global Grants Projects Involving Our Clubs

Many of our clubs are the International Partners of Global Grants (GG) Projects around the world.

Our clubs also contribute to projects conducted by other districts.

Whether your club is the international partner in a project or is simply contributing to a project, remember that D-5470 is usually prepared to match your club's contributions from District Designated Funds (DDF).

To request D-5470 DDF, you need to complete a simple request form and send it to the D-5470 Global Grants Chair, Melanie Phelps  
<[melaniephe@aol.com](mailto:melaniephe@aol.com)>



**PROJECTS  
AROUND  
THE WORLD**

### Global Grants Basics:

- Large, long-term projects
- Sustainable, measurable outcomes
- Alignment with Areas of Focus
- Real community needs (via needs assessment)
- International partnerships (frequent communication)
- Implementation plan
- Proper Stewardship of funds
- Involve Rotary clubs in two districts Minimum budget of US \$30,000

For detailed instructions on Global Grants applications, check out David Smith's GUIDE TO GLOBAL GRANTS:  
<http://www.rotary5470.org/SitePage/global-grants>

If you would like to be the international partner of a Global Grant or simply contribute to an existing D-5470 Global Grant, contact the Global Grants Committee chair Melanie Phelps  
[melaniephe@aol.com](mailto:melaniephe@aol.com)

### Contact Us

Do you want to have your International Service project displayed in a future newsletter?  
Send the story and a few photos to [bkiser@aol.com](mailto:bkiser@aol.com) or [pjeschofnig@gmail.com](mailto:pjeschofnig@gmail.com)

# BI-DISTRICT CONFERENCE AUGUST 25 - 26

Dear Rotarian,

It is with great honor that we would like to invite you to our upcoming Bi-District Conference that will be taking place in El Paso, TX, from August 25 to the 16th at the beautiful Double Tree Hotel by Hilton. Please use the following link to make your hotel reservation for a single king room at a special rate of \$139. <https://4110-5520.com/go/habitacion/>

To register for the Bi-District Conference please go to [Rotary5520.org](https://Rotary5520.org) and in the events section sign up for this event. The cost is \$100 to attend.

We would like to encourage you to bring your Club's Global Grant proposals and be ready to learn about the other projects from Districts 5520 and 4110. Please utilize the following link to upload your global grant project/idea: <https://4110-5520.com/>

It is important to highlight that the last day to register is Friday, August 18. The registration cost per person is \$100, including dinner on August 25 and breakfast on August 26.

More information will be given in the weeks to come.

## BI-DISTRICT CONFERENCE AUGUST 25 - 26

This year Rotary's theme, "Create Hope in the World" is an essential call to action to identify ways to support and collaborate with other Districts and Clubs to execute their programs. This is why we want to make this Bi-District as inclusive as possible. We want everybody to attend!

Bi-District Conference is a collaboration of Rotary Clubs from Rotary Districts 5520 and 4110. This conference joins the Mexico and New Mexico-Texas clubs to work on projects. These projects can qualify for Global Grants through Rotary International.

Donette Wagner  
Rotary District 5520 Executive Secretary



# ROTARY FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE

# NEW FRIENDS AWAIT IN EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD.

BENEFITS OF AN EXCHANGE:



[rotary.org/en/our-programs/friendship-exchange](http://rotary.org/en/our-programs/friendship-exchange)

## BENEFITS OF AN EXCHANGE

- Broaden international understanding
- Explore a profession or job in a different context
- Build enduring friendships
- Establish a foundation for peace and service
- Gain opportunities for active project involvement and support
- Learn about a region's people, food, languages, customs, and history
- Find partners for grants

From: <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/friendship-exchange>



## Friends + Exchange

Friendship Exchange is an international exchange program for Rotarians to exchange being hosts with each other. You can participate as a family, individual, or group whether you're a Rotary member or not.

### Types of exchanges:

**Vocational:** Participate in help with fixing, repairing, building, medical, and various aspects of helping out.

**Culture:** Meet with the locals and leaders.

**Fellowship:** Enjoy music, food, dance, culture, etc

**For more info:**

<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/friendship-exchange>