

ROTARY DISTRICT 5470

International Service News

D-5470 International Service Newsletter #19

November 2019



The Rotary District 5470 International Service Committee educates and nurtures Rotarians and clubs working in the six Areas of Focus.

- ◊ It connects clubs
- ◊ It builds relationships
- ◊ It educates, assists, and may help finance clubs' international project development and fulfilment efforts.

It also inspires Rotarians like you who chose to visit international projects and see first-hand how *Rotary Connects the World*

In the previous newsletter we primarily provided information about global grants involving clubs in our district. In this newsletter, we'll show some more of our many global grants as well as upcoming projects

Share your club's international projects and interest with District International Service Chair [Peter Jeschofnig](#) who will share with District clubs.

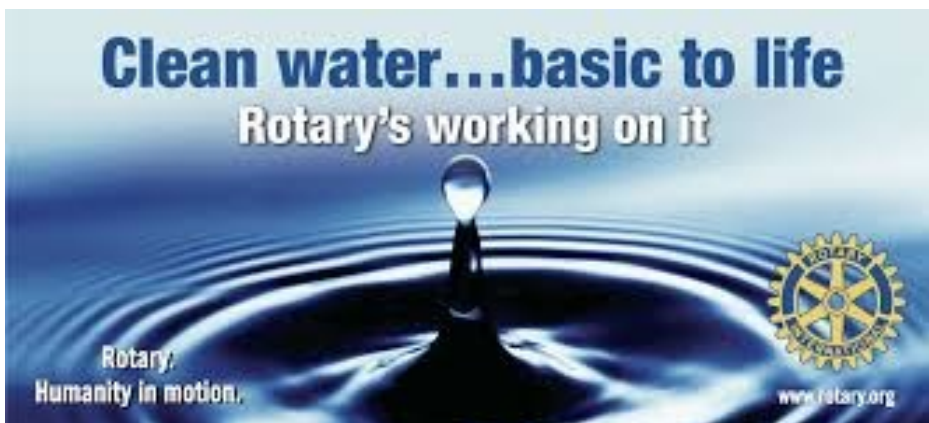


"Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding".

Albert Einstein

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Mestawot's Story

by Caryn Adams, Colorado Springs RC



One of Rotary's six areas of focus is supporting education for all children and literacy for children and adults. The goal is "to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy. But why? Why did we just spend so much time and effort raising money for School District 11? Why do we send scholars like Kailee into the world? Why do we send and receive youth exchange students?

I think you would understand the answer to all those questions if you knew about Mestawot.

Mestawot lives in Holleta, Ethiopia, just west of Addis Ababa. She is a high school senior, set to graduate second in her class and earn a full scholarship to university. She would have had to drop out of secondary school without a \$300 scholarship from a Rotarian because her family wasn't independently able to afford her education. I say her family, but I mean her mother, because that's all the family Mestawot has. But my point isn't to congratulate us for supporting Mestawot. That scholarship was a seed, but the watering has been left to other hands.



The power of Mestawot's story is that she used the help she was given to give help to others. She joined with friends at her school in an informal service club. They contribute one day per week of their transportation costs to help the elderly with their transportation. Rather than selling or renting their uniforms to poor juniors, Metawot and her group have organized a way to donate their uniforms after graduation to new students who truly need them. And who know what Mestawot will do with her university education to benefit herself and her community?

Literate adults are better able to participate economically in the development of their communities. They enjoy better health because they better understand the health information given through care provider instructions or medication directions. They are also better able to communicate with their children's teachers and to help their children with schoolwork. "The power of literacy lies not just in the ability to read and write, but rather in a person's capacity to apply these skills to effectively connect, interpret and discern the intricacies of the world in which they live."

Everything we do in Rotary comes back to education. We promote peace through our Fellowships and Youth Exchanges, and the method chosen is education. Community education is a critical component in disease prevention and eradication and in the promotion of better sanitation. Community development cannot happen where there isn't adequate education.

Education is all, so thank you for all you do to promote education here in the Springs. Thank you for reading to school children. Thank you for sponsoring their concerts and buying them instruments. Thank you for opening your homes to youths from around the world on exchange. Thank you for providing children with hands-on learning experiences like the Planet Walk. Thank you for supporting scholarships for our student athletes, our outstanding seniors, and our peace fellows. Thank you for supporting the Rotary Youth Leadership Award. Thank you for your time, your talents, your financial support, and your mutual support of each other in this effort.

Now let's go plant some more seeds together.

Solar Electrification Project in Leh & Ladakh - Update by Richard Dangler, Edwards RC



Chandigarh Midtown RC (D-3080, India) President Salil Bali completed the first phase of Global Grant Project #1746041 in July 2017 by Solar Electrification of Remote Himalayan Villages which included villages of Leh and Ladakh. This is the project the Edwards Rotary Club initiated and which was implemented jointly by the two clubs. Some funds were left over from the initial phase, and TRF gave authorization to add solar lanterns to the project. In October 2019, these solar lanterns were distributed to 100 families of Butonbis village in Leh. Apparently the villagers loved them.



Update from Botswana

by Amy McBride, Montrose RC

Dumelang, ditsala tsa me! (Hello, my friends!)

It's been nearly two months since I started my new post as a Third-Year Peace Corps Volunteer at the Botswana Network of AIDS Service Organisations (BONASO). It was difficult to say goodbye to coworkers at Bakgatla Bolokang Matshelo and Stepping Stones International, the two non-governmental organisations (NGOs) with which I had been since October 2017. I also bid farewell to my home in Kgatleng District and embraced my new base in the capital, Gaborone. At more than 300,000 residents, it's the biggest city in which I have ever lived.



I'm delighted to be at BONASO, since a big part of my job here is to follow up on *Se Tlogelwa Tsatsing*, the project we began last year with a Global Grant from Rotary Foundation and generous support from District 5470. *Se Tlogelwa Tsatsing* is part of a Setswana phrase that means, "If you're left in the sun, it's up to you to find shade." In the context of our project, it means that NGOs need to pursue new sources of funding to replace flagging support from international donors.

As I wrote in my last article, this project began with bringing a Vocational Training Team of six fundraising experts from Colorado to Botswana for a month of workshops and consultation with 18 HIV-focused NGOs. The Team's performance exceeded all of my expectations, and the members have remained in virtual touch with their NGOs (each was assigned to three) to assist with the development of their resource mobilisation plans, or RMPs (resource mobilisation is mostly synonymous with fundraising, but can refer to things other than money, such as time or expertise).

There's only so much that the Vocational Training Team can do from Colorado, and that's where I come in. I'll work with my BONASO colleagues to follow up with the NGOs to ensure they finalise their RMPs, and (more importantly) that they implement them. I will be organizing some workshops to build more skills, including one on setting up donor databases, and one on project design and proposal writing.

I also am working with the Botswana Business Coalition on AIDS, the American Business Coalition in Botswana, and other private sector partners to create at least ten mentorships between NGOs and corporations to address skills deficiencies identified by the NGOs. For example, one NGO keeps its books in Excel and would like to switch to Quickbooks. Another wants help revising its personnel policies. Mentorships are a way for companies to support the HIV response in a non-financial way, while also giving their employees the satisfaction of helping their communities.

I also will be helping build BONASO's capacity to fulfill its mandate of strengthening civil society organisations to respond to health and HIV/AIDS issues. I'm working with colleagues to revise the strategic plan and implement resource mobilisation activities, including development of a new website, implementation of a new membership database, and membership recruitment.

I continue to enjoy service and fellowship with members of the Rotary Club of Gaborone. Several weeks ago, I led a resource mobilisation workshop that they organised for their members and folks from other Gaborone service organisations (including Lions and a group called Agora). I also am helping a Club subcommittee develop a project to reduce littering in Gaborone. Members are gearing up for their annual Donate-a-Can event, where they sit outside supermarkets over two weekends in December and ask shoppers to purchase an extra non-perishable food item to donate to the needy. It reminds me of the Montrose Rotary Club's bell ringing for the Salvation Army on Black Friday. The Club also participates in Carols by Candlelight, an annual event to raise money for Christmas gifts for children's homes and charities around Botswana.

Update from Botswana (continued) by Amy McBride, Montrose RC

Alas, I can't join in these activities, since I'll be in Colorado! I'm visiting from 17 November to 31 December, and am looking forward to seeing friends and family for the first time in nearly two and a half years. I've got trips planned to California, Oregon, and Nevada, but I have some time available to come speak to your Club. I think I'll be able to resuscitate my old phone number while I'm home (970-433-8779) so you can try to call me (that's also my WhatsApp number) or you can email me at tsalayagago@gmail.com.

Thanks for reading, and for your support of The Rotary Foundation and District 5470 to make this project possible. *Ke a leboga thata!* (I am very grateful!) Happy Holidays!



International Mountain Conference, Innsbruck, Austria

Via Jake Burchmore, RYE student (Telluride to Denmark 2013-14)

Students from Western Colorado University attended the International Mountain Conference in Innsbruck, Austria to present work regarding mountain resiliency in the face of climate disruption. They also learned a lot from other researchers in the field who expressed their concern over the lack of connection or understanding for the importance of mountains and all they provide. In this video by Jake Burchmore, Gillian Steininger and Alice Chautard discuss this topic in an effort to enlighten people's perspective on why mountains matter to them.

Check out this short video "Mountains Matter" by our former Youth Exchange student Jake Burchmore:

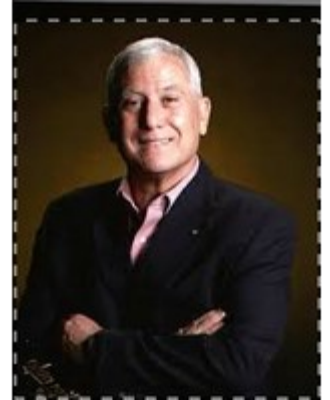
<https://vimeo.com/370966210>



The Background Story: How Partnering for Peace Came to Be Via Steve Werner, Denver Southeast RC

Dear Fellow Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and Fellow Rotarians,

Over five years ago, a few of us Rotarians gathered at the Rotary District 5450 Annual Conference and since we were all RPCVs naturally, we were meeting next to the bar during the reception hour. We had a fairly large group and that is when we realized that Peace Corps and Rotary had a lot in common (besides gathering at the bar). The strategic plans were so similar that you could have taken Rotary out and inserted Peace Corps and vice versa. Rotary's Six Areas of Focus are very similar to Peace Corps' program priorities. Rotary service is a natural continuation of service that Sargent Shriver and other Peace Corps leaders hoped that RPCVs would continue upon their return from service.



Our group in District 5450 continued to meet at Chairperson Sue Fox's home and we developed a strategy that eventually led to a formal MOU and partnership between Peace Corps and Rotary. We were fortunate that Peace Corps Director Carrie Hessler-Radelet came from a Rotary "family" since many family members were Rotarians. General Secretary John Hewko knew a lot about Peace Corps and he knew Carrie so he was very interested in this partnership. A sad footnote to this story is that soon after the MOU was signed, Sue Fox passed away from cancer and we still miss her. We knew that the hard part was ahead of us, since the partnership wouldn't reach its full potential unless we educated Rotarians, PCVs, RPCVs, Peace Corps staff and other friends about the benefits of good programs that PCVs and Rotarians could do together, how both agencies could increase membership (Rotary) and volunteers (Peace Corps), and how this partnership is embraced by everyone. In order to promote the partnership, we decided to create an affiliate group under the National Peace Corps Association, hence the creation of Partnering for Peace: Friends of Peace Corps and Rotary. We invite you to join if you haven't already and we invite you to help with promoting the partnership or joining a PFP committee if you are a member. Just to be transparent, your annual dues of \$20 helps us have a small fund to put up a website, market PFP and to pay for small items when we have an opportunity to attend a Peace Corps or Rotary gathering. Board members donate their time and we have few on-going expenses.

Finally, I want to thank our board of directors because everyone is involved and committed to this partnership. I also want to thank our staff liaisons from Peace Corps, Rotary and the National Peace Corps Association. Again, please let us know if you are interested in serving on the PFP board of directors or helping with one of our committees or if you have an exciting project that Rotarians and Peace Corps volunteers or RPCVs are doing together. We have a "tool kit" and database that is showing everyone how this partnership is growing and how natural it is for Peace Corps and Rotary to work together. Please let me hear from you by writing to info@partneringforpeace.org. Thank you.

Steve Werner

President, Partnering for Peace

info@partneringforpeace.org



Potential GG Project for D-5470 clubs

Strengthening Agricultural Education & Family Farms in Petit Trou de Nippes, Haiti

The Colorado Haiti Project has been working with community leaders in rural Haiti, specifically in the commune of Petit Trou de Nippes, for over 30 years, supporting community-driven programs. CHP's activities are focused on putting resources in the hands of local leaders. The primary purpose is to support rural Haitian leaders and allow them to create progress in their own communities, through developing holistic, locally-led, and integrated activities. Program focuses include community health, girls' empowerment, education, jobs creation and agriculture.

Existing Agriculture Program

In Petit Trou, as in much of rural Haiti, 50% of residents claim farming as their primary occupation. Yet the area suffers from serious food insecurity and malnutrition. Supporting rural Haitian agriculture as a way to promote growth has been identified as a priority for major international donors like USAID and the Inter-American Development Bank. St. Paul's School focuses on agriculture, with an on-staff full-time agronomist, Director of Agricultural Initiatives Raphael Salvador. Raphael teaches the students best farming practices like using organic fertilizers, how to collect seeds, how and when to start seeds, and how to space plants for optimal output. The garden produces peppers, okra, squash, melons, manioc, corn, and eggplant.

Raphael has also incorporated a fledgling animal husbandry program, adding rabbits and a herd of goats. He teaches the students how to handle the animals, as well as about vaccinations and breeding. From April to October, the garden provides a place to learn and a source of nutritious food. But in the dry season, which lasts from November to March, crops dry up and the program suffers. Additionally, due to a cattle path in the rear of the property, there have been issues with cows and goats coming into the garden, trampling plants and eating produce.



Plans for Expansion

The community is seeking support for a water well and solar-powered irrigation system to alleviate drought conditions, allowing the garden to more than double in size and greatly increasing the capacity for learning by lengthening the growing season. This project would also allow for expansion of the animal husbandry program and includes planting a Moringa tree orchard (roughly 860 trees) and planting a lime tree orchard (roughly 240 trees). Both Moringa and lime trees will provide their own revenue streams, once mature. This expansion of the program will create greater and greater benefits over time, as the garden produces more and brings in more revenue from the sell of surplus produce and animals. The community is also seeking support for a block fence to prevent neighboring livestock from destroying the garden. It is important that this fence be very strong and solid to avoid being knocked over by cows or infiltrated by goats. Block construction is strongly recommended for effectiveness and longevity.



Potential GG or District Grant Project for D-5470 clubs Strengthening Agricultural Education & Family Farms in Petit Trou de Nippes, Haiti (cont.)

Project Specifics

- Project Timing: Fall 2019
- Budget: \$33,758.23
- Beneficiaries: Approximately 2,400
- Includes digging a well and installation of a solar-powered pump irrigation system, which will extend the growing season for an additional five months, provide sufficient water for plants in an area three times the current size, and dramatically increase outputs.
- Includes construction of 317 meters of block wall, two meters tall and 6" wide, with cement, block, and rebar, which will protect the garden from cattle and goats. The wall will also protect the solar panels and pump mechanisms.
- Includes development of a lime orchard (240 trees) and a moringa orchard (860 trees).
- Will create a revenue stream for the agriculture program. Revenue from surplus produce and animal sales are expected to exponentially increase to at least eight times the revenue, totaling over \$2500.



International Partner: Boulder Valley RC - D-5450

The Colorado Springs RC plans to participate in this project.

For questions about this project, please contact:

Judy Casey <jdcasey1@icloud.com>

Potential District Grant Project for D-5470 clubs

Higher Ground

Via Eddie Cheung, Durango RC

What is “Higher Ground (HG)”: Of the 21 million veterans who live in the US, 1 in 3 suffers from depression, anxiety, PTSD, or other invisible injuries. HG’s proven approach marries recreational therapy (learn more about that [here](#)) with the powers of the great outdoors to achieve something we call whole-life healing. HG encourages; empowers; and gives people the tools they need to achieve the highest levels of independence. HG makes people feel like themselves again.

Higher Ground (HG) offers children, teens, and adults with disabilities the opportunity to experience activities and recreate in the outdoors through year-round programming. The HG mission is to enhance the

quality of life through inclusive therapeutic recreation and education for people of all abilities. HG is celebrating 20 years and since opening our doors in 1999 and emerging as an industry-leading nonprofit and a fixture in the adaptive sports realm. Higher Ground continues to help participants achieve independence, healthy lifestyles, and higher self-esteem through efficacious programming. We do this at little or no cost to the individuals and families. Whether coordinating therapeutic sporting activities for local children or providing unique camps for our nation’s injured service members, each program helps our participants build physical, mental, and social skills to ultimately reach a greater quality of life.

Higher Ground uses therapeutic recreation and adaptive sports to help all participants achieve feats they once deemed insurmountable. HG’s year round activities include the following: Ski and Snowboard lessons, Nordic skiing, Sled Hockey, Snowshoeing, Rock climbing, Swimming, Tennis, Kayaking, Fly fishing, Whitewater rafting, Hiking, Mountain biking.

Rotary club funding will help support Higher Ground’s Winter Recreation Adaptive Snowsports program. The Snowsports program is integral to the Sun Valley community, and the individuals and families with disabilities visiting Sun Valley from out of town and abroad. The recreational winter season activities of this funding opportunity will involve alpine skiing, snowboarding and sled hockey; the overarching objectives include helping the participants achieve greater levels of independence, socialization with peers, and self-confidence through aforementioned activities.

Designated as the sole concessionaire of adaptive snow sports in Sun Valley, HG provides a unique teaching environment for individuals who otherwise may not have the opportunity to participate in seasonal mountain activities. HG’s program staff of highly qualified ski/snowboard instructors will work closely with adaptive participants and provide the highest level of quality of instruction, commitment and outcomes. HG has established an excellent relationship with the Sun Valley Company, ski patrol and all Bald Mountain staff as well.



Potential District Grant Project for D-5470 clubs

Higher Ground (continued)

Via Eddie Cheung, Durango RC



The NEED of the overall requested equipment will help better serve all of HG's populations; both physical and cognitive disabilities, specifically kids with physical disabilities. HG will be able to include more people, locally and nationally, with physical disabilities from ISDB, Craig H Neilsen Spinal Cord Rehab Center, our Wounded Veterans, and have the potential to run programs with USABA and other blind athlete organizations. Most of HG's equipment was outdated and on the fringe of safety concerns and needs to be replaced.

HG is proud and holds the utmost of pride in the integrity, impactful outcomes of our programs, the dedication and passion of our instructors and strong relationships with our resources. HG is also proud to say that 88 cents of dollar donated applies directly to HG programs.

Lastly, HG Adaptive Snowsports instructors are known the "blue coats" on Bald Mountain and identified as the adaptive concessionaire through these blue jackets. Instructors wear them all season long, 90 days at times, and worn jackets will need to be replaced. It will be nice to run SAFE programs feeling 100% confident in the integrity of all gear.

Higher Ground: <https://highergroundusa.org/who-we-are/>

This project will be this year's official fundraiser of the International Skiing Fellowship of Rotarians. Eddie Cheung and Marilyn Branch are board members and will support this project. For additional information contact Eddie Cheung: <eandncheung@aol.com>



A Tribute to a Legend

PDG Wayne Cusick

20 October 1943 – 30 October 2019

The Paul Harris Society (PHS) is a special level of recognition of Rotarians and friends who contribute \$1,000 or more each year to The Rotary Foundation's humanitarian, educational and cultural programs.

In 1999, Past District Governor Wayne Cusick created the first Paul Harris Society in District 5340. Wayne had this idea for creating a special group of individuals who made an annual commitment of \$1,000 (or more) to The Rotary Foundation. Before that year ended, fifty-five Rotary members signed up to be part of this Society. The following year, that number doubled.

What began as an idea as a program in one District, has now spread throughout Rotary Clubs worldwide and is now responsible for the financial stability of The Rotary Foundation. Today, more than 119 districts around the world have a PHS program with a total membership of more than 25,000.

Effective 2006 – 2007, The Rotary Foundation Trustees adopted the Paul Harris Society as an official recognition program to be administered at the district level. By 2012, the Paul Harris Society had donated \$39.1 million of the \$110.7 million that The Rotary Foundation received in donations. The program has become so successful that Trustees of The Rotary Foundation adopted the program as an official Rotary recognition program in January of 2013.

All because of this idea that one man had that there may be (are) members who are willing and able to provide this level of giving making both our local communities and the world better places to live.

PDG Wayne passed away on the 30th of October. Let us honor his legacy by making this a banner year for him and the Paul Harris Society by highly encouraging 'all' of our members to become Paul Harris Society members. This is easily done by registering at www.rotary.org/paulharrissociety or, going to Rotary Direct (www.rotary.org/give) and selecting the Paul Harris Society checkbox. There you will be able to set up your recurring contributions as well.



Potential GG Project for D-5470 clubs

Medical equipment for Mercy Ship, Global Mercy



D1260 (United Kingdom) is seeking clubs and districts to help finance the purchase of medical equipment for Mercy Ships' new ship, Global Mercy, being built in China, the 1 Million Dollar Challenge.

If any of our clubs are interested in contributing to this Global Grant (any amount), the Global Grants Committee will probably be able to match club contributions with D-5470 DDF.

Mercy Ships partners with nations to transform the lives of individuals and leave a legacy of improved healthcare. Everything is free of charge for patients. We think it is worthy of Rotary's further support and we hope you do too.

Barry Rassin, Rotary International President 2018/2019, calls it an amazing project which should get support worldwide.

For addition information follow this link to our D-5470 website:

https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000050015/en-ca/files/sitepage/other-districts-seeking-project-partners/medical-equipment-for-mercy-ship---deadline-d/ROTARY-INT_new-sept--2-ther-one-to-use.pdf



ROTARY FOUNDATION AREAS OF FOCUS CHANGES

Via The Rotary Foundation



The Rotary Foundation continually reviews their focus and programs and recently made changes in the Areas of Focus for projects.

The existing six areas remain, but names have been adjusted for three areas (marked with asterisks) to better reflect the types of projects that Rotary members are carrying out. The areas of focus are now:

- Peacebuilding and conflict prevention*
- Disease prevention and treatment
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene*
- Maternal and child health
- Basic education and literacy
- Community economic development*

Some of the goals of the areas have changed, and Rotary has included activities that relate to the environment for most areas. The Areas of Focus Policy Statements reflect these updates and can be downloaded from this site: <https://my.rotary.org/en/take-action/apply-grants/global-grants>

Areas of Focus resources

[Areas of Focus Policy Statements](https://my.rotary.org/en/document/areas-focus-policy-statements) (PDF) - <https://my.rotary.org/en/document/areas-focus-policy-statements>

[Basic Education and Literacy Guidelines for Global Grant Funding](https://my.rotary.org/en/document/basic-education-and-literacy-guidelines-global-grant-funding) (PDF) - <https://my.rotary.org/en/document/basic-education-and-literacy-guidelines-global-grant-funding>

[Disease Prevention and Treatment Guidelines for Global Grant Funding](https://my.rotary.org/en/document/disease-prevention-and-treatment-guidelines-global-grant-funding) (PDF) - <https://my.rotary.org/en/document/disease-prevention-and-treatment-guidelines-global-grant-funding>

[Economic and Community Development Guidelines for Global Grant Funding](https://my.rotary.org/en/document/economic-and-community-development-guidelines-global-grant-funding) (PDF) - <https://my.rotary.org/en/document/economic-and-community-development-guidelines-global-grant-funding>

[Maternal and Child Health Guidelines for Global Grant Funding](https://my.rotary.org/en/document/maternal-and-child-health-guidelines-global-grant-funding) (PDF) - <https://my.rotary.org/en/document/maternal-and-child-health-guidelines-global-grant-funding>

[Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Guidelines for Global Grant Funding](https://my.rotary.org/en/document/peace-and-conflict-prevention-resolution-guidelines-global-grant-funding) (PDF) - <https://my.rotary.org/en/document/peace-and-conflict-prevention-resolution-guidelines-global-grant-funding>

[Water and Sanitation Guidelines for Global Grant Funding](https://my.rotary.org/en/document/water-and-sanitation-guidelines-global-grant-funding) (PDF) - <https://my.rotary.org/en/document/water-and-sanitation-guidelines-global-grant-funding>

Clubs in Rotary District 5470 with questions about Global Grants should contact David Smith, Global Grants Chair for Rotary District 5470 <dsmith7@unl.edu>

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, David Smith < dsmith7@unl.edu >

Contact Us

Do you want to have your International Service project displayed in a future newsletter? Send the story and a few photos to pjeschofnig@gmail.com



Water & Sanitation Projects Around the World

Global Grants Basics:

- Large, long-term projects
- Sustainable, measureable 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 TRF match \$ 15,000
- Minimum budget of US\$35,000

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, David Smith dsmith7@unl.edu or Peter Jeschofnig pjeschofnig@gmail.com