**THE**

**PURPLE**

**PINKIE**

**PROJECT**

**HANDBOOK**

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***INTRODUCTION***

As Rotarians, we’ve all seen the photos of children holding up their purple pinkie as a sign of freedom from polio. Building upon this symbolism, Rotarian John Wheeler with the Rotary Club of Lake City decided to start the Purple Pinkie Project using the same Gentian Violet Ink used throughout the world on National Immunization Days by PolioPlus volunteers. Articles about this project have appeared in The Rotarian Magazine and Rotary, Interact and Rotaract clubs across the world are doing this project.

After reading the article shortly after they were chartered in 2004, the Kingwood Rotary Club and their Interact Club at Quest High School became the first Rotary and Interact clubs in Texas to participate in the Purple Pinkie Project. They’ve had the honor of giving Purple Pinkies to 2000-2001 RI President Frank Devlyn, and to 2002-2003 RI President Bhichai Rattakul. The greatest honor bestowed upon this project was at the 2005 Rotary International Convention in Chicago, where Rotarian John Wheeler was personally invited to hold the Purple Pinkie Project in The Rotary Foundation’s booth. Usually, TRF does not allow fundraising in their booth, but an exception was made for the Purple Pinkie Project!!! Special thanks to Rotarian John Wheeler for sharing this fun project with the rest of the Rotary world.

Multiple District 5890 Interact clubs have adopted the Purple Pinkie Project and raised funds to help eradicate polio. Interactors have learned about polio and that they can make a difference in the lives of children around the world! They contact the elementary schools, coordinate the date, and help with set-up and giving purple pinkies.

The following information is a compiled with information from Rotarian John Wheeler, plus what Kingwood Rotary Club has learned over the several years that we’ve been doing the Purple Pinkie Project. Please feel free to contact me at [Tommie5890@suddenlink.net](mailto:Tommie@kingwoodcable.net) or (281)359-7193 if you have any questions. Every purple pinkie we give here, gives a purple pinkie to a child in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Throughout the world, each time a Rotary International volunteer administers an oral polio vaccine, the child’s pinkie and cuticle is stained purple with the topical solution Gentian Violet Ink. This bright purple ink stains the skin for 4-5 days and when the next volunteer visits the home, they know to look at the pinkie, and if it is purple, it prevents them from giving the child another dose of vaccine.

The cost for giving the oral polio vaccine is 60 cents, so when a student here donates at least $1.00, the Interactors paint their pinkie purple with the same Gentian Violet used throughout the world on eradication day as symbol of one child saved from polio. Of course, more than one finger can be painted for $1.00 each. Usually, the school nurse and/or PE teacher uses this event as an opportunity to educate students about polio, and how they can help. Children are drawn to this “purple badge” in their desire to help save other children from polio.

In lieu of using the ink, Interactors give purple yarn bracelets (a skein of purple yarn from Wal-Mart costs around $5), use purple "Crayola" brand non-toxic markers, or even purple "Sharpie" markers. You could also paint the nail of the pinkie with purple nail polish, purple glitter in their hair, or even spray-on temporary purple hair color available during Halloween.

# *BENEFITS*

* Most importantly, additional children will be immunized from polio
* We will be closer to the goal of eliminating polio worldwide.
* International understanding will be advanced as American children are made aware of the polio problem in other nations and become part of the solution.
* Children and their parents will be exposed to the work of Rotary in a concrete and personal way.
* By partnering with Interact and fellow Rotarians, service relationships will be built.

# *PROMOTION*

School children seem to have an unusual fascination with ‘marking’ their bodies with markers. Because of this apparently wide-spread fascination, raising funds to eradicate polio by challenging kids to make a donation in exchange for a painted pinkie almost promotes itself. With just a little involvement from Rotarians and Interactors, the students will become excited and ready to help. Invite your Interactors to help coordinate this project at the school. Here some promotional elements.

* **Print posters** that announce the Purple Pinkie Project to stir the curiosity of the students. The mantra that will be repeated over and over to the students via the posters is, “The Purple Pinkie Project is coming!”, plus another with a photo of the legs of a polio victim. I have these in both English, and Spanish. Make enough for outside each classroom, plus in the cafeteria, library, front office, etc.
* **Press Release.** Also included in this handbook is a press release that can be sent to television stations, radio stations and newspapers to ‘prep’ the community about the coming effort. When they see a purple pinkie, they need to ask the student about it and thank the “Polio Hero” student.
* **Permission Slips**. Although, Gentian Violet is a very safe topical antiseptic used by nursing mothers and in the mouths infants, it stains the skin for at least 3-4 days. Risk managers at our local school district have suggested signed permission slips would be prudent to require before painting a child’s finger. There is an excellent dual purpose here. In addition to insulating the school district from potential surprised parents when their child comes home with a brilliantly purple pinkie, we have a captive audience to increase Rotary awareness with parents. A sample permission slip is included in this handbook. In keeping with the purple theme, you can use purple ink on white paper, or black ink on purple paper. *An important note, the Rotary Club of Kingwood, Rotary Club of Lake City, and the Downtown Lake City Rotary Club have painted thousands of pinkies and received not one parental complaint.*

# 

# *TIME LINE*

1. Learn about the Purple Pinkie Project and what would be required from club members.
2. Present the project to your board/membership. Although this is not a labor intensive project to set up, many club members will be needed on Purple Pinkie Day. Include your Interactors.
3. Present the Purple Pinkie Project to your Superintendent of Schools to receive permission to do the project. Expect to receive questions about the safety of Gentian Violet and its staining qualities which are very safe but stains magnificently. For this reason, a permission slip is a good idea. To expedite your approval process your school district may wish to contact Columbia County Public Schools as a reference. The superintendent of Columbia County Public Schools is a member of the Rotary Club of Lake City, and has agreed to receive calls from fellow administrators.

Mr. Michael Flannagan

Columbia County Public Schools

W Duval St.

Lake City, Florida 32025

386-755-8000

1. Present the project to the principals of your community’s schools to see if they wish to participate. You may emphasize, very little will be required on their part. However, a school representative will need to be available on the day of the project just in case there are any questions. Offer to use Gentian Violet Ink, Crayola purple markers, purple yarn bracelets, purple nail polish, etc.
2. Order promotional material (One-minute video, posters, press releases, etc.). from the Rotary Club of Lake City.
3. Present project to a local pharmacy to see if they will donate the Gentian Violet. G.V. comes in one ounce bottles and goes a long way. It is very concentrated and usually costs around $5.00 per bottle. One bottle should be sufficient to paint 100 or more pinkies. Some locally pharmacies may match the funds raised, so offer to include their pharmacy logo on the permission slip sent home to parents.
4. Get your Interact club involved! They will love this project and the elementary students will love seeing the high schools students.
5. **Four weeks out**. Distribute posters to schools. In our district, the schools preferred to post the posters themselves because they had pre-planned spots.
6. **Three weeks out**. Distribute One-minute videos that will run each day during morning announcements leading up to Purple Pinkie Day. (optional)
7. **One week out**. Distribute permission slips to schools to be given to students. Permission slips should be returned to the teacher and presented on Purple Pinkie Day.
8. **Purple Pinkie Day**. Each of our Rotarians were able to paint about 50 pinkies per hour. In our district, we will have at least four Rotarians at each school of our schools.

***UNTIL THE LAST CHILD IS VACCINATED,***

***POLIO IS JUST A PLANE RIDE AWAY AND NO CHILD IS SAFE!***

# *ROTARIAN INVOLVEMENT*

This is a project that can really energize the membership, young and old. Don’t forget the spouses and partners of Rotarians since everyone loves going to an elementary school. A Rotarian should be assigned to each participating school and they should be the club’s contact person for the school that will distribute the posters and videos. Follow a ‘50 pinkies per hour rule’ to estimate the number of Rotarians needed for each school. Some Rotarians paint pinkies, some collect the permission slips and money. Other Rotarians may be present to talk about Rotary and manage the lines. In Humble ISD, we usually do this in the cafeteria during lunch periods. One school principal asked us to divide into groups and visit each classroom, and while it is quicker, we found that some classrooms were at PE so we had to make multiple trips back to the classroom, and some teachers became upset since we interrupted the classroom lesson.

# *PHARMACY PARTNERS*

Polio eradication and Gentian Violet are subjects in which pharmacists are very familiar. Since, thousands of students running around town with pinkies painted with Gentian Violet makes for outstanding press, this may be a good project to involve your local pharmacy. First, your local pharmacy may wish to donate a supply of Gentian Violet needed for the project. Second, the pharmacy may wish to pay the printing cost of your permission slips in exchange for their logo being included on the permission slip. Lastly, the pharmacy may wish to receive further good-will from the project by matching a certain amount of funds raised.

# *SUPPLIES AND COST*

* Non-toxic “Gentian Violet Ink” – It is usually kept behind the counter at the pharmacy. Contact the pharmacy in case it needs to be ordered. The cost per each bottle of ink is around $5 for a one ounce bottle. Ask the pharmacy if they will donate the ink needed for your project. In exchange, you could give them credit in on your posters or permission slips. Budget about one 1 oz. bottle for 100 students. Since your club will love this project, go ahead and purchase 10-12 bottles so each volunteer will have their own bottle the day of the project to expedite the process.
* Purple Pinkie Project Pails to collect the money can be one gallon plastic jars (mayonnaise jars from a deli) or baskets that have been decorated with purple ribbon, etc.
* Parent permission slips - A sample of a parent permission slip is included in this handbook. Your particular school district may wish to modify parts. Our club spent about 2 cents per permission slip. IMPORTANT RI RULE: THE ROTARY & INTERACT LOGO CAN NOT BE USED ALONE, SO YOU MUST ADD YOUR CLUB'S NAME NEXT TO THE LOGO.
* Promotional posters
* Latex gloves - Since Gentian Violet very messy, each club member that paints pinkies needs a pair of latex gloves. Our hospital gladly donated enough gloves for our project.
* Table covers - The schools will likely provide a table on a walkway, in a classroom or in the cafeteria for your team to set up on for Purple Pinkie Day. To avoid purple stains on the table, cover the table with a vinyl tablecloth or old newspapers. Putting a non-slip rug on the floor is a good idea just in case a bottle of ink is split.
* Q-Tips - We have found the best way to apply the G.V. to the pinkie is by Q-Tips. Include a zip lock back of them for each team.
* Paper Towels, Paper Napkins, Baby Wipes- Much of the Gentian Violet mess may be avoided by drying the pinkie effectively with a paper towel after applying the dye. Give each Rotarian team a one or two rolls of paper towels or package of paper napkins, and baby wipes.

Continued on next page...

# *IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR PURPLE PINKIE DAY*

Here are some important reminders for each Rotarian team on Purple Pinkie Day.

S*end this list with each Rotarian team as they go to their designated school.*

1. Every student that participates must have a signed permission slip if using Gentian Violet Ink. (Permission slips are not required when using purple Crayola© or Sharpie markers, purple yarn bracelets, or purple nail polish.) Permission slips have already been sent out through the school district office. Please collect permission slips for each student. Turn permission slips in to the Rotary chairperson with money collected.
2. Remember to turn money over to the Rotary club project chairperson.
3. Remember, Gentian Violet is very messy. Make every effort to keep it off clothing. *Wear latex gloves*, *cover the table* with a vinyl tablecloth or newspapers, and *place rugs in front of the tables* just in case an ink bottle spills. The ink can be removed with rubbing alcohol so bring a bottle for an emergency clean-up, but on some surfaces (concrete/tile/vinyl) it is **permanent**.
4. Very little Gentian Violet is needed for each pinkie. One drop will spread quite efficiently with a Q-Tip.
5. Wipe the pinkie COMPLETELY DRY with a paper towel.
6. More than one finger may be painted for $1 per finger.
7. Remember to tell our story. Many students and parent may not know about Rotary or our mission to eradicate polio. Feel free to tell our story many times.
8. If Gentian Violet is used wisely, we estimate that 6-7 1 oz. bottles is sufficient for each school. Keep an emergency supply just in case.
9. Present the school with a framed plaque for participating in the Purple Pinkie Project.
10. Lastly, HAVE FUN and make sure you tell each child that they are a POLIO HERO!

***(Example of letter to school)***



Interact Club of ? High School

Address

City, State Zip

October ??, 2014

Name of school

Address

City, State ZIP

RE: Purple Pinkie Project

Dear - - -:

I would like to provide you with information on a project that our ----- High School Interact Club is holding to raise funds to help eradicate polio for Rotary’s PolioPlus program. Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide, who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Interact Clubs are our youth organizations in local high schools that are dedicated to service. The main objective of Rotary is service - in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. We develop community service projects that address many of today's most critical issues, such as children at risk, poverty and hunger, the environment, illiteracy and violence.

In 1985, Rotary International decided to direct their focus on eliminating polio worldwide and making polio only the 2nd disease wiped off the face of the earth. The PolioPlus program was formed and Rotary partnered with the World Health Organization, UNICEF and the Center for Disease Control. When Rotary started this effort, polio existed in 193 countries, but thanks to their efforts, polio has been reduced by 99% and polio now only exists in 2 countries: Pakistan and Afghanistan. In mid 2015, Nigeria was declared polio-free, and also the continent of Africa. Rotary has donated $1.2 billion dollars and given the polio vaccine to over 2.5 BILLION children worldwide.

Around the world when children receive their oral polio vaccine, their pinkie is painted purple with Gentian Violet Ink. This prevents double dosing. Gentian Violet is used on nursing mothers and in the mouths of infants to treat thrush. Most recently, you saw voters in Iraq proudly displaying their index finger colored with Gentian Violet after they voted. A Florida Rotarian, Mr. John Wheeler, started the Purple Pinkie Project when he decided to purchase the same Gentian Violet used by Rotary International and enlisted the help of children in his local school district to help raise funds to eradicate polio. I can provide you with their school district contact information for confirmation. Over 7,000 children in their school district have participated in this project and children in Canada, Argentina, Brazil and several other countries now take part in the Purple Pinkie Project.

As part of a P.E. class, polio can be discussed during P.E. the week before Purple Pinkie Day and students can be shown photos. We also want to let the students know that there is a solution and that they can become a part of the solution. We also have signs that read “The Purple Pinkie Project Is Coming” which can be place around the school and information sheets that can be sent home to explain the project to the parents, plus a Parent Permission Form if you feel it is necessary.

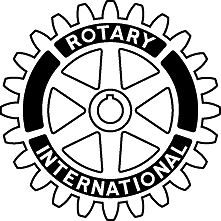
The Purple Pinkie Project is simple. On the Purple Pinkie Project day, Rotarians and ??? High School Interact Club members arrive at the school ready to work. The students that want to participate bring $1.00 which is Rotary’s approximate cost of vaccinating two children against polio. Usually we do the Purple Pinkie Project during lunch period, or we can go to each classroom. We can paint their pinkies purple, or we can give them a purple yarn bracelet. All money collected will be sent directly to Rotary International for PolioPlus.

If you think you would like to participate, please feel free to give me a call at (???)???-????. For your reference, I have included examples of the Parent Permission Form, Purple Pinkie Information Sheet.

Sincerely,

Name

Rotary Club/Interact Club

**Continued on next page...** ***Purple Pinkie Project*** 

**Rotary Club of ??? ????????? High School Interact Club**

***PARENT PERMISSION FORM***

**The Purple Pinkie Project is coming to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Elementary School! On April 12, 2016, the world will celebrate the 61st anniversary of Dr. Salk’s polio vaccine. Polio has not been a problem in the United States for many years, but this is not the case in many other countries. In 1985 Rotary International, the world’s largest service organization, began raising funds in an effort to eliminate polio worldwide. The goal was to completely eliminate polio from the world. Rotary has raised over $1.2 billion through their PolioPlus "End Polio Now" program and protected 2.5 BILLION children from polio. By partnering with the World Health Organization, CDC, UNICEF and other government and private groups, Rotary International has achieved a 99 percent reduction of polio worldwide and we are on course to eradicate polio in the world by 2018! When we started, polio existed in 193 countries and today it exists in only 2 countries which includes Pakistan and Afghanistan. The local *\_\_\_\_\_\_ Rotary Club* and *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ High School Interact Club* are helping raise funds and bring community awareness to this project. Presently, through the Purple Pinkie Project, we wish to make \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Elementary School students part of the solution….children helping children.**

**On (Date) members of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_High School Interact Club will visit your child’s school. Since $1.00 is the approximate cost to immunize two children from polio, the students are encouraged to bring $1.00 or more to help with this cause. When your child puts $1.00 in the Purple Pinkie Bucket, we will paint his or her pinkie with Gentian Violet (or insert "purple yarn bracelet, or purple marker) as a symbol of them helping immunize two children from polio. *Your child will NOT receive a polio vaccine…their $1.00 donation will pay the cost to give the vaccine to two children in one of the above countries.*** **Of course, more than one finger may be painted if more than $1.00 is donated! All donations collected with be sent directly to Rotary International and will be matched 2-for-1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.**

**Gentian Violet is a topical dye used by Rotary International to temporarily mark children after they have received their oral polio vaccine. This prevents double dosing. Since it is widely used by nursing mothers and in the mouths of infants, it is very safe. Its safety has been confirmed by Health Departments and pharmacists. However, Gentian Violet is brilliantly purple and will leave your child’s finger colored for a day or two. To prevent staining on things other than fingers, we will dip and immediately dry the finger with paper towels. Since your child could rub their painted pinkie against their clothing, we suggest that you consider dressing your child in appropriate clothing (dark colored or play clothes). Gentian Violet was recently used on voter’s fingers during the recent elections in Iraq.**

**Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide, who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. The main objective of Rotary is service - in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12-18 and derives its name from the words “international” and “action,” reflecting the nature of an organization for teens that exists in 110 countries and promotes active service at home and abroad. If you have any questions about the PolioPlus program, please feel free to call \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at (---)--- ---- or visit (website).**

**If you wish for your child to participate in the Purple Pinkie Project, please sign below.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent or Guardian Print Student’s Name Grade Teacher**

**Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Return to school on or before ???? ?

*PRESS RELEASE*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Club Contact:**

**Name of Contact Person**

**Rotary Club of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Address**

**City, State, Zip**

**Phone**

**Email**

**SCHOOL CHILDREN TO GET PINKIES PAINTED PURPLE TO ERADICATE POLIO.**

YOUR CITY, TX - On  insert date , members of *insert club name*will visit local schools to raise money for polio eradication. In 1985 Rotary International, the world’s largest service organization, began raising funds in an effort to eliminate polio worldwide. Rotary's goal was to completely eliminate polio from the world, and they will not give up until polio is the 2nd disease wiped from the face of the earth. To date, Rotary has raised over $1.2 billion through their PolioPlus "End Polio Now" program. By partnering with the World Health Organization, the CDC, UNICEF and other government and private groups, Rotary International has achieved a 99 percent reduction of polio worldwide, but the last 1 percent will be our hardest to conquer! When we started, polio existed in 193 countries and today it exists in only 2 countries which Pakistan and Afghanistan.Our local *insert club name*has been participating in this effort with several projects. Presently, through the Purple Pinkie Project, we wish to make  insert school district school students part of the solution.

The funds collected at this fundraiser will be sent to Rotary International, and will be matched 2-for-1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Since $1.00 is the estimated cost to immunize two children from polio, local students have been encouraged to bring $1.00 or more to help with this cause. Each time a student puts $1.00 in the Purple Pinkie Bucket, we will paint their pinkie with Gentian Violet as a symbol of one child immunized from Polio. Of course, more than one finger may be painted if more than $1.00 is donated!

Gentian Violet is a topical dye used by Rotary International to stain a child's pinkie cuticle after they have been immunized from Polio. This prevents double dosage. Since it is widely used by nursing mothers and in the mouths of infants, it is very safe. Its safety has been confirmed by doctors and pharmacists. However, Gentian Violet is brilliantly purple and will leave the child’s finger colored for a day or two. By partnering with Rotary, our local students will become part of the solution to polio, and their purple pinkie will be their own personal reminder of one more child saved from the polio virus.

The Purple Pinkie Project will be promoted within the schools for several weeks leading up to Purple Pinkie Day. We expect more than \_\_\_\_ students will participate.

For more information, please contact -----, or visit our website ---- , or <www.rotary5890.org> or <www.endpolionow.org>.

**Purple Pinkie Project**

Help get rid of POLIO



**Help us eliminate POLIO!**

**(Date)**

**Bring $1 so a child in Pakistan and Afghanistan can receive the polio vaccine &**

**you’ll receive a Purple Pinkie!**

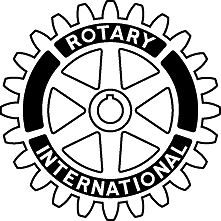
**As long as polio still exists...**

**no child is safe**

***Kingwood Rotary Club Quest High School Interact Club***

***(Example of form sent home with every elementary student explaining the Purple Pinkie Project. I also have a Spanish version, but since I’ve made a few additions and revisions to the following form, please have someone revise the Spanish form to match info below.)***

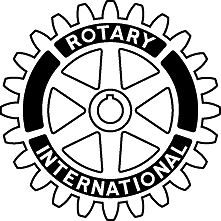
 ***Purple Pinkie Project at ABC Elementary – (DATE)***   **Rotary Club of ---- ------ High School Interact Club**

**On April 12th, 2016, the world will celebrate the 61st anniversary of Dr. Salk’s polio vaccine. Polio has not been a problem in the United States for many years, but this is not the case in many other countries. In 1985, Rotary International, the world’s largest service organization, set a goal of eradicating polio worldwide. When Rotary started, polio existed in 193 countries and today it exists in only 3 countries: Pakistan and Afghanistan. As long as polio exists in our world, no child is safe.**

**Rotary has raised over $1.2 billion through their PolioPlus "End Polio Now" program and protected 2.5 BILLION children from polio. By partnering with the World Health Organization, CDC, UNICEF and other government and private groups, Rotary International has achieved a 99 percent reduction of polio worldwide and we are on course to eradicate polio in the world by 2018! The local??????? High School Interact Club membersare helping raise funds and increase community awareness about this disease. Presently, through our *Purple Pinkie Project*, we wish to make students at your school part of the solution....Children Helping Children.**

**Throughout the world, each time a Rotary International volunteer gives the polio vaccine to a child in the village, the child’s pinkie cuticle is stained with purple ink. Their purple pinkie indicates they have been immunized against polio and prevents double dosage of the precious vaccine. On (DATE) members of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ High School Interact clubs will visit \_\_\_\_\_\_ Elementary School. Since $1.00 is the approximate cost to immunize two children against polio, each student is encouraged to bring $1.00 or more to help with this cause. Your child will NOT receive a polio vaccine…their $1.00 donation will pay the cost to give the polio vaccine to two children in one of the above countries. For each $1.00 they put in the Purple Pinkie Bucket, their pinkie will be painted purple or a purple yarn bracelet will be tied around their wrist. Their purple bracelet or purple pinkie will be their own personal reminder of their effort to help protect children from the polio virus. 100% of the funds raised from this will be donated to Rotary International’s PolioPlus Program and will be matched 2-for-1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.**

**Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide, who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. The main objective of Rotary is service - in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12-18 and derives its name from the words “international” and “action,” reflecting the nature of an organization that exists in 110 countries and promotes active service at home and abroad. If you have any questions, please call \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_\_Interact Club at (---)--- ----.**

 ***Purple Pinkie Project at ABC Elementary – (DATE)***   **Rotary Club of ---- ------ High School Interact Club**

**On April 12th, 2016, the world will celebrate the 61st anniversary of Dr. Salk’s polio vaccine. Polio has not been a problem in the United States for many years, but this is not the case in many other countries. In 1985, Rotary International, the world’s largest service organization, set a goal of eradicating polio worldwide. When Rotary started, polio existed in 193 countries and today it exists in only 3 countries: Pakistan and Afghanistan. As long as polio exists in our world, no child is safe.**

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**derives its name from the words “international” and “action,” reflecting the nature of an organization that exists in 110 countries and promotes active service at home and abroad. If you have any questions, please call \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_\_Interact Club at (---)--- ----.**

EXAMPLE: NOTE: YOU WILL NEED TO HAVE SOMEONE FLUENT IN SPANISH COMPARE THIS TO THE ENGLISH VERSION THAT I AM SENDING YOU SINCE I HAVE ADDED INFORMATION SINCE THIS WAS ORIGINALLY TRANSLATED.

 ***Purple Pinkie Project at Park Lakes Elementary-7 de Mayo*** 

**Rotary Club of Kingwood Quest High School Interact Club**

*Introduccion:* El 12 de abril de 2016, el mundo celebró el aniversario 61 de la vacuna de polio descubierto por el Dr. Jonas Salk. Aunque el polio no ha sido un problema en los Estados Unidos durante muchos años, esto no es el caso en muchos otros países. En el año de1985 el club rotatorio internacional (Rotary Club International), la organización del servicio más grande del mundo, empezó los fondos en un esfuerzo para eliminar la virus de polio por todo el mundo. La meta en 1985 fue para eliminar completamente la virus por todo el mundo para el aniversario 100 de Rotary International en el año 2005. Dos años despues el polio continua ser formidable en muchos paises. Durante los ultimos 23 años, Rotary International ha recaudado más de $633 millónes por medio de su programa PolioPlus. Al comenzar este proyecto, el polio existió en 125 países y hoy existe en sólo 4: El Pakistán y Afganistán. En asociación con la Organización Mundial de la Salud (World Health Organization), otros gobiernos , grupos privados, y el Rotary International Club se ha logrado una reducción del 99 por ciento de la virus de polio mundialmente. Nosotros estamos en un curso de erradicar el polio completamente por el fin de este año. A través del mundo, un voluntario de Rotary Club International administra la vacuna de polio a un niño en una aldea. Al recibir la inmunizacion, el meñique de niño es marcado por una tinta de color púrpura. Indicando que ha sido inmunizado contra la polio y previene una doble dosis de esta vacuna preciosa. El costo aproximado para recibir la vacuna es $1 en estos países. Solamente un dólar donativo suyo sera necesario para ayudar a dos niños o niñas en unos de estos 4 países.

*Nuestro Proyecto:* Nuestro club local, Kingwood Rotary junto con el Club de Interact del colegio Quest (Quest High School Interact), ayuda a recaudar fondos y traer a la comunidad el conocimiento a este proyecto. Actualmente, por medio del nuestro proyecto llamado, Purple Pinkie Project, nosotros deseamos que los alumnos de Park Lakes Elementary nos ayuden en lograr nuestra meta. **El miércoles, 7 de mayo**, los miembros del Kingwood Rotary y el club Quest High School Interact visitarán a la escuela de enseñanza primaria de Park Lakes. Desde que $1 es el costo aproximado de inmunizar a dos niños contra el polio, los estudiantes son alentados a traer $1 o más para ayudar con esta causa. Su niño no recibirá una vacuna de la polio…su $1 donativo pagará el costo por dar la vacuna delpolio a dos niños en uno de los cuatro países. Por cada $1 que donen en el banco marcado Purple Pinkie Project, el meñique será temporalmente pintado color púrpura o una pulsera púrpura de hilo será atada alrededor de la muñeca. Su pulsera púrpura o el meñique púrpura será su propio recordatorio personal de su esfuerzo en ayudar a salvar a niños del virus del polio. Cien por ciento de los fondos reacaudados será donado al Programa del Rotary Club International PolioPlus.

*Quienes Somos?* Rotary Club International es una organización del negociantes y líderes profesionales unidos mundialmente, que proporciona el servicio humanitario, alenta los estándares éticos altos en todas vocaciones, y ayuda a cultivar la buena voluntad y la paz en el mundo. El objetivo principal de Rotary Club International es el servicio - en la comunidad, en el lugar de trabajo, y a través del mundo. El club Interact es para jóvenes de 14-18 de edad y deriva su nombre de las palabras "internacionales" y "la acción." Su nombre refleja una organización que existe en 110 países del mundo y promueve el servicio activo dentro y fuera del país. Para mas informes, favor de llamar a Charlie Buscemi con el Kingwood Rotary al numero (281) 359-7193 o vease nuestro sitio de red [www.kwrotary.org](http://www.kwrotary.org) o sitio en la red de Rotary Club International en [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) or <www.endpolionow.org>.

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***(To save paper, this page has 4 forms which should be cut and given the student when they donate.)***

***Rotary Club of --------- ------- High School Interact Club***

You are a Polio Hero! Thank you for contributing to the Purple Pinkie Project!

Your donation will help pay the cost for another child to receive their oral polio vaccine.

All money raised from this fundraiser will be donated directly to Rotary International’s PolioPlus program. Rotary International has contributed over $1.2 billion to eradicate polio since 1985. Please visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) or <www.endpolionow.org> to find out more about polio. If you have any questions, please call ???? ??? with the Rotary Club of \_\_\_\_\_\_ at (???) ???-????

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**SCRIPT FOR "End Polio Now" Presentation for Rotary Club or School**

Interactors need your help to help eradicate POLIO!

(Video: YouTube "Purple Pinkie Project (Heal The World)

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Nh7by9wDT8>)

**▪ World Polio Day is October 24th and is the birthday of the inventor of the polio vaccine, Dr. Jonas Salk**

**▪ All District 5890 Interact clubs are working together to raise $20,000 by March 31, 2016 for the "*Interact***

***District 5890 End Polio Now Fundraising Challenge*" to raise funds for Rotary’s PolioPlus program to**

**eradicate polio from the world!**

**▪ At our 2016 Interact District Conference in February, End Polio Now Awards will be given to the Interact**

**clubs that raise the most money.**

**▪ In 1985, Rotarians dedicated themselves to eradicating polio worldwide.**

**▪ Back then, polio was paralyzing 500,000 children each year.**

**▪ Today, 193 countries are polio free thanks to Rotary!**

**▪ It was recently announced that Africa is polio free, and in September 2015, Nigeria is polio-free!**

**▪ However, polio still exists in 2 countries....Pakistan and Afghanistan**

**▪ An since polio still exists in these 2 countries, the disease could spread to children into other countries**

**that had already been declared polio free.**

**▪ Polio is a crippling and potentially fatal infectious disease that still strikes children mainly**

**under the age of five in countries in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.**

**▪ It is a virus, and is as easy to catch as the common cold.**

**▪ This disease can cause paralysis, and sometimes death.**

**▪ Paralysis is within hours, and polio paralysis is almost always irreversible.**

**▪ Polio attacks the motor neurons of the brain stem, causing breathing difficulty, or even death, and**

**has been the world’s greatest cause of disability**

**▪ If we don’t eradicate polio now, more than 10 million children will be paralyzed in the next 40 years**

**▪ Because there is NO CURE for polio, the best protection is PREVENTION.**

**▪ For as little as US$0.60 worth of vaccine, a child can be protected against this crippling disease for life.**

**▪ Since 1985, Rotarians have contributed $1.2 BILLION to immunize 2.5 BILLION children against polio.**

**▪ Rotary has welcomed more than 40 celebrities and other major public figures into a public awareness**

**campaign and ambassador program call the "This Close" to ending polio. Program ambassadors**

**include Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Desmond Tutu, violinist Itzhak Perlman, golfer Jack Nicklaus,**

**Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates, actors Jackie Chan, Amanda Peet, and Archie Panjabi, Grammy Award-**

**winning singers Angelique Kido and Ziggy Marley, environmentalist Dr. Jane Goodall, plus boxing**

**champion and Past President of the Rotary Club of Manilia 101, Manny Pacquiao.**

**▪ Help spend Bill Gates’ money! From 2013 to 2018, every US dollar Rotary commits to polio eradication**

**will instantly become three dollars, thanks to at 2-to-1 match by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.**

**▪ Our district-wide Interact Group Fundraising Project is the Purple Pinkie Project (or insert your project)**

**▪ This project will create awareness in your school, and in our community, that polio still exists in the**

**world.**

**▪ All 73 District 5890 Interact clubs are working together on this project, and our goal is to raise $20,000.**

**▪ Each Interact club is asking their sponsoring Rotary clubs to partially or fully match the funds that their**

**Interactors raise, and we'll give our funds to the Rotary club so they can send it to Rotary International.**

**▪ As Interactors, we want to join Rotary in the final push to end polio...and help make history today!**

# *FREE - POLIOPLUS/PURPLE PINKIE PROJECT VIDEOS AVAILABLE ONLINE.*

A 2-minute video can be sent to you free via email, or you can view it YouTube by searching "Purple Pinkie Project (Heal The World)" which shows photos of polio victims, Rotarians giving children the drops of oral polio vaccine, children holding up their purple pinkies, and Rotarians and Interactors doing their Purple Pinkie Projects. You can download the video on a flash drive, and take them with you to give your Purple Pinkie Project presentations.

Send a request to Tommie Buscemi at: [Tommie5890@suddenlink.net](mailto:Tommie@kingwoodcable.net)

Contact: Rotary District 5890 (Houston area)

Tommie Buscemi, Interact Committee Co-Chair

281-359-7193 Office

713-598-7129 Cellular

Email: <tommie5890@suddenlink.net>

Feel free to contact the founder of the Purple Pinkie Project:

Rotarian John Wheeler

Rotary Club of Lake City

622 SW Main Blvd

Lake City, FL 32025

PH: 386-752-8660

Email: [john.wheeler1@comcast.net](mailto:john.wheeler1@comcast.net)

