



# DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT GUIDELINES FOR GLOBAL GRANT FUNDING

Rotary is dedicated to six [areas of focus](#) to build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world. Through [global grants](#), awarded by The Rotary Foundation, clubs and districts participate in strategically focused, high-impact activities in these areas.

All global grant activities are required to align with the goals of an area of focus. For disease prevention and treatment, the goals are:

1. Improve the capacity of local health care professionals
2. Promote disease prevention programs, with the goal of limiting the spread of communicable diseases and reducing the incidences of non-communicable diseases and their complications
3. Enhance local communities' health infrastructure
4. Educate and mobilize communities to help prevent the spread of major diseases
5. Prevent physical disability resulting from disease or injury
6. Support studies for career-minded professionals related to disease prevention and treatment

Use this document as a guide when applying for a global grant. You'll learn how to make your projects sustainable, what information is required for specific project types, and where to find additional resources.

## A. Elements of sustainability

Sustainability means different things to different organizations. For Rotary, sustainability means providing long-term solutions to community needs that the beneficiaries can maintain after grant funding ends. Pay careful attention to the following items to ensure your project's long-term sustainability and increase the likelihood of being approved for global grant funding.

### 1. **COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT**

Community assessments identify where support is most needed, and the role Rotarians can play in making a difference. Project sponsors (often with a cooperating organization) need to conduct a community assessment before submitting their application. An assessment can reveal a community's strengths and weaknesses and help you work on solutions. If an assessment has already been done, use the relevant data to design your project.

Use the community assessment to:

- Gather perspectives from a broad cross-section of the community, including women, young people, and professionals

- Allow community members to identify the needs they perceive as most critical
- Ask community participants how they can contribute to the proposed project
- Work with community members to identify long-term goals and expected project outcomes

The community assessment results need to be incorporated into the grant. The results should describe:

- How the community's resources will be used to implement project activities
- How the project will meet the needs identified by the community
- The long-term goals or project outcomes and how they will be met (for example, through training and public awareness campaigns)
- How the community will sustain the project after the grant has ended

Provide written documentation with the government agency or cooperating organization that all project activities follow accepted policies and clinical standards of the government's health care system. We strongly encourage letters of endorsement.

Disease prevention and treatment project beneficiaries may include the following:

- Individual health care service recipients; specific beneficiaries of your project:
  - Pregnant women, newborns, and at-risk children
  - Adolescent girls and boys at risk for sexually transmitted diseases
  - Adult men and women at risk for non-communicable diseases
  - At-risk aging populations
  - At-risk populations for communicable or infectious diseases
  - People with disabilities
  - People with mental illness, alcohol or drug addictions, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other clinically diagnosed disorders
- Health care infrastructure, including primary health care and community health centers, district and regional health centers and hospitals, mobile outreach systems, and tertiary hospitals that offer specialized care
- Health care professionals, including community health care frontline workers, skilled birth attendants, community health nurses, health care technicians, midwives, professional nurses and doctors, dental care professionals, and mental health and addiction specialists and counselors

## **2. MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY**

Purchase equipment and new technology from local sources, when possible. Make sure replacement parts are readily available. Involve community members and beneficiary institutions when selecting technology or equipment, and train them to operate, maintain, and repair it on their own. The grant application should:

- Describe the equipment to be donated or purchased and plans for training, operating, and

maintaining it. If training isn't necessary, describe the skills that personnel have to use the new equipment.

- Clarify whether new services will be provided or if the equipment purchased is an upgrade of current or outdated technology.
- Indicate how the beneficiary will have access to spare parts if equipment isn't locally obtained.
- Describe the environment where the equipment or technology will be kept, identify who owns it, and provide security standards as appropriate.
- Explain how this equipment or technology is essential or related to the project's goals.
- Provide "proof of concept" documentation for new technology. This would be a detailed account of the technology's successful use in an environment similar to your proposed site. It would also include written endorsement from the relevant government authorities that this technology meets required licensing and certification standards.

### **3. FINANCIAL PLANNING**

Confirm that local funding sources are available for the long-term operation, maintenance, training, and replacement costs of equipment. If appropriate, compensate project participants for their work to ensure continuity of services.

The grant application should:

- Describe project fundraising activities that Rotarians, the community, other nongovernmental organizations, government agencies, and private entities have planned for the next two to three years.
- Document support of the project, if applicable, by the appropriate government agency or authority, including monetary contributions to cover current or recurring costs, advocacy, policy implementation, training, education, and allocation of personnel or materials.
- List foundation or private-sector partners that support or may support the project and will continue to do so after grant funding ends.
- Describe any fee-for-service, insurance, or cost recovery funding plans that may provide sustained revenue for the project.
- Describe your best two- to four-year projection for how the community will replenish funds after global grant funding ends.

### **4. TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

Provide training, education, and community outreach to project beneficiaries or service providers and technicians. Work with local government, private and public agencies, and organizations to supply expertise, as needed.

The grant application should:

- Describe training plans for service providers and technical project workers. Provide an overview of studies, schedule, and performance indicators. Include training activities for trainers as appropriate. Confirm if the training is budgeted within the project or funded externally.

- Describe plans for training your project’s beneficiaries. Include a description of all materials and resources needed or obtained to conduct the training as well as your educational goals. Identify the trainers and describe the beneficiary population. Confirm if the training is budgeted in the project or funded externally.
- Describe public health campaigns to educate the local population about the project’s goals and strategies. Specify a timeline, target population, overview of training materials, and collaboration with other stakeholders. Confirm if the training is budgeted within the project or funded externally.
- Include a community plan for continuing education activities after the project is completed.

## **5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

Often, the cooperating organization or government health agency will lead monitoring and evaluation efforts, collecting data and sharing their reports and findings with Rotarians. Project reporting should include clear and measurable goals and identify methods for collecting data. Sponsoring districts and clubs should help collect this data from the source (such as a cooperating organization or government agency) and keep this information with their financial records and other required documentation. Submit monitoring and evaluation information to the Foundation along with the final report.

## **B. Project types**

Global grants commonly fund the following types of disease prevention and treatment projects. For each project type explained in detail below, pay close attention to the eligibility requirements and the information that needs to be submitted with your application.

### **1. MEDICAL EQUIPMENT PROJECTS**

- There must be a written agreement from the facility, institution, or government agency acknowledging ownership of donated equipment, along with a written plan for training on operations, maintenance, and repairs. The plan should also indicate where replacement parts can be obtained.
- The institution or agency receiving the equipment must provide written documentation of the request and need for it.

### **2. MEDICAL DEVICES**

Medical devices, particularly for surgeries, are usually eligible as part of a project. Some examples of these types of devices are:

- Hydrocephalus valves for use in surgeries to reduce mortality and morbidity, where the grant helps fund the valve and the public health system funds and carries out the surgery
- Hearing aids in which the grant funds the devices and a nongovernmental organization with qualified staff provides the services
- Intraocular lenses for cataract surgeries, where volunteer doctors, another organization, or a

government agency provides the services

- Supplies and training for primary dental care services in remote areas

### **3. WHEELCHAIR PROJECTS**

- The primary use of wheelchairs must be to prevent further injury or disease.
- There needs to be beneficiary assessments describing high-risk populations, baseline information on the condition of the beneficiary, and customization of the chair to the specific physical or clinical condition being addressed. High-risk groups in need of continual chair assessment and modifications include: children and adolescents experiencing growth spurts, people with cerebral palsy and other neurological diseases, accident victims, and people with congenital or deteriorating illnesses.
- The project needs to include training of the beneficiary as well as a plan for maintenance, repairs, spare parts, and the wheelchair's operation and replacement.
- Mobility, social, educational, and vocational outcomes are secondary considerations. Wheelchairs used primarily for these outcomes will not qualify for a disease prevention and treatment global grant.
- Projects involving the manufacturing, assembly, maintenance, and repair of wheelchairs may be acceptable as economic and community development projects.

### **4. NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

- These projects include chronic conditions such as diabetes, cardiovascular health, cancer, Alzheimer's, and dementia. Drug and alcohol addiction prevention and treatment programs and projects that address all forms of mental illness are also evaluated within this category.
- Because these projects often focus on long-term efforts to change behaviors (such as stopping smoking, reducing blood sugar levels, and managing high-blood pressure), Rotarian and other volunteer participation is a priority.
- These projects should include prevention efforts as well as treatment services. All projects must have measureable goals.

### **5. DISABILITY AND DISORDER-RELATED PROJECTS**

- Prosthetics can be eligible if there is a prevention and training component based on the beneficiary needs assessment. This could include continuing education or training for the professionals who produce and fit the prosthetics and provide physical therapy to recipients. Training for beneficiaries and their families on using and maintaining their prosthetics would be a sustainable strategy.
- All therapies must seek to prevent further injury or disease.
- All approved therapies must have sound clinical acceptance within the medical community and measurable results of treatment.
- Projects should be based on community needs or beneficiary assessment information that identifies the high-risk populations being targeted.

- All approved therapies must be delivered by clinically certified therapists, who should be encouraged to seek further training as part of the project.
- Physical therapy equipment is eligible with the supervision of certified therapists.

## **6. VISION AND EYE CARE PROJECTS**

- Eye examination projects that seek to identify refractive errors and correct them by providing eyeglasses are not eligible as stand-alone global grant projects. Global grants support many aspects of eye care, including screening for disease and referral to available treatment options. These often include cataract and corneal implant surgeries and procedures.
- Eye care projects may also include mobile outreach as well as health camp and hospital-based services. Eye disease prevention, identification, and treatment projects must have measurable results.

## **7. SPECTRUM DISORDER PROJECTS (AUTISM, ASPERGER'S SYNDROME, ETC.)**

- Eligible applications need to include therapies that have sound clinical acceptance within the medical community and include measurable impact indicators of treatment. These projects must include individual beneficiary assessments and individualized therapies.
- For multisensory rooms to be eligible for a global grant, they must be integrated into the health care system, and the sensory therapies must be administered by certified therapists who can provide baseline and impact measurements.

## **8. MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROJECTS**

- The following are eligible project types:
  - Alcohol and drug addiction: prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation service projects that are based on an assessment of high-risk beneficiaries and include impact measurements.
  - Suicide prevention: outreach, referrals, and treatment services.
  - Clinical depression, bipolar disorder, and other mental health disorders that can be addressed within the health care system. Activities might include prevention, diagnostic, and treatment services.
  - Post-traumatic stress disorder: treatment and rehabilitation services. Unconventional therapies can be eligible, including equine and other animal therapy projects, if these activities follow clinical guidelines, are conducted by certified professionals, and have a measurable impact.

## **9. PALLIATIVE AND HOSPICE CARE PROJECTS**

- Hospice treatment presents unique circumstances with medical equipment considerations. End-of-life care requires furnishings to provide the highest-quality services to alleviate pain and suffering. Furnishings in such projects may meet the medical equipment criteria because they are being used for treatment. Examples would include beds and mobility and communication devices.

- There must be a targeted assessment performed for specific beneficiaries. Projects promoting general health are ineligible.
- The project must describe the cultural appropriateness of the proposed support and how activities are sensitive to local conceptions of and practices involving death, dying, and disease management.
- Community-based hospice care is an emerging model based on decades of successful primary health care models. Support for vehicles or transportation could be eligible for this project type if they are transporting hospice workers who provide in-home services.
- Projects must be sustainable and strengthen community and home-based care systems. Projects that provide care to individuals outside any formal system are not eligible.
- Projects should include supporting ongoing training of health care professionals, if it is deemed desirable or essential by the licensing health care authorities.
- Palliative care could include family education and training.
- Outpatient pain clinics could be a project type.

#### **10. HEALTH FAIRS AND GENERAL HEALTH SCREENINGS**

- General health fair projects must provide targeted and measurable services in prevention, screening, and treatment. They can include diabetes prevention, HIV and STD testing, and cervical cancer screenings. Health fairs are also an effective delivery system in polio eradication efforts.
- Health fairs are eligible only if they refer patients to other health care systems and ensure access to continuing care. The goal cannot be to provide a one-time-only service.
- A robust monitoring and evaluation system needs to be in place.

#### **11. MEDICAL SUPPLIES, FACILITY FURNITURE, DISPOSABLES, AND SHORT SHELF-LIFE ITEMS**

- In general, disposable medical supplies will only be approved when they support the operation of new medical equipment or surgeries.
- Projects that solely provide furniture or non-medical equipment to health facilities are not eligible. The equipment would need to be part of a larger, sustainable project.
- The intent and spirit of global grants is for a larger and longer-lasting impact than short shelf-life supplies can provide. Exceptions are made for larger budgets where these types of supplies and items can be approved as a part of a larger project.

#### **12. MOBILE HEALTH VEHICLES AND CLINICS**

- Mobile health clinics (medically equipped vehicles) address access to health care barriers.
- The intent for mobile health care services is to extend health care to remote regions, not to provide emergency services or serve as a transport system. Ambulances generally do not qualify as mobile health clinics.
- Eligible mobile health care delivery systems include:

- Vehicles that are outfitted with built-in medical equipment to provide specific health care services at community and outreach sites other than fixed health care centers.
- Vehicles that transport medical personnel and their field equipment and supplies needed for specific health care services at community and outreach sites. The equipment and supplies should be described, budgeted for, and portable.
- Mobile health vehicles dedicated to outreach screening (mammograms, diabetes, etc.) if they serve as an efficient referral system to accessible prevention and treatment services for a targeted population.
- Blood bank vehicles if they are providing testing, referral, and access to care services.
- Oral health care outreach service vehicles.

### **13. HEALTH CARE WORKER TRAINING**

### **14. LIFESAVING AND CONGENITAL CORRECTIVE SURGERIES**

### **15. PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

These include HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and neglected tropical diseases.

### **16. PROJECT TYPES THAT HAVE SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR ELIGIBILITY**

- The projects below may or may not be eligible for global grant funding, depending on various factors. The Rotary Foundation assesses each project on a case-by-case basis, applying global grant standards fairly and consistently. Contact your regional grants officer early in the application process for help.  
Hospital beds must be clinically therapeutic by design, and include intensive-care beds, pediatric post-neurosurgical beds, dedicated hospice and palliative care beds for end-of-life treatment, or other medically specified or designed beds.
- Solar panels for heat or water (strict technology standards apply, including proof of concept documentation). These remain ineligible as a stand-alone project but can be a key part of a project that otherwise qualifies under the Foundation's strengthening health care infrastructure program.
- Solar technology (refrigerators): Solar refrigerators qualify as medical equipment because they preserve vaccines. Other solar-powered medical equipment could also be eligible as long as technology standards are met (a proof of concept is required).
- Broad-based vision and hearing screening projects must have referrals for treatment and access to it. Loss-of-hearing prevention and treatment projects (especially targeting newborns to 3-year-olds) may qualify.
- The purchase and distribution of the polio vaccine cannot be the focus of a project, but it can be a smaller part of a larger immunization project.
- Playground and other non-clinical equipment for children with disabilities are usually not eligible.
- Therapeutic animals may be eligible. Approved therapeutic animal projects have included



equine therapy for patients with post-traumatic stress disorder, provided you can obtain baseline and impact measurements.

- Alcohol and drug abuse awareness and prevention projects that don't target high-risk populations are usually ineligible. Projects must target high-risk populations for substance abuse, establish a baseline, develop measurable impact indicators, and incorporate clinical interventions for people with addictions.
- School-based feeding programs or any nutrition interventions not specific to malnourishment are ineligible. General health education and nutrition education projects are too far removed from disease prevention and treatment to provide measurable impact indicators.

## C. Resources

One of the best resources available to grant applicants is the [Rotary grants staff](#). In addition to their professional expertise and education, grants staff members draw on The Rotary Foundation's long experience in funding effective projects to make sure your global grant projects are eligible for funding.

You can also find information to help you plan for your disease prevention and treatment global grant in the following resources:

[A Guide to Global Grants](#)

[Terms and Conditions for Rotary Foundation District Grants and Global Grants](#)

[Areas of Focus Policy Statements](#)

[Six Steps to Sustainability](#)

[Global Grant Monitoring and Evaluation Plan Supplement](#)

[Project Lifecycle Resources](#)