



CAMPAIGN TO ERADICATE POLIO – FACT SHEET

- Polio is a horrible, crippling -- and often fatal -- disease that primarily affects children under 5 years of age
- For many years prior to 1985, polio killed or crippled more than 1,000 people a day in the developing world
- In 1985, Rotary International launched “PolioPlus,” a multimillion dollar campaign to immunize the world’s children against polio
- In 1988, Rotary formed a partnership with the World Health Organization, UNICEF and the CDC and announced its goal to eradicate polio
- More than 2.5 billion children have been immunized
- 17,400,000 children saved from the paralysis of Polio since 1988
- In 2017, fewer than 25 cases worldwide
- Polio cases have been reduced by 99.9% since 1988
- The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation matches \$2 for every \$1 raised by Rotary to fund Polio eradication
- Today, polio is endemic in only three countries – Pakistan, Nigeria and Afghanistan. As of July 2018:
 - Afghanistan: 10 cases in 2018
 - Pakistan: 3 cases in 2018
 - Nigeria: 0 cases in 2018 and none since 2016

For more information on the District 6040 Play for Polio campaign in 2018, contact:

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