

January 16, 2016

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Thank you for your interest in support the citizens of Flint during the present water emergency. While the crisis is now national news, work has been taking place on the ground for many months. The systems are now in place to begin to address the immediate needs of families impacted by this emergency. Currently there are 5 fire stations, 9 churches that are points of access for families needing water and water filters. The local Non- Governmental Agencies are well positioned to process the intake and distribution of the donations of water and water filters that are pouring into the community due to incredibly generous local, state and national individuals and organizations.

On January 16th President Obama declared a federal emergency thereby allowing Flint and Genesee County to be eligible for additional resources to assist families with short term needs as well as addressing the long term infrastructure concerns. We are hopeful that this will allow the community access to programs, loans and funds that otherwise would not be available.

The challenge that we face as a community is the long term impact of the months of unaddressed exposure to lead experienced by our community's children. According to the CDC "No safe blood lead level in children has been identified. Even low levels of lead in blood have been shown to affect IQ, ability to pay attention, and academic achievement. And effects of lead exposure cannot be corrected."

Experts are now stating that all children who drank the city's water since April 2014 have been exposed to lead, regardless of their current blood lead levels. These tests only measure lead currently in the blood and does not accurately exposure. Blood lead levels decrease after 30 days as lead is distributed throughout the body, primarily to bones, teeth and soft tissue. Lead accumulates in the body over time and blood-lead tests do not measure the overall lead burden in the body.

This translates to 8,657 children under age 6 in Flint that have been exposed to lead (based on Census data.) This number could be much higher in that it does not account for exposure to babies whose mothers drank the water during their pregnancy and those that were exposed but do not reside in the city.

The Rotary Club of Flint in partnership with the Rotary Club of Genesee County (District 6330/Area 7) is encouraging fellow Rotary Clubs and Rotarians to consider supporting efforts in the following four ways:

1. Club level donations can be made to the **Rotary Club of Flint Charitable Foundation**. These funds will be utilized to support water related efforts in the Flint area.
2. Individual Rotarians are encourage to donate to **The Flint Child Health & Development Fund** which was established at the Community Foundation of Greater Flint to support the delivery of critical public health, medical, and community-based services and interventions that address and mitigate the short and long term impacts experienced by Flint, Michigan families exposed to lead as the result of the 2014-2016 Flint Water Crisis.
3. Individuals wishing to **donate water** can do so through one of the established distribution sites. The site for donations is dependent on the size of the donation.
4. People wishing to **volunteer** can report directly to the Red Cross (1401 S Grand Traverse St, Flint, MI 48503) anytime between 9:00am-7:00pm. Please do not call ahead, just come. Please be prepared to volunteer in winter conditions. (Although not all positions are outside we need all volunteers to be prepared. Even if they are in a warehouse sorting water/filters it will be cold).

Thank you for your offers of support during these challenging times. The outpouring of support from Rotarians all across the country has been heartening and greatly appreciated!

Yours in service,



Amy Krug
President 2015-2016
Rotary Club of Flint
amykrug.flintrotary@gmail.com
810.449.9253



Rotary Response to the Flint Water Emergency

The Rotary Club of Flint Charitable Foundation

The Rotary Club of Flint Charitable Foundation is an existing fund that's purpose is to implement and finance charitable and educational service projects of the Rotary Club of Flint, Michigan.

Clubs wishing to make contributions send checks payable to the Rotary Club of Flint Charitable Foundation to 2481 Delwood Drive, Clio, Michigan 48420

Flint Child Health & Development Fund www.flintkid.org

The Flint Child Health & Development Fund supports the delivery of critical public health, medical and community-based services and interventions that address and mitigate the short and long term impacts experienced by Flint, Michigan families exposed to lead as the result of the 2014-2016 Flint Water Crisis.

The Flint Child Health & Development Fund supports charitable organizations that provide aid to children and families with interventions that support positive health outcomes. "If there was ever a time to invest in our children, it is now. Our Flint children deserve every opportunity to be healthy and successful. The creation of this Fund will further ensure that our children are afforded the resources and interventions to overcome this population-wide exposure to lead," according to Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha.

Donations can be made online at www.flintkids.org, by phone 810-767-8270 or by check to mailed to Community Foundation of Greater Flint, 500 S. Saginaw Street, Suite 200, Flint, Michigan 48502.

Water Donation Details

All Pallets and Cases of Water over 100:

Food Bank of Eastern Michigan

Address: 2300 Lapeer Rd, Flint, MI 48503

Phone:(810) 239-4441 ask for Tina Martinez, Director of Operations

*Please let Tina know when a pallet has been shipped if at all possible

Loose water cases (non-pallet and under 100 cases)

Weekdays: Catholic Charities

Address: 901 Chippewa St, Flint, MI 48503

Phone:(810) 232-9950

Weekends and Holidays (8:00am-4:00pm): American Red Cross

Address: 1401 S Grand Traverse St, Flint, MI 48503