

ROTARY CLEAN WATER IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ROTARIAN MAGAZINE “INFOCUS” FEATURE

Have you read the August issue of the Rotarian? The August 2009 issue of the Rotarian Magazine features an article “Water and Wellness” about how Rotarians are helping to provide clean water to poor people in the Dominican Republic (DR). This article is of special significance to our District 6380 since many clubs in it are participating in BioSand water projects in the DR.

Sterling Heights Rotarians Joyce and John Joyce became committed to helping provide clean water to the poor in the DR after meeting the Bodenners of District 6290 in 2005 and traveling with them to the DR for a first hand look at the situation. Joyce determined that the Bonao RC was interested in partnership on a BioSand project. Sterling Heights RC enthusiastically agreed to support the efforts, not only for the first project, but for several continuing follow-on projects. So far, three projects have resulted in 780 filters installed with over 9000 beneficiaries of clean water with a total funding slightly over \$50,000.



Joyce has just submitted another Matching Grant application on behalf of the Sterling Heights RC that is now pending approval. In addition to the water projects with Bonao, Joyce & her family have worked on and supported other projects in Puerto Plata with Rotarians from several districts.

Joyce encourages our District Rotarians to join her in going to the DR and in continuing to support these BioSand clean water filter projects. Jeff and Mary Lichty and Max and Ruth Howell have accompanied her in the past. Joyce thanks the Sterling Heights RC and numerous other clubs in District 6380 for supporting the projects with significant funding. These clubs (some multiple times) include: Anchor Bay, Berkley, Bloomfield Hills, Chatham Sunrise, Davisburg, Farmington, Livingston Sunrise, Milford, Novi, Pontiac, Richmond, Saline, Tilbury and Utica-Shelby. Various churches, organizations and individuals have also provided funds and encouragement for each of the projects. These groups include: First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak, Peace Unity Church and SE Michigan Returned Peace Corps. Individuals include: Wally Doebler, Marc Forest, Max Howell, Ruth Howell, Karen Joyce, Jeff Lichty, Karen Olechiw, Don Riddell and Françoise Soirfeck (France). Contact Joyce at mrsjoyce2@wowway.com for presentations or information about these projects.