For information:

Your name

Your email address

For Immediate Release

**Rotary Club of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ marks historic progress toward polio-free world and urges neighbors to help end this paralyzing disease**

YOUR SUBURB, Ill., Today’s Date, 2020 — Rotary members in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are taking action on World Polio Day, Oct. 24th, to raise awareness, funds and support to end polio, a vaccine-preventable disease that still threatens children in parts of the world.

*Briefly describe what you’re doing for awareness, fundraising, event, etc.*

When Rotary International and its partners launched the Global Polio Eradication Initiative in 1988, there were 350,000 cases of polio every year in 125 countries. Great progress has been made since then with polio cases reduced 99.9 percent and just two countries now reporting wild poliovirus cases: Afghanistan and Pakistan.

With polio nearly eradicated, Rotary and its partners must sustain this progress, continue to reach every child with the polio vaccine and prevent its return. Rotarians worldwide have contributed $2.1 billion to ending polio since 1985 and are now committed to raising $50 million each year to support eradication efforts. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation pledged to match that 2-to-1, for a total yearly contribution of $150 million.

The Rotary Club of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_ years old and meets *(which day)* via Zoom *(or via Zoom and in person)* for camaraderie, community service projects and guest speakers. For information, check *(your website, Facebook address, Twitter address).*

Rotary International is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders and problem-solvers who unite and take action to create lasting around the globe. For more than 110 years, Rotary’s people of action have used their passion, energy and intelligence to improve lives through service. From promoting literacy and peace to providing clean water and improving health care, Rotary members are always working to better the world. Visit [endpolio.org](file:///C%3A/Users/kahlerj/AppData/Local/Temp/Temp1_wpd2018materials-en.zip/wpd2018materials-en/endpolio.org) to learn more about Rotary and the fight to eradicate polio.

 ###