



Some End Polio Facts

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- RILEE (Rotary Iron Lung Education Exhibit)
 - Iron Lungs were LIFE SAVING, the idea is to spark an emotional connection between youth (Post Polio generation in the U.S.) to Rotary's international work
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- Rotary International's LARGEST and most extensive International project has been to END POLIO
 - In 1988 Rotary created a partnership with the WHO, CDC & UNICEF
 - At that time 125 countries still had polio with 350,000 cases a year
 - As of this week, only 19 cases of Polio (15 in Afghanistan & 4 in Pakistan) GPEI
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- Polio is caused by 1 of 3 viruses that only live in the human intestine and is spread from person to person.
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- It cannot be cured, but it can be prevented by vaccine
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- Since 1985 Rotary has contributed more than \$1.7 Billion to eliminate polio
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- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation match Rotary's contribution 2:1
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- Today, there are only three countries that have never stopped transmission of the wild polio virus: Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan.
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- The polio cases represented by the remaining one percent are the most difficult to prevent, due to factors including geographical isolation, poor public infrastructure, armed conflict and cultural barriers.
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- Until polio is eradicated, all countries remain at risk of outbreaks.

RILEE
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