

Rotary
District 7020



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AUGUST 2026

THE COMPASS



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF ROTARY DISTRICT 7020

MEMBERSHIP & NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH

“Together,
we open the door
to new possibilities.”

*Stronger Together.
Greater Impact.*

Expanding our
family, creating
new clubs and
building stronger
communities across
the Caribbean and beyond.

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TABLE

01

MESSAGE FROM THE RI
PRESIDENT

03

MESSAGE FROM THE
DISTRICT GOVERNOR

05

ADDRESS FROM THE
DRR

07

AUGUST: MEMBERSHIP AND
NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH

27

MORE STORIES ON MATERNAL
AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH

35

MESSAGE FROM THE
FOUNDATION TRUSTEE CHAIR

36

DISTRICT NEWS &
EVENTS

37

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH EAST
NASSAU: 50 YEARS AND
BEYOND GALA

45

HANWASH

46

SERVICE SATURDAYS

49

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION 2027

CONTENTS

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

My challenge to you

Peace does not happen by accident. It must be pursued deliberately, built strategically, and woven intentionally into everything we do. That is the challenge I am placing before the Rotary world this year.

Rotary recognizes peacebuilding as one of our areas of focus. But I believe peace must be more than a category of work we set aside for certain projects. It must become a lens, one we choose to look through every time we plan, every time we serve, every time we ask what kind of impact we truly want to leave behind.

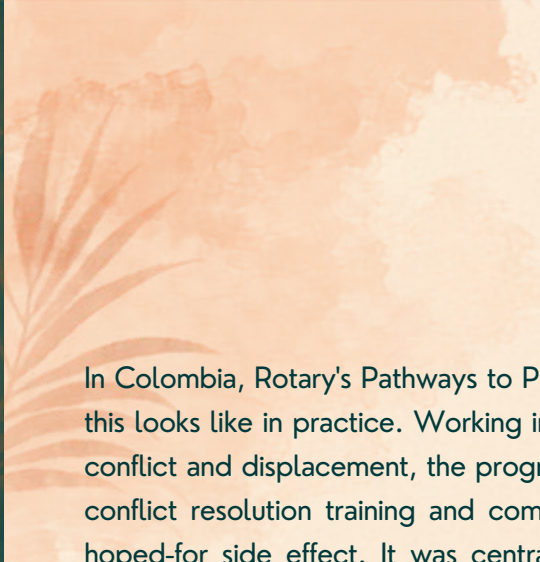
The Institute for Economics and Peace has identified eight Pillars of Positive Peace: well-functioning government, a sound business environment, equitable distribution of resources, acceptance of the rights of others, good relations with neighbors, free flow of information, high levels of human capital, and low levels of corruption. These pillars describe the conditions that make lasting peace possible. And when I look at them carefully, I see enormous potential for Rotary. Not because our work automatically advances peace but because it can when we are deliberate about it.

That is the key word: **deliberate**.

A water project does not build peace on its own. But a water project designed with the Pillars of Positive Peace in mind — one that asks how equitable access to resources strengthens community trust — can begin to lay that foundation. A vocational training program does not guarantee reconciliation. But one that intentionally brings divided communities together around shared economic opportunity can start to build it. The project does not change. The intention does.

A portrait of Yinka Babalola, the 2023-2024 Rotary International President. He is a Black man with a warm smile, wearing a traditional red, white, and blue striped headwrap and a dark blue traditional Nigerian garment. The background behind him is a soft, orange-toned watercolor wash. On the far left, the word 'PRESIDENT' is written vertically in large, dark blue, semi-transparent letters.

YINKA BABALOLA



In Colombia, Rotary's Pathways to Peace and Prosperity program shows us what this looks like in practice. Working in communities shaped by decades of armed conflict and displacement, the program combines economic empowerment with conflict resolution training and community-led reconciliation. Peace was not a hoped-for side effect. It was central to the design. That is the standard I am calling all of us to follow.

As you plan your next project, whatever the focus area, I want you to pause and ask one question: How does this create the conditions for peace? Consult the Pillars of Positive Peace. Find where your work connects. Then, make that connection intentional. Share what you discover with your club, your district, and your community. The more we talk about peace as a practice rather than a destination, the more naturally it will shape everything we do.

This is not about doing different work. It is about doing our work differently, with greater awareness, greater purpose, and a clearer vision of the world we are trying to build.

Every Rotary project carries potential. Our task is to unlock it, not by chance but by choice.

YINKA

President, Rotary International

Rotary

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

LINDSEY CANCINO



August invites us to focus on one of the most important drivers of Rotary's future: growing our Rotary family. Membership and New Club Development Month is more than an annual observance; it is central to our District Strategic Plan (2026–2029). Alongside our priorities for health and resilience, membership growth reflects a simple truth: we cannot expand our impact without the people who bring Rotary's mission to life.

I am grateful to our District Membership Chair, PP Jennell Bryan, and her committee for developing a clear roadmap for the year ahead. Their guiding vision is simple and powerful: help people who have not yet found Rotary discover it, and ensure that when they join, they find a place where they truly belong.

This vision aligns with Rotary International's global goal of reaching 1.25 million members by 2030 and supports District 7020's commitment to growing our membership family to 3,000 members by the same year.

This roadmap gives clubs practical support in every stage of the membership journey: attracting new people, welcoming them well, keeping them engaged, and creating new pathways for service.

To help us achieve this goal, PP Jennell has assembled a dedicated subcommittee team to support clubs across the membership journey. I encourage every club to connect with these leaders and draw on their expertise:

ATTRACTION – PP NERISSA PERSAUD

Outreach strategies and prospective-member events

ENGAGEMENT – PP JULIE RAMCHANDANI

Retention, onboarding, mentoring, and creating a culture of belonging

NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT – PDG DAVID KIRKALDY

Satellite clubs, companion clubs, and impact Club opportunities

PROSPECTIVE MEMBER MANAGEMENT – PAG KAREN KINDER

Inquiry follow-up and conversion tracking





MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

LINDSEY CANCINO

Throughout the year, clubs will have access to quarterly membership forums, district prospective-member events, enhanced engagement and onboarding tools, and new episodes of the Voices of District 7020 podcast. Together, these resources are designed to help clubs grow with purpose, strengthen connections, and create meaningful Rotary experiences.

Our Rotaract pipeline also remains one of our greatest opportunities for future growth. If your club has not yet connected with a nearby Rotaract club, August is the perfect time to begin that conversation and explore how we can continue building a strong Rotary family together.

I have always believed that Rotary grows when people experience the fellowship, purpose, and joy that brought each of us into this organization. Membership is not simply about increasing numbers — in fact it should never be just about that - it is about inviting others to share in the opportunity to serve, to lead, to grow themselves and to make a difference in their communities alongside us.

This month, I ask every club to take one meaningful step toward growth: invite a prospective member to a meeting, reconnect with a former member, or reach out to PP Jennell and her team to explore new opportunities for your club.

Small actions taken today will help us build the foundation for a stronger Rotary future and allow us to Create Lasting Impact throughout District 7020 this year.

GROWING ROTARY, STRENGTHENING OUR IMPACT!

August is Membership and New Club Development Month — a reminder that our greatest strength is our people. As we work toward District 7020's goal of 3,000 members by 2030, let's invite others to experience the fellowship, purpose, and joy of Rotary. This month, take one step: welcome a prospective member, reconnect with a former Rotarian, or help someone discover where they belong in Rotary. Together, we Create Lasting Impact. Together, we Create Lasting Impact.





Welcome to
August:
Membership
and New Club
Development
Month!

DRR. ADDRESS



Fellow Rotaractors of District 7020,

As we begin a new month we celebrate the heart and foundation of our organization: **our members.** Without dedicated and passionate members, Rotary and Rotaract cannot grow, serve, or continue creating meaningful change in our communities.

Being a Rotaract is more than simply belonging to a club. It is a privilege, an opportunity to develop as a leader, build lifelong friendships, serve others, and discover possibilities that we may never imagined.

When I first joined Rotaract, I had no idea that this journey would one day lead me to become a Rotary Youth Exchange alumnus, a rotary scholar, and eventually your District Rotaract Representative. My experience is a reminder that we may not always know where Rotaract will take us, but every meeting, project, connection, and opportunity can contribute to something greater.

During Membership and New Club Development Month, I encourage each of you to take pride in your membership, actively support the growth of your clubs, welcome new members, and help expand Rotaryact throughout your countries, communities, and regions.

Answer the call that membership requires through active participation, serve, fellowship, and leadership. Wear your Rotaract pin proudly wherever you go and in every room you enter. Never hesitate to proudly say: **I am a Rotaract!**

Happy Membership and New Club Development Month!

Yours in Rotaract Service,

Herode Metellus

**District Rotaract
Representative
Rotaract District 7020
Rotary Year 2026–2027**

**ROOTED
IN L.O.V.E.**

LEADERSHIP.

OPPORTUNITIES.

VIBE.

EXCELLENCE.



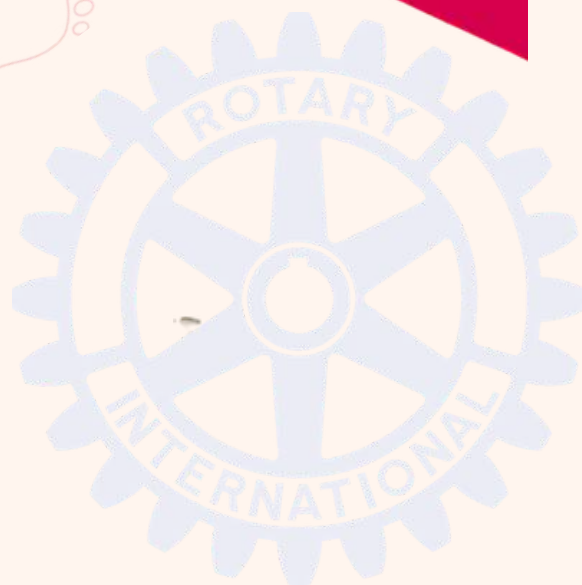
EVERY MEMBER
ADDS A
FOOTPRINT.
EVERY NEW CLUB
EXTENDS
THE PATH.

EVERY
COLLABORATION
CONNECTS OUR
DISTRICT MORE
DEEPLY.



TOGETHER, WE LEAVE A MARK
ACROSS **DISTRICT 7020** THAT
SERVICE ALONE COULD NEVER
BUILD IN ISOLATION.

THE COMPASS





AUGUST

MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT

Month



01

ROTARY CLUB OF CENTRAL CAYMAN ISLANDS

*I'm a Rotarian! Now What?
Learning Seminar Inspires
Cayman Rotarians*

02

ROTARY CLUB OF EAST NASSAU

*44 Years of Perfect
Attendance: Murray
Forde's Rotary Journey*

03

ROTARY CLUB OF NASSAU SUNRISE

*Seventh Annual Sunrise
Open: Tearing Up Service
and Lasting Impact*

04

ROTARY CLUB OF WEST NASSAU

*Committees: Where Ideas
Become Action at Rotary
Club of West Nassau*

05

ROTARY CLUB OF LIGUANE PLAINS

*Rotary meets Reggae for
Membership and New
Club Development
Month*

06

ROTARY CLUB OF PROVIDENCIALES

*Painting a New Picture
of Rotary: Providenciales
Celebrates Membership
Month*

07

ROTARY CLUB OF ELEUTHERA

*Launches August
Membership Activities
Campaign*



MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH



08

ROTARY CLUB OF PETION VILLE

*Rotary Connect: What If It
All Begins with a
Connection?*

09

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH EAST NASSAU

*Membership: Strengthening
Our Rotary Family*

10

ROTARY CLUB OF OLD FORT

*Membership In Motion
at RCOF*

11

ROTARY CLUB OF ST. CROIX HARBORSIDE

*Membership Meeting:
Getting to Know Our
Members*

12

ROTARY CLUB OF ST. MARTIN SUNRISE

*Building Membership
Through Fellowship,
Service, and Community*

13

ROTARY E-CLUB DELMAS CENTRE

*Conference as Part of
Membership Month*

08

THE COMPASS

Rotary





ROTARY CLUB OF CENTRAL CAYMAN ISLANDS

I'm a Rotarian! Now What?

Learning Seminar Inspires Cayman Rotarians

On Saturday, August 1, Club Learning Facilitator Jennifer Leach-Tippets organized a half-day learning seminar titled "I'm a Rotarian! Now What?"

The interactive event welcomed more than 25 Rotarians and Rotaractors from across the Cayman Islands, providing participants with valuable insights into Rotary's mission, programs, and opportunities for personal growth and service.

The seminar was officially opened by Assistant Governor Winston Connolly, who welcomed participants and shared words of encouragement and support. He emphasized the importance of continuous learning, member engagement, and leadership development, encouraging attendees to take full advantage of the knowledge and fellowship the seminar had to offer as they continue their Rotary journeys.

The seminar featured a series of engaging presentations led by experienced Rotary leaders. Past District Governor David Kirkaldy facilitated sessions on Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation, highlighting the global impact of Rotary and the many ways members can support and participate in its humanitarian initiatives.

Past President Johnae Moss presented on the Five Avenues of Service, exploring how each avenue provides meaningful opportunities for members to make a difference both locally and internationally.

Club Learning Facilitator Past President Jennifer Leach-Tippets shared the history of Rotary Central Cayman Islands and led an inspiring session on "Finding Your Why in Rotary," encouraging members to reflect on their personal purpose and the value of their Rotary journey.




*I'm a
Rotarian,
Now What?*



Immediate Past President Steve Tippetts concluded the learning sessions with a practical demonstration on navigating MyRotary and ClubRunner, equipping members with the knowledge and confidence to access Rotary resources, training opportunities, and club information online.

Throughout the seminar, participants engaged in interactive discussions and breakout sessions, where Rotarians shared their experiences, knowledge, and personal Rotary journeys. These conversations fostered meaningful dialogue, strengthened connections among members, and reinforced the value of learning from one another.

A key highlight of the seminar was the introduction to The Learning Center on the MyRotary website. Members were encouraged to explore the extensive library of online courses designed to enhance their Rotary knowledge and leadership skills. The club plans to continue promoting these learning modules as part of its ongoing commitment to member education and development.

The seminar reflects the Cayman Islands clubs' strong commitment to membership engagement and continuous learning. By investing in education and leadership development, members are better equipped to serve their communities, strengthen their clubs, and grow as Rotary leaders.

As Rotary continues to inspire Service Above Self, initiatives like "I'm a Rotarian! Now What?" demonstrate that learning, fellowship, and shared experiences remain at the heart of a vibrant and engaged Rotary community. The enthusiasm shown by members and Rotaractors alike reflects the strength of Rotary in the Cayman Islands and its commitment to developing informed, engaged, and inspired leaders for the future.



*I'm a
Rotarian,
Now What?*





ROTARY CLUB OF EAST NASSAU

44 Years of Perfect Attendance: Murray Forde's Rotary Journey

For 44 years, Past Assistant Governor Murray Forde has maintained 100% attendance in Rotary—an extraordinary record that reflects far more than simply attending weekly meetings. It represents a lifetime of fellowship, leadership and service.



Murray first joined the Rotary Club of East Nassau (RCEN) briefly in 1975, sponsored by Sir Durward Knowles, before being transferred to Canada. The perfect attendance record celebrated today began in January 1982, when he returned to The Bahamas and rejoined RCEN, this time sponsored by Terry Mosko. Just eight years later, he led the club as President during the 1990–1991 Rotary year.

Even a move to Barbados could not interrupt Murray's Rotary journey. From 1996 to 2000, he lived abroad while maintaining his connection with RCEN. When the Rotary Club of Barbados invited him to become a member, he resigned from RCEN and joined the Barbados club, ensuring that his Rotary membership and perfect attendance continued without missing a beat.

Upon returning to The Bahamas, Murray continued serving both RCEN and Rotary District 7020. He served as Assistant Governor for The Bahamas in 2006–2007 and led a Group Study Exchange team to Tennessee during Past District Governor Eddie Bostwick's year. The exchange allowed professionals from different countries to share ideas, experience new cultures and build international understanding.





In 2008, Murray joined the District 7020 team that travelled to India to participate in a National Immunization Day. There, he personally administered polio vaccines to children as part of Rotary's worldwide effort to eradicate the disease.

His Rotary experience has also included dozens of District Conferences and Rotary International Conventions, strengthening the friendships and international connections that have kept him engaged for more than four decades.

Along the way, Murray has collected some unforgettable stories. During the Bahamas Speed Week Revival, he chaperoned legendary racing driver Stirling Moss. He also once taught Sir Sean Connery how to play the drums—moments that capture the fellowship and unexpected experiences that can come with a life in Rotary.

Murray's 44 years of perfect attendance are ultimately 44 years of showing up: for his club, his district, his community and Rotary's work around the world. His story reminds us that true dedication is built one meeting, one friendship and one act of service at a time.



ROTARY CLUB OF NASSAU SUNRISE

Seventh Annual Sunrise Open: Teeing Up Service and Lasting Impact

The Rotary Club of Nassau Sunrise proudly hosted its **7th Annual Sunrise Open Golf Tournament** on Saturday, August 8, 2026, at the beautiful Royal Blue Golf Course at Baha Mar. As the Club's largest annual fundraiser, the Sunrise Open once again brought together Rotarians, partners, sponsors, volunteers, golfers, and friends for a day of fellowship, friendly competition, and, most importantly, service.



This year's tournament held special significance as Nassau Sunrise continues to celebrate an important milestone, **25 years of service**, commemorated on May 8, 2026. For more than two decades, the Club has remained committed to responding to needs within our communities and supporting Rotary's work locally and internationally. The success of the seventh Sunrise Open represents another chapter in that continuing legacy.

Net proceeds from the tournament will help advance the Club's diverse service initiatives throughout the 2026-2027 Rotary year. These include projects and partnerships focused on **basic education and literacy, digital and financial literacy, youth empowerment, disease prevention and treatment, maternal and child health, human trafficking awareness and prevention, and disaster preparedness and community resilience.**

None of this would be possible without partnership. Nassau Sunrise extends its sincere gratitude to the tremendous network of corporate partners and sponsors whose generosity and confidence in our mission helped make this year's tournament possible. Their support goes far beyond a day on the golf course, it becomes an investment in communities, young people, families, education, health, and hope.

The tournament was also a wonderful demonstration of the Rotary family working together. Members of the **Rotaract Club of Nassau Sunset** joined Nassau Sunrise Rotarians and other volunteers in lending their time and energy throughout the event. Their involvement reflected the strength of Rotary and Rotaract collaboration and our shared commitment to Service Above Self.



The day even created an opportunity to introduce someone new to the Rotary experience. A prospective member joined us, spending time alongside members of Nassau Sunrise and Rotaract Nassau Sunset, experiencing firsthand the fellowship, teamwork, and spirit of service that make our Rotary family special.

From the volunteers who arrived early to the golfers who took to the course, the sponsors who invested in our vision, and every person who contributed behind the scenes, the **7th Annual Sunrise Open** was truly a collective effort.

As the Rotary Club of Nassau Sunrise moves forward from its 25th anniversary milestone, we do so with renewed energy and gratitude. Every swing, every partnership, and every contribution helps us continue doing what Rotary does best, **turning fellowship into service and service into lasting impact.**



ROTARY CLUB OF WEST NASSAU

Committees: Where Ideas Become Action at Rotary Club of West Nassau

At Rotary Club of West Nassau, August's focus wasn't just fellowship — it was function. Under the club's newly adopted Learning and Development Plan for 2026–2027, the month's theme, Club Service and Fellowship, challenged members to look closely at the engine room of every Rotary club: its committees.

Led by Club Learning and Development Facilitator PAG Bryan Knowles, the club's August Learning Bulletin posed a simple but pointed question to every committee chair: "If the committee stopped meeting tomorrow, would the club notice a difference in results?"





It's a question designed to cut through routine. Committees exist, the bulletin explained, to divide responsibility while uniting effort, allowing members to apply their professional skills and interests toward the club's goals, while giving newer members a meaningful way to understand how Rotary works and where they fit in. Done well, committees accomplish two things at once: they advance the club's objectives and grow its members into leaders.

The bulletin outlined a simple cadence for effective committee work: Think, **Plan, Act, Measure, Learn, Improve**. That last step is critical — a committee shouldn't just ask whether a project got finished, but what it accomplished, what was learned, and what should change going forward.

Accountability and teamwork featured prominently as well. Members who accept a committee assignment are relied upon by others, and clarity about who is doing what, and by when, keeps projects from stalling. Strong chairs, the bulletin noted, don't rescue unfinished work themselves; they support members in following through on their own commitments.

Perhaps most forward-looking was the emphasis on succession. "A successful Rotary committee should leave two things behind: results and people capable of producing the next set of results," the bulletin states. Chairs were encouraged to ask themselves regularly, "Who am I preparing to lead after me?", a question that connects directly to the club's broader Learning and Development Plan, which calls for emerging leaders to shadow experienced Rotarians, chair committees, and take on leadership assignments throughout the year

The five characteristics of a successful committee — **clear purpose, annual goals, regular communication, shared responsibility, and celebration of success** — now serve as a working checklist for every committee at West Nassau in the new Rotary year. For a club aiming to build lasting community impact, the message is clear: strong committees don't just meet. They move something forward.

For a club aiming to build lasting community impact, the message is clear: strong committees don't just meet. They move something forward.





ROTARY CLUB OF LIGUANEA PLAINS

Rotary meets Reggae for Membership and New Club Development Month

What does a membership and recruitment event look like when your club has a partnership with a Reggae Artist? It can take the form of a chill evening of live music, laughter, camaraderie and fellowship. That was the colour of our membership and prospect evening made possible through the special invitation from Reggae Artist Hezron, a project partner and friend of the Rotary Club of Liguanea Plains.

Hezron's song "Holding On" is encouragement in the face of adversity. It is a call to action for resilience and fortitude. Written well before the region was devastated by Hurricane Melissa, the title theme was used for RCLP's joint Christmas hurricane relief project with Hezron and the Kiwanis Club of Montego Central. This project

saw us curating personalized Christmas care packages for 19 households comprising 79 individuals from infants to senior citizens. Also, Hezron's song "Save the Children" was used as the title for our other project. This took the form of a school tour to bring awareness about the plight of our children and a call to action to "save the children."

These projects and Hezron's desire to serve his community made a good fit which saw RCLP gaining media coverage and a wider audience that this partnership made possible. On the night in question, it was electric. Drums, bass and vocals filled the air with pulsating music. As we sang and swayed to the rhythms, our members and prospects got an opportunity to learn more about Rotary, the value of meaningful partnerships and the importance of fellowship. The evening highlighted vocational service and demonstrated the value that can come from thinking outside the box. The night introduced new persons to Rotary and provided a sense of purpose to Rotarians. We left re-energized and motivated to continue to serve.





ROTARY CLUB OF PROVIDENCIALES

Painting a New Picture of Rotary: Providenciales Celebrates Membership Month

The Rotary Club of Providenciales embraced the challenge of Membership Month by finding a fresh and creative way to introduce prospective members to Rotary. On August 22, 2026, the club hosted its highly anticipated Sip & Paint – R&B Edition, an evening designed to showcase not only what Rotary does, but also what it feels like to be part of the Rotary family.

Providenciales, while throughout the evening guests learned more about our projects, service initiatives, fellowship, and the benefits of becoming a Rotarian.

The event gave potential members an opportunity to experience Rotary in a relaxed and welcoming environment while connecting directly with existing members. It was a wonderful reminder that Rotary is not only about giving back, it is also about fellowship, friendship, connection, and having fun while creating lasting impact in our communities.

The Sip & Paint was the highlight of an active period for the club. In July, the Rotary Club of Providenciales hosted a successful community yard sale, an initiative that brought Rotarians and members of the community together for a day of bargain hunting, fellowship, and fundraising for a good cause. The response from the community was tremendous, making our first fundraiser of the year a resounding success. From clothing and shoes to household treasures, shoppers came out to support the Club while finding great deals.

The response was tremendous, with more than 60 prospective members, and Rotarians in attendance. From the moment the evening began, the atmosphere was filled with energy, laughter, music, and fellowship.

Led by a talented paint artist and energized by our emcee and DJ, guests enjoyed an interactive painting experience accompanied by their favorite R&B music. Name That Tune, games, raffles, welcome gifts, and plenty of prizes kept the excitement going throughout the evening.

Most importantly, Rotary remained at the heart of the experience. Welcome gift packages included information about the Rotary Club of



Rotarians also rolled up their sleeves for a community clean-up of the Blue Hills Roundabout, demonstrating that service begins with taking pride in the communities we call home. Members came together to clean and beautify the area, combining hands-on service with Rotary fellowship.

As we celebrate Membership Month, our Sip & Paint experience reinforced an important lesson: sometimes growing Rotary means changing the way we introduce people to Rotary. Rather than simply telling prospective members about fellowship, service, and friendship, we gave them an opportunity to experience it firsthand.

For the Rotary Club of Providenciales, the evening was more than a membership event, it was an opportunity to paint a new picture of Rotary: one of service, fellowship, connection, and fun.



ROTARY CLUB OF ELEUTHERA

Launches August Membership Activities Campaign

The Rotary Club of Eleuthera has unveiled an ambitious month-long Membership Activities Campaign aimed at strengthening engagement, building community partnerships, and attracting new members under the theme, **"Together We Connect, Inspire and Transform."**

The initiative, centered around the slogan "Invite One! Change a Life!", features four weeks of activities designed to promote leadership development, learning, fellowship, and community service.

The campaign begins with the formation of new buddy groups and a leadership discussion led by Charter President Shaun Ingraham. Members are also encouraged to complete Rotary Learning Centre courses, adopt local schools, and participate in disaster preparedness meetings.

Week Two includes a town hall meeting at Worker's House focused on a proposed Eleuthera investment project and its potential impact on the island's future. Rotarians will also participate in training and learning activities and community preparedness initiatives.

During Week Three, members will support the induction and growth of the local Rotaract Club, join a virtual meeting with Rotary clubs from Abaco and Eleuthera, and hear from guest speaker PDG Felix Stubbs on the topic **"Membership with Privileges."**

The month culminates in Week Four with a Golden Oldies Night fundraiser and fellowship event, membership proposal

Rotary Club of Eleuthera
Together We Connect, Inspire and Transform.

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

INVITE ONE! CHANGE A LIFE!

WEEK ONE	WEEK TWO	WEEK THREE	WEEK FOUR
6th August 2025 In Person CSE	13th August 2026	17th August 2025 Support Rotaract Club of Eleuthera meeting (& Membership Inductions) – Venue: CSE	27th August 2026 Joint meeting with Rotary Club of Nassau (Topic - TBA)
INVITE ONE! CHANGE A LIFE! FORMATION OF NEW BUDDY GROUPS (begin Buddy Challenge for month of August) Discussion (with Rotarians & Rotaractors)/ Presentation Discussion topic: "Beyond the Badge: A Fresh Look at Leadership – Yesterday's Wisdom, Today's Energy, Tomorrow's Vision" Speaker: Charter President Shaun Ingraham	JOIN TOWN HALL MEETING AT WORKER'S HOUSE: JACOB'S ENTERTAINMENT Proposed Eleuthera Investment – to be part of conversation for the future of the island.	20th August 2026 Weekly Meeting via Zoom (Joint meeting with the Rotary Club of Abaco & Rotaract Club of Eleuthera) Guest Speaker: PDG Felix Stubbs (The title – Membership with Privileges)	28th August 2025 GOLDEN OLDIES NIGHT Venue: South area \$40 cover charge includes 2 drinks
ACTIVITIES: Rotarians to complete at least one course on the Learning Centre during membership month Buddy Group adopt a school Attend Disaster Preparedness Community Meeting Selfie pin Friday	ACTIVITIES: Training and Learning week Rotarians to complete at least one course on the RI Learning Centre (recognition will be given to all participating buddy groups) Rotarians attend Disaster Preparedness Community meeting Selfie pin Friday	ACTIVITIES: Selfie pin Friday Partnership project (TBA) Selfie pin Friday	ACTIVITIES: Membership Proposals Member Appreciation & Fellowship: A night of Fun, games, prizes and more. COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT (Recycling) Assist Red Cross Bottle Drive (this can be a Buddy Challenge – Recognize the group donating most 5 gal bottles)

Stronger Together

Stronger Members • Stronger Club • Greater Impact

presentations, member appreciation activities, and a community recycling project in collaboration with the Bahamas Red Cross. The recycling initiative will encourage members to collect and donate plastic bottles while fostering friendly competition among buddy groups.

Organizers say the program is designed to build stronger connections among members while increasing the club's impact throughout Eleuthera. The campaign highlights Rotary's commitment to service, leadership development, community engagement, and membership growth under the banner: "Stronger Members. Stronger Club. Greater Impact."



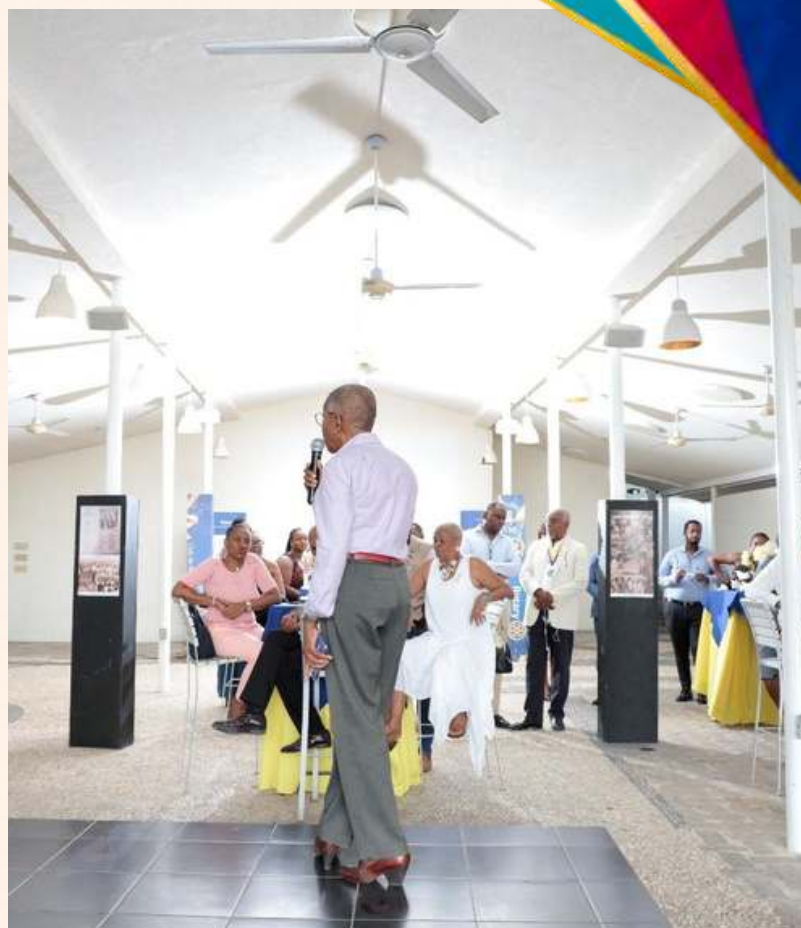
ROTARY CLUB OF PETION VILLE

Rotary Connect: What If It All Begins with a Connection?

Before becoming a Rotarian, Past President Marlène Gay simply encountered Rotary.

Her first contact came through Rot-Alpha, the Rotary Club of Pétion-Ville's literacy program implemented within a private-sector company. That first experience gradually grew into engagement. Over time, PP Marlène became increasingly involved, eventually helping to create the club's Career Guidance and Professional Orientation Fair.

But what transforms a first encounter with Rotary into genuine commitment?



On August 19, PP Marlène shared her story with guests attending Rotary Connect. Among those listening may have been individuals standing at the very beginning of their own Rotary journey. During Membership and Retention Month, the Rotary Club of Pétion-Ville chose to introduce them to Rotary differently: not simply by explaining what Rotary is, but by giving them an opportunity to discover what within Rotary might speak to them personally.

Through an interactive journey exploring Rotary's seven areas of focus, guests discovered the causes that resonated with them. At each stop, questions encouraged them to reflect, exchange ideas, and connect their own values with opportunities for action through Rotary.

Little by little, the discovery became personal.

Conversations with members, complemented by a presentation from Past District Secretary Alain Haspil on Rotary's mission and values, continued over a shared meal. Beyond an organization, guests were discovering a community of people who shared their desire to contribute and make a difference.

Led by Immediate Past President Elizabeth Lafontant, Membership Chair, Rotary Connect is rooted in a simple conviction: growing Rotary is not simply about inviting new people to join. It begins by giving them an opportunity to discover where their passions, values, and desire to serve can find a place.

Years ago, PP Marlène stood at the beginning of that same discovery. Today, she is a Rotarian, sharing her story with others who are beginning to discover theirs.... And for PP Marlène, it all began with an encounter through Rot-Alpha.

And among the guests gathered on August 19, a new Rotary story may have just begun.



ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH EAST NASSAU

Membership: Strengthening Our Rotary Family

Membership strengthens not just a club, but the connections and belonging that make the Rotary Club of South East Nassau (RCSEN) family special, said Membership Director Montgomery Penn.

August's Membership and New Club Development Month featured initiatives on engagement, fellowship, service, wellness and appreciation. This was part of the Club's 50th Anniversary celebration which kicked off in July with recognition of their charter members and past presidents, commemorating the Club's July 19, 1976, charter.

Members also shared their Rotary journeys through the "Why I Am a Rotarian, My Most Impactful Service Project, and the Journey from Rotaract to Rotary" campaign, with short videos on the Club's social media, drawing impressive engagement.

On August 12, Hon. Sebastian J.D. Bastian, Minister of Innovation and New Development, addressed the Club on "The Power of Sovereignty," unaware of the surprise awaiting him. At the close, President Candice Smith and PDG Charles Sealy II inducted him as an Honorary Member for his ties to the Club and commitment to service. President Candice said the honour reflects Rotary's commitment to meaningful partnerships with leaders who share its dedication to service. Sebas reflected on his late father, Edwin "Smiley" Bastian, a cherished member from 1990 who served until his passing in 2011. The Club's annual Steak Out, started by his father, was later named in his honour and has had Sebas' support for years. The son recalled his father teaching him to grill as a boy, and, more importantly, the value of service, pledging to carry that legacy forward. Quoting Muhammad Ali, he said,



Celebrating their 50th Anniversary - the Rotary Club of South East Nassau recognized their charter members and presidents in July 2026 to coincide with the club's charter date of July 19th, 1976. Shown in the photo standing are DG 7020 Lindsey Cancino, PP Reginald Saunder, President Candice Smith, PP Rema Martin, PP Rochelle Wilkinson, PP Marvin Bethell, PP Lillian Russell, PP Frank McGwier, PP Calnan Weech, AG Lionel Haven, PP Ruth Barr-Bethell, PDG Charles Sealy II, PAG Karen Pinder and PAG Timothy N. Ingraham. Seated are charter members PP Henry Rusty Scates, PP Denny Curry, PP Larry Roberts; and PP David Moncur. Photo by Azaleta Ishmael-Newry.

"Service is the rent that we pay for our time here on earth." He took part in the August 15 Steak Out, mixing the secret sauce and grilling alongside fellow Rotarians.

On August 19, the "Bring a Friend to a Rotary Meeting" invited prospective members to experience Rotary firsthand. Another surprise came when Director Montgomery slotted a former Rotarian to lead a panel discussion, "Roots, Resilience and Renewal." Afterward, the moderator shared that the experience had reignited the spark that first drew him to Rotary. Director Montgomery replied that he knew the right club and moment would spark that "renewal."

Sick and Shut-In Outreach and Wellness and Membership Check-Ins coordinated with the Wellness Director Colin Jupp were done through visits, calls and acts of care. A new Board of Directors Pair System with the Rotaract Club of South East Centennial will support mentorship and the pathway from Rotaract to Rotary. Lastly, two families of Rotarians received wreaths f

or the funerals of late members Zorene Curry, 79, and Ralph Barnett, 95 who joined the club in 2009 and 1983 and offered exemplary service to their club and community.



New Honourary Member (right) the Hon. Sebastian J.D. Bastian, Minister of Innovation and New Development and son of the RCSEN member, the late Edwin "Smiley" Bastian (1990-2022) received his certificate, Rotary pin and 50th Anniversary Pin from President Candice Smith (left). Photo by Azaleta Ishmael-Newry.

Rotary 



ROTARY CLUB OF OLD FORT

Membership In Motion at RCOF

Throughout August, the Rotary Club of Old Fort celebrated Rotary International's Membership and New Club Development Month through a purposeful blend of leadership conversations, member engagement, fellowship and community service.

The month began on August 5 with Past Assistant Governor Deidree Bain-Toote presenting "If Not Us...Then Who?" Her thought-provoking message challenged members to recognize their individual and collective responsibility to lead, serve and create meaningful change within their communities.

On August 19, Patrice G. Taylor, CEO of Hephzibah HR Training & Development, delivered "More Fellowship, More Change." She explored how strong relationships within Rotary can improve collaboration, strengthen the member experience and increase the effectiveness of service projects. The

meeting concluded with Assistant Governor Lionel Haven inducting the Club's newest Rotarian, Shanae Smith, marking an exciting moment of membership growth.

The Membership Committee also launched the RCOF Membership Engagement Challenge 2026-2027, a fun and friendly competition designed to encourage participation, strengthen fellowship and inspire members to become more engaged throughout the Rotary year. The Challenge's first activity, "The Amazing Race," was held on August 22. Members worked in teams to follow clues and complete tasks during an afternoon filled with teamwork, camaraderie and spirited competition.



The month concluded with double the community impact on August 29 with two service initiatives. At the Annual Gambier Back-to-School Jam, the Club partnered with the Rotary Club of West Nassau, Rotaract Club of The University of The



Rotary 

Bahamas, Hon. Michaela Barnett-Ellis and Esso On the Run. Families received school supplies and healthy food while enjoying games, prizes and other activities for over 300 students in the community.

Also on August 29, RCOF joined as a community partner for the Vitamalt Back-to-School Giveaway at Windsor Park on Wulff Road. This free, fun-filled event provided food, giveaways and family entertainment while helping students prepare confidently for the new school year.

Through leadership, fellowship and hands-on service, the Rotary Club of Old Fort demonstrated that an engaged membership is central to building stronger clubs, supporting communities and creating lasting impact.



ROTARY CLUB OF ST. CROIX HARBORSIDE

Membership Meeting: Getting to Know Our Members

The Rotary Club of Harborside held an engaging membership meeting focused on building stronger connections and growing our club. The theme was simple but meaningful: getting to know the person behind the Rotary pin.

Members enjoyed hearing personal stories from Sekou Richardson, Past President Sandra Gerard Leung, Rotarian Marcelino Ventura, and Past President Alicia Churaman, who shared their journeys, careers, families, and reasons for becoming Rotarians.

Sekou Richardson shared his inspiring military journey, from joining the District of Columbia National Guard in 1988 and serving during Operation Desert Storm

to becoming a military police officer and commissioned officer. He also spoke about supporting the Washington, D.C. response following 9/11. Today, Sekou serves as Chief Operations Officer at University of the Virgin Islands RT Park. He expressed how much he values Rotary and the positive impact of its members on the community.

Past President Sandra Gerard, a 10th-generation Crucian and respected culture bearer, spoke passionately about her commitment to preserving Virgin Islands culture and history. As Chair of the Saint Croix Council of Elders and Co-Chair of the Virgin Islands AIDS Program, Sandra continues to make a difference in the community. She also shared her family's long connection to Rotary, making her involvement in the organization especially meaningful.

Rotarian Marcelino took members through his family's journey from Vieques to St. Croix and shared highlights from his military and firefighting career. After rising to Deputy Chief of Operations with the Virgin Islands Fire Services, he



continued serving others through mentoring young men and working with the Caribbean Fire Chiefs Association. His dedication to service naturally led him to Rotary.

Past President Alicia shared her experiences as a marathon runner and connected the lessons of running-discipline, perseverance, commitment, and never giving up-to the importance of staying engaged and committed to Rotary.

Strengthening Our Club

Featured guest speaker Janelle Bryant, District 7020 Membership Chair, brought energy and enthusiasm to the meeting. Through an interactive game, she challenged members to think about why people join Rotary, why they stay, and what makes them feel welcomed and valued.

Janelle also introduced the first pillar of a strong Rotary club: Structure. She highlighted the importance of understanding our bylaws, strategic plan, and other key club documents.

The meeting was more than a membership discussion-it was an opportunity to connect, learn, laugh,

and appreciate the incredible people who make Harborside Rotary special.

As the evening demonstrated, strong clubs are built not only on projects, but on relationships, belonging, and a genuine commitment to service.



ROTARY CLUB OF ST. MARTIN SUNRISE

Building Membership Through Fellowship, Service, and Community

The Rotary Club of St. Martin Sunrise recently hosted a successful Membership Drive at Divan Café, welcoming prospective members and community-minded individuals to a morning dedicated to fellowship, learning, and service.

The event gave guests an opportunity to experience the Rotary spirit firsthand and learn more about the organization's mission, values, and impact locally and internationally. The morning began with an introduction to the structure and traditions of a Rotary meeting, offering prospective members insight into how the club operates and how Rotarians work together to address community needs.

A highlight of the event was an informative presentation by Membership Chair Valda Hazel, who shared an overview of Rotary's global presence and longstanding commitment to humanitarian service. She explained how Rotary brings together people from different professions, backgrounds, and communities who share a desire to create positive and sustainable change.

Hazel also highlighted several projects and initiatives of the Rotary Club of St.





Martin Sunrise, demonstrating the club's commitment to charitable, educational, youth, wellness, and community-focused service. Guests learned that Rotary is about much more than attending meetings. At its heart, Rotary is built on fellowship, friendship, leadership, professional connections, and Service Above Self.

The event was further enhanced by the presence of Past District Governor Louis Wever and Amanda Wever. James Park of the Rotary Club of St. Maarten was also in attendance, reinforcing the spirit of collaboration and fellowship among Rotary members and clubs throughout the island.

Held in the welcoming atmosphere of Divan Café, the Membership Drive encouraged open conversation between current Rotarians and prospective members. Guests were able to ask questions, exchange ideas, and gain a genuine sense of the camaraderie within the club.

The response from prospective members was very encouraging. Several guests expressed strong interest in the work of the Rotary Club of St. Martin Sunrise and in becoming more

involved. A few prospective members will be joining the club's next General Meeting on August 25, 2026, providing another opportunity to experience Rotary in action, connect with members, and continue learning about the path to membership.

Membership growth remains an important priority for the club. New members bring fresh perspectives, talents, professional experience, energy, and ideas, while strengthening the club's ability to expand its outreach and undertake meaningful service projects.

The Rotary Club of St. Martin Sunrise extends its sincere appreciation to everyone who attended and supported the Membership Drive. The event reflected what makes Rotary special: people coming together through fellowship and service with a shared commitment to making a difference.

As the club continues to grow, it looks forward to welcoming new members who share its passion for community service and to creating lasting, positive impact throughout St. Maarten and beyond.



ROTARY E-CLUB DELMAS CENTRE

Conference as Part of Membership Month

As part of **Membership Month**, the **Rotary E-Club of Delmas-Centre** organized a conference focused on an issue that is essential to the vitality and sustainability of every Rotary organization: **member attraction, engagement, and retention.**

The session was facilitated by **PAG Eve Jean Baptiste Brown**, who delivered an insightful presentation on the theme: **“Membership: The Foundation, Strength, and Future of Rotary.”** Through her intervention, she reminded participants that the strength of a club does not depend solely on the number of its members, but above all on their level of involvement, their sense of belonging, and their willingness to actively contribute to Rotary’s mission.

During the conference, PAG Brown particularly emphasized the need for clubs to develop appropriate strategies to **attract new members**, while also paying close attention to those who are already part of the Rotary family. Recruitment is certainly an important step, but knowing how to welcome, integrate, value, and retain members is equally critical.

The discussions also highlighted that a truly engaged member is one who finds their place within the club, understands their role, feels heard, and has opportunities to contribute meaningfully to activities and decision-making. Keeping that engagement alive therefore requires regular communication, genuine fellowship, recognition of members’ efforts, and activities that strengthen relationships within the club.

The conference provided a valuable opportunity to reflect on the practices that clubs can adopt to build a more dynamic, inclusive, and sustainable membership. It

also reinforced the idea that retention should not be viewed merely as an administrative concern, but rather as the result of a positive and meaningful Rotary experience.

The meeting was marked by rich and educational exchanges, filled with emotion, fellowship, and camaraderie. We were also pleased to welcome several members from different **Rotary and Rotaract clubs** and external guests, whose presence and contributions greatly enriched the discussions.

The **Rotary E-Club of Delmas-Centre** extends its sincere appreciation to PAG Eve Jean Baptiste Brown for the quality of her presentation, as well as to all participants for their presence and valuable contributions. Together, let us continue to make membership a true foundation for our service, a source of strength for our clubs, and an investment in the future of Rotary.



MORE STORIES ON MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH

01

ROTARY CLUB OF KINGSTON

Sip, Write &
Prosper: My Story.
My Dreams. My
Next Chapter

02

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH OCEAN

Donates Bundles of
Love to the Princess
Margaret Hospital

03

ROTARY CLUB OF LES CAYES

Placing Maternal
and Child Health at
The Heart of Service

04

ROTARY CLUB OF SINT MAARTEN-MID ISLE

\$600 to Foundation
Judicial &
Institutional
Services (J&IS)

05

ROTARY CLUB OF PORT-AU- PRINCE CHAMP DE MARS

A Protected Mother,
a Healthy Future:
When Rotary Brings
Health to Life at
Canapé Vert

06

ROTARY CLUB OF PORT-AU- PRINCE

When Solidarity
Meets the First
Moments of Life





ROTARY CLUB OF KINGSTON

Sip, Write & Prosper: *My Story. My Dreams. My Next Chapter*

Last year, in recognition of Maternal and Child Health Month in July, the Rotary Club of Kingston continued its commitment to supporting young mothers and their children through the provision of much-needed personal care items, baby supplies, and other forms of assistance. The ongoing support reflects the Club's belief that caring for mothers and children extends beyond a single initiative and requires encouragement, practical assistance and opportunities for young families to thrive.

Against this background, The Rotary Club of Kingston hosted "Sip, Write & Prosper: My Story. My Dreams. My Next Chapter," a 60-minute motivational and vision-building session designed to inspire and empower teen mothers to reflect on their journeys, recognise their achievements, and envision a positive future.

The event was held in Kingston at the Women's Centre of Jamaica Foundation. The session brought together 28 teen mothers in a warm, engaging, and celebratory environment. The programme was designed to move

beyond traditional motivational presentations, creating a safe space where participants could share, reflect, dream, and connect with others navigating similar experiences.

Presentations were delivered by Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Kingston, including Director Ruth Cummings, Director Ashley Sinclair Munroe, Secretary Shana-Kaye Gooden, Past President Ryan Strachan, Rotarian Marcine Taylor Brown and Rotarian Sherika Kidd. Through personal reflections, practical guidance, encouragement, and interactive conversations, the presenters challenged the young women to recognise their strengths and consider the possibilities that lie ahead.

A central message of the session was the importance of continuing their education and setting clear personal and professional goals. Participants were encouraged to acknowledge how far they had already come while understanding that motherhood did not have to limit their aspirations. Instead, it could serve as a source of motivation to build a better future for themselves and their children.

The "Write" component encouraged participants to put their thoughts, dreams, and goals on paper, helping them to begin defining their next chapter. The session also emphasized the value of community and support, reminding the young mothers that they were not alone in their journey.

The participation of 28 young mothers demonstrated the relevance and importance of initiatives that provide encouragement, mentorship, and opportunities for personal development.

For the Rotary Club of Kingston, "Sip, Write & Prosper" represented more than a single event. It reflected the Club's commitment to investing in young people, strengthening communities, and creating opportunities for individuals to realise their potential. The session concluded with a renewed





sense of possibility, confidence, and hope, encouraging each young mother to believe in her story, embrace her dreams, and boldly write her next chapter.



ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH OCEAN

Donates Bundles of Love to the Princess Margaret Hospital

The first in-person meeting for the Rotary Club of South Ocean (RCSO) of the 2026 - 2027 Rotary Year took place on Thursday 16 July 2026 and featured Paediatrician and Neonatologist Dr. Carlos O. Thomas, who spoke on 'Collaboration to Strengthen Maternal and Child Health'.



With a full house in attendance, members and friends also had the opportunity to participate in the Bundles of Love project. In line with the Rotary's theme for July, Maternal and Child Health, the purpose of the project was to prepare care packages, Bundles of Love, for new mothers at the Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) on New Providence. Meeting attendees carefully curated the packages, filled with essentials for both mother and newborn, along with a thoughtful note lined with encouragement for the new chapter in the family's life.

The following week, on Tuesday 21 July, under the leadership of President Andia Delancy, members of RCSO donated fifty care packages to the Maternity Ward at PMH. This project reflects RCSO's shared commitment to supporting mothers and giving newborns a caring start to life's journey.



ROTARY CLUB OF LES CAYES

Placing Maternal and Child Health at The Heart of Service

To mark Mother and Child Health Month, the Rotary Club of Les Cayes organized a conference in July dedicated to a key public health issue, with the participation of Dr. Claude Abner Pubien.

A theme at the heart of Rotary's mission — Maternal and child health is one of Rotary's key areas of focus. Through this conference, the Rotary Club of Les Cayes aimed to create a space for discussion, awareness-raising, and reflection on issues that directly affect families and communities. This initiative is fully aligned with Rotary's commitment to transforming awareness into meaningful and lasting action.





ROTARY CLUB OF SINT MAARTEN-MID ISLE

\$600 to Foundation Judicial & Institutional Services (J&IS)

Philipsburg, Sint Maarten – The Rotary Club of Sint Maarten-Mid Isle has reaffirmed its commitment to community service and youth development through a financial contribution of \$600 to Foundation Judicial & Institutional Services (J&IS). The donation was made in response to a request for assistance to help provide school uniforms and educational supplies for vulnerable children in the community.

As families continue to face economic challenges, access to essential school necessities remains a concern for many households. This contribution will help ensure that children supported by J&IS are equipped with the uniforms and supplies they need to begin the academic year with confidence and dignity.

The Rotary Club of Sint Maarten-Mid Isle recognizes that education is a powerful tool for personal growth and social development. By assisting children with the basic resources required for school, the Club aims to help remove barriers to learning and promote equal opportunities for success.

"Every child deserves the opportunity to attend school feeling prepared and confident," said a representative of the Rotary Club of Sint Maarten-Mid Isle. "Supporting initiatives that directly impact the well-being and educational development of our youth aligns with Rotary's commitment to serving communities and creating positive change."

Foundation Judicial & Institutional Services expressed its gratitude for the timely support, noting that partnerships with community organizations play a vital role in helping meet the needs of vulnerable children and families.



A moment of learning and dialogue —

Led by Dr. Claude Abner Pubien, the meeting allowed participants to come together around the theme of maternal and child health. The presence of club members, participants, and guests fostered an open dialogue on the importance of prevention, information, and access to quality care for mothers and children.

Raising awareness to improve action —

More than just a conference, this activity serves as a reminder that a better-informed community is better prepared to recognize the needs of women and children and to seek appropriate resources. For the Rotary Club of Les Cayes, this type of initiative also represents an opportunity to mobilize members around a cause that requires the collaboration of healthcare professionals, families, institutions, and the entire community.

Creating a Lasting Impact —

This conference illustrates how the Rotary Club of Les Cayes intends to bring its areas of focus to life at the local level: bringing together skills, stimulating reflection, and encouraging actions that can contribute sustainably to the well-being of communities. By highlighting maternal and child health, the club reaffirms its commitment to serving its community and contributing, at its level, to a society where every mother and child can benefit from better care and improved healthcare opportunities.



"We are sincerely grateful to the Rotary Club of Sint Maarten-Mid Isle for their generous donation," said a representative of J&IS. "This contribution will directly benefit children who require assistance obtaining school uniforms and supplies, helping them start the school year on the right foot."

The donation reflects the shared commitment of both organizations to promoting the welfare of children and supporting initiatives that strengthen the community. Through collaboration and community engagement, meaningful assistance can be provided to those who need it most.



ROTARY CLUB OF PORT-AU-PRINCE CHAMP DE MARS

A Protected Mother, a Healthy Future: When Rotary Brings Health to Life at Canapé Vert

On July 31, 2026, the Rotary Club of Port-au-Prince Champ de Mars fulfilled its historic commitment to maternal and child health by providing financial and institutional support to the "A Protected Mother, a

Healthy Future" project. Led on the ground by the Port-au-Prince Champ de Mars Rotaract Club, this mobile clinic project took place at the Canapé Vert, providing free care to highly vulnerable mothers and children.

A Strategic Partnership for Tangible Results

Thanks to the humanitarian vision of the Rotary Club of Port-au-Prince Champ de Mars, the Rotaract team set up a temporary medical clinic in the heart of a high-need neighborhood in the capital. The Rotaract Club handled logistical coordination, mobilized beneficiaries, and carried out the activities, with technical support from dedicated volunteer healthcare professionals. This synergy between the two clubs made it possible to optimize resources and maximize impact on the ground.

The initiative directly reached 23 priority beneficiaries—including 11 pregnant women and 12 nursing mothers—while providing medical consultations to a total of 90 women and 22 children aged 0 to 17. These figures demonstrate the effectiveness of the community-based approach adopted by the Rotary family.



Community-Based Care for Mothers and Children

Two priority components were implemented during the day:

- **Maternal component:** Pregnant women received comprehensive prenatal care, including blood pressure checks, nutritional counseling, and the distribution of iron and folic acid supplements. Breastfeeding mothers received guidance on breastfeeding, hygiene, and warning signs.
- **Child health component:** Children underwent growth assessments. Systematic deworming was administered, along with vitamin A supplementation, in accordance with the standards of the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPH).

A measurable commitment that offers hope

Beyond the statistics, this day embodied the Rotary spirit of service. The Rotary Club of Port-au-Prince Champ de Mars, as a sponsor and major partner, helped turn this vision into concrete action. Every medical service provided represented a valuable step toward safe childbirth.



Outlook: A Long-Term Commitment to Vulnerable Communities

The team from the Rotary Club of Port-au-Prince Champ de Mars plans to make this initiative sustainable. The goal is to replicate this model in other vulnerable areas and to train “Health Sentinels”—local representatives capable of continuing to raise awareness within camps for displaced persons to reduce maternal and infant mortality in Haiti.



ROTARY CLUB OF PORT-AU-PRINCE

When Solidarity Meets the First Moments of Life

On Friday, July 31, around 2 p.m., at the maternity ward of Eliazard Germain Hospital, about fifteen women were experiencing one of the most intense moments of their lives. Some had just given birth, while others were still waiting, caught between the pains of labor and the anticipation of finally seeing their babies. A few were preparing to undergo a cesarean section.





It was in this deeply emotional atmosphere that members of the Rotary Club of Port-au-Prince — IPP Chacha, Kesnel, Lud, Michaëlle, Dadie, PP Clertida ... — came to meet them. They were not simply there for a visit; they came to offer support, comfort, and solidarity.

They brought blankets, towels, baby layettes, bottle-washing kits, and 10-kilogram bags of rice. These were simple and practical gifts, yet especially meaningful for families welcoming a new child.

Beyond the donations, the visit was also an opportunity for conversation and awareness. PP Clertida, a pediatrician, spoke with the mothers about the importance of exclusive breastfeeding. She explained the many benefits of breast milk for both newborns and mothers, as well as the importance of hygiene and keeping baby-feeding accessories clean to help prevent infections. She also emphasized that, whenever circumstances allow, breast milk should remain the first choice, while infant formula can serve as an alternative when necessary.

Then came the words that matter: "Congratulations!" Congratulations on the arrival of a new life, on the birth of a child, and, for some, on embracing a new identity — that of a mother.



Smiles appeared on the mothers' faces. They expressed their gratitude, and some agreed to pose with the delegation, capturing these precious moments of sharing and connection.

For a few hours, the hospital became more than a place of medical care. It became a space where birth and solidarity came together — a moment in which the Rotarians reminded these new mothers that they were not alone.

When the delegation departed, it left behind essential supplies, but above all, a gesture of kindness, valuable advice, and a sincere presence.

Because solidarity does not always require great actions. Sometimes, it simply means being there, at the right moment, when a new life begins.



I AM RAISING FOR
**PEACE-
BUILDING
& CONFLICT
PREVENTION**



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**WORLD
FUND**



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I AM RAISING FOR
**DISASTER
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RAISE FOR **ROTARY**

FUNDRAISE FOR THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Raise for Rotary is The Rotary Foundation's online peer-to-peer fundraising tool that allows you to raise money for the PolioPlus Fund, Disaster Response Fund, World Fund, or your favorite area of focus. Create a fundraiser to mark a special event or athletic challenge, then share with your social networks so others can help you do good in the world!

Start your fundraiser at
rotary.org/raise

The
Rotary
Foundation





TRUSTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Care without borders

As I sat beside my father in the hospital, listening to the quiet rhythm of machines that now spoke more steadily than his own voice, life felt stripped down to its essentials. Serious illness has a way of doing that. It reveals what matters most, and it reminds us — sometimes gently, sometimes painfully — of what should matter to all of us.

My father was facing advanced cancer. The path was uneven and often cruel, yet even in that difficult space I was struck by a simple truth: Every person, everywhere, deserves access to care that honors their dignity. Not just treatment but compassion. Not just medicine but the assurance that their life holds value.

Watching nurses move with practiced grace and doctors offer both honesty and hope, I was struck by the thought that millions will never experience this level of support. Not because their lives matter less but because access to care remains uneven across countries and communities. This is not a political argument; it is a human one.

Every family deserves the same chance at healing. Through my years in Rotary, I have come to understand that The Rotary Foundation shows us how this belief is shared across cultures and nations.

At a time when international development funding for disease prevention and treatment is contracting, vital health projects risk losing momentum. Our Foundation — and you, our members — provide the community-driven support needed to keep that from happening.

We are funding vaccines in Pakistan, training health workers in Mozambique, and strengthening fragile health systems in Guatemala. Through the Foundation, international cooperation is not an abstract ideal. It is a responsibility, achievable when people choose to act with generosity, partnership, and shared humanity. I am so proud of our collective leadership.

Sitting there, holding my father's hand as he drifted in and out of sleep, I was reminded of how fragile and precious life is. The measure of a just world is not found in its wealth or its power but in how fiercely it protects the vulnerable.

My father's fight was personal; sadly, he died in June. But the fight for equitable, compassionate health care that honors every life equally is universal. It belongs to all of us. Through your generosity and commitment to our Foundation — and through the simple act of caring across borders — we move closer to a world where no one is left behind.

JENNIFER JONES
Foundation Trustee Chair

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

First The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

Second High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

Third The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

Fourth The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

THE FOUR WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be *beneficial* to all concerned?

MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

All members (Rotarians and Rotaractors) are expected to:

1. Act with integrity and high ethical standards in their personal and professional lives.
2. Treat others fairly by using respectful language, being supportive, fostering a welcoming environment, and honoring all individual member characteristics.
3. Use their professional skills through Rotary to improve people's quality of life in their own communities and elsewhere in the world.
4. Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotary members.
5. Follow all codes of conduct for any Rotary-related event.

DISTRICT

WHAT'S UP!

NEWS & EVENTS

HIGHLIGHTING OUR MOMENTS. CELEBRATING OUR
PEOPLE, BUILDING A STRONGER TOMORROW.



READ MORE >

Rotary
Club of South East Nassau



50 YEARS AND BEYOND

Gala

Celebrating a
Golden Legacy
of Service!

SAT | 19 | SEPTEMBER | 2026

The Balmoral Club | Sandford Drive | Nassau, Bahamas

Cocktails 7:00 PM | Dinner and Program 8:00 PM

Dinner | Dancing | Prizes

Tickets \$150.00

More info: (242) 359-0472



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DISTRICT 7020 VOCATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE 2026-2027

We are pleased to introduce the members of the District 7020 Vocational Service Committee for the 2026–2027 Rotary year. This dynamic team brings together creativity, technical expertise, and strategic insight to help strengthen professional connections across our District, showcase the businesses and expertise of our Rotarians, and create opportunities to learn from and support one another. We believe that when Rotarians thrive, they are better positioned to serve others.

Committee Members:



PAG Valentino Hamilton
Rotary Club of South Ocean,
Bahamas (Committee Chair)



PP Johnae Moss
Rotary Club of Central Cayman
Islands, Cayman Islands



Celia Middleton
Rotary Club of Central Cayman
Islands, Cayman Islands



PP Trisha Harris
Rotary Club of St Croix
Harbourside, St. Croix



PAG Alain Haspitl
Rotary Club of
Petionville, Haiti



PADRR Camron Reckley
Rotaract Club of East Nassau,
Bahamas

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Plans for the Year

Digital or Hard Copy “Who’s Who” Rotary Directory – A resource highlighting key Rotarian contacts and their vocations throughout District 7020.

Quarterly Vocational Service Webinars – The Vocational Webinars will be held to provide skills and training for Rotarians, helping them develop meaningful vocational service initiatives. Examples include webinars on the use of **AI, financial investment, and entrepreneurship**.

Promotion of Career Fairs and Vocational Service Awards – Encouraging clubs to host career fairs for students and to recognize outstanding individuals who exemplify service through their professions.

You will be hearing from us over the coming months as we advance these initiatives and share opportunities for your clubs to promote and elevate vocational service.

DISTRICT 7020 PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY

From Recognition to Commitment: Six Rotarians Step Forward

Three District 7020 clubs show how sustained generosity turns compassion into lasting action

By John Laramore, District 7020 Paul Harris Society Coordinator

Since July 1, 2026, six District 7020 members made that belief an annual commitment. Grand Cayman Sunrise welcomed Laura Oseland, Nanalie Solomon-Cover, and Edward Harper to the Paul Harris Society; Pétion-Ville welcomed Marlène Gay and Staphie Withney Jeanty; and Central Tortola welcomed Ravindra Maywahlall.

MORE THAN A MILESTONE

A Paul Harris Fellow recognizes cumulative eligible giving of US\$1,000. Paul Harris Society membership is a continuing commitment to contribute at least US\$1,000 during every Rotary year. Reliable annual support helps Rotary provide clean water, fight polio, advance health and education, build peace, and help communities recover from disasters.

THE STORIES BEHIND THE GIVING

Grand Cayman Sunrise began the year with remarkable momentum. President Laura Oseland explained:

"I have become a Paul Harris Society member because I believe in the great work we do together and the lasting impact the Foundation has on the lives of people in our District."

In Haiti, PP Marlène Gay has served the Rotary Club de Pétion-Ville since 2002, holding roles including president, treasurer, and secretary. She now supports vocational education and serves on the HANWASH board. Guided by faith and the conviction that service must become concrete action, she joined the Society to help sustain work that transforms communities.



PRESIDENT LAURA OSELAND

Rotary Club of Grand Cayman Sunrise



NANALIE SOLOMON-COVER

Rotary Club of Grand Cayman Sunrise

Staphie's path began at home, caring from childhood for her brother, who lives with mental health challenges. The experience taught her that small acts can bring comfort and hope. She joined Rotaract Pétion-Ville in 2021, Rotary in 2024, and now the Paul Harris Society: "For me, giving is not only about money. It is about believing in service."

At Central Tortola, Ravindra Maywahlall added the sixth commitment. After giving for several years, he chose to formalize his yearly support through Paul Harris Society membership - turning an established practice into a dependable promise.

WILL YOU BE NEXT?

If you are a Paul Harris Fellow, could your milestone become an annual commitment? US\$1,000 a year is approximately US\$83.34 monthly, and Rotary Direct can make giving manageable through automatic contributions.

The Society is not simply about a certificate or chevron. Those symbols represent something greater: a personal promise to keep doing good in the world.

To join these six Rotarians or learn more, contact your Club Foundation Chair or the District 7020 Paul Harris Society Coordinator.

One commitment can fund opportunity.

One commitment can restore hope.

One commitment can change a life.

Let yours be the next.

CONNECTED BY THE CARIBBEAN, UNITED IN SERVICE

When we think about Rotary membership, we often think locally: people who live and work in the same community, gather in the same room, and join together to address needs close to home. The Rotary E-Club of the Caribbean 7020, chartered in August 2013, offers another model of what a Rotary community can be.

Our members may be separated by countries, borders, and time zones, but we share something powerful: a connection to the Caribbean and a commitment to Service Above Self. Technology allows



EDWARD HARPER
Rotary Club of Grand Cayman Sunrise



PP MARLÈNE GAY
Rotary Club de Pétion-Ville



STAPHIE WITHNEY JEANTY
Rotary Club de Pétion-Ville



us to gather online, but it is that shared identity and purpose that makes us a club.

That distinction matters for membership and club development.

For an eClub, geography does not have to define the boundaries of membership. A prospective Rotarian with Caribbean roots or connections may live in Miami, Toronto, London, New York, or thousands of miles farther away. Relocation does not necessarily mean leaving behind either Rotary or one's connection to the Caribbean. An eClub can provide a Rotary home wherever life happens to take us.

That creates extraordinary opportunities for membership development.

We can invite people into Rotary who might never consider joining a traditional club because of travel, work schedules, family responsibilities, or distance. We can reconnect with former Caribbean residents who still care deeply about the region. And we can bring together people whose experiences and networks span the globe.

But membership development is about more than recruitment. It is also about creating a club in which people want to remain.

Distance makes intentional engagement especially important. When members cannot sit together each week, we must find other ways to build relationships. Members need

opportunities to contribute their expertise, participate meaningfully in projects, share what is happening in their communities, and get to know one another beyond the business of club meetings.

So, our club's geographic diversity has become one of our greatest strengths!

A member living outside the Caribbean can introduce new partners, resources, ideas, and perspectives to a project within the region. Another member can participate in Rotary service where they currently live while sharing the experience with the club. Together, our individual networks become a global network connected to Caribbean service.

The future of Rotary membership may depend, in part, on expanding our understanding of what it means to belong to a club. Belonging does not require sharing the same postal code. It requires shared purpose, meaningful relationships, and opportunities to serve.

As members of District 7020's E-Club, distance may define where we live, but it does not define where we belong. Our connection to the Caribbean brings us together; our commitment to service gives that connection purpose.

Rotary



DISTRICT 7020 CLUB OF THE MONTH CHALLENGE COMMITTEE 2026-2027

Transforming Lives Through Focused Action: The Power of Rotary's Areas of Focus

Rotary International stands as a beacon of hope across the globe, transforming lives through dedicated service and unwavering commitment. From our historic journey toward eradicating polio to creating sustainable solutions in local communities, Rotary continues to prove that united action creates lasting change. At the heart of this impact are our seven Areas of Focus and the monthly themes that guide our collective mission.

When a Rotary club aligns its service projects with Rotary's primary causes—promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, supporting education, saving mothers and children, growing local economies, and protecting the environment—it taps into a global framework designed for maximum effectiveness. Integrating the monthly designated themes into club programming further amplifies this impact. Focusing on specific priorities like Membership in August or Basic Education in September creates a unified global momentum. This strategic approach helps clubs address urgent local needs—such as providing access to clean water, improving sanitation, and fostering peace and conflict resolution—while ensuring our efforts resonate with Rotary's overall strategic vision.

Every project completed by a club, whether a large-scale sanitation drive, a community health clinic, or a youth peace workshop, represents a life changed. However, the story of our collective impact is only complete when it is shared.

This is why reporting and celebrating our work is so crucial. Clubs are strongly encouraged to submit their completed projects between the 1st and 5th of every month. Timely submissions do more than just complete administrative requirements; they build healthy engagement across our district, inspire neighboring clubs, and allow us to honor and celebrate the remarkable achievements of our winners.

By actively connecting local projects to Rotary's global areas of focus and sharing our success stories each month, we do not simply serve—we inspire, grow, and demonstrate to the world how Rotary changes lives every single day. Let us continue to serve with passion, report with pride, and celebrate our shared victories!

READ MORE >

DISTRICT 7020 CLUB OF THE MONTH CHALLENGE COMMITTEE 2026-2027

Committee Members:



PAG Magrette Georges

Rotary Club of Cap-Haitien
(Committee Chair)



PP Jacqui Heyliger

Rotary Club of Saint-Croix Mid Isle
(Committee Co-Chair)



PAG Marcellia Henry

Rotary Club of
St. Martin Sunrise



PAG Peta-Gay Pryce

Rotary Club of
New Kingston



PP Karelle DaCosta

Rotary Club of
Grand Cayman
Sunrise



PP Leah Lowe

Rotary Club of
South East Nassau



PP Jacquie Gibson

Rotary Club of
Eleuthera



DS Nikki Lockhart

Rotary Club of
Old Fort



DS Ruth Bethell

Rotary Club of
South East Nassau



Rotaractor Taisha Dieuseul

Rotaract Club of
Cap-Haitien

DISTRICT DESIGNATED FUNDS (DDF)

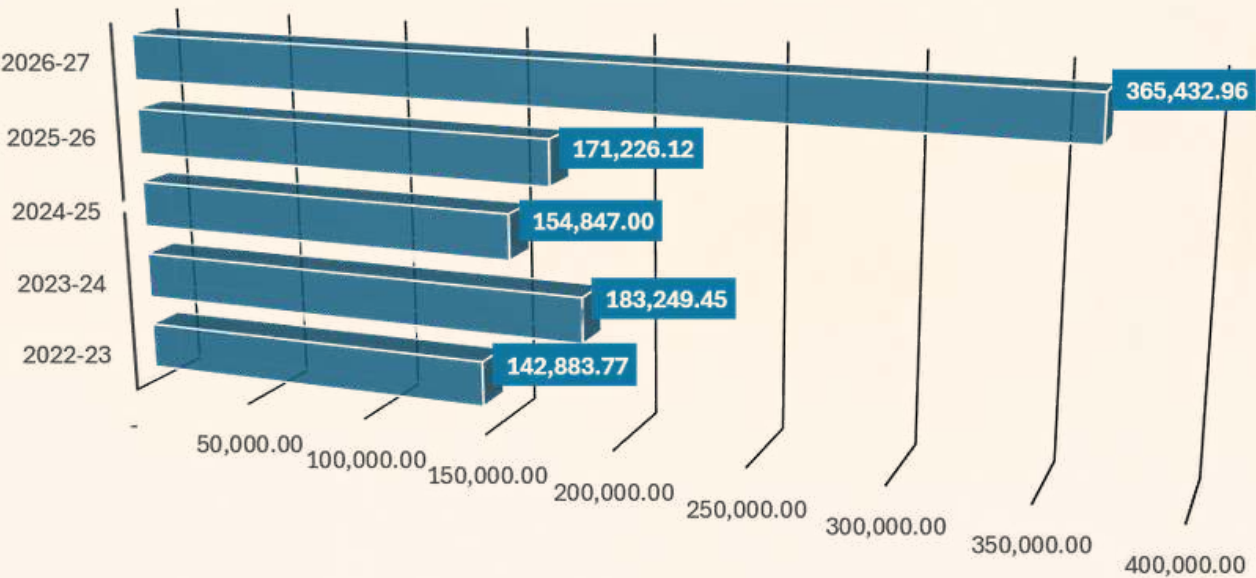
A Unique Opportunity to Create Lasting Impact

The 2026-27 Rotary year presents an exceptional opportunity for qualified clubs throughout District 7020. The District has approximately US\$365,433 in District Designated Funds (DDF)available—more than double the amount available in 2025-26 and nearly twice the highest total of the previous four years.

These increased resources give clubs a remarkable opportunity to expand their service through District Grants and Global Grants. By combining strong project ideas, community partnerships and Rotary Foundation funding, our clubs can undertake larger, more sustainable initiatives that address important needs and create lasting impact across our communities and beyond.

Now is the time for clubs to identify needs, develop meaningful projects and take full advantage of this unprecedented level of DDF support. Remember, it is never too late to become qualified to participate in Rotary grants!

TOTAL DDF ADDED FOR THE YEAR



[READ MORE >](#)



HANWASH

Haiti National Water, Sanitation
and Hygiene Initiative

THAT DAY WAS A GOOD DAY!



*Congratulations, Cavaillon.
That day was your day!*

- 1 In July partners and community leaders gathered in Cavaillon, Haiti, to officially inaugurate the city's rehabilitated drinking water system.
- 2 Cavaillon's original water infrastructure dates back to 1983 and has undergone several periods of rehabilitation. This latest chapter included major improvements to the network, solar-powered pumping, new piping, and strengthened local management.
- 3 **The result is significant:** more than 7,000 people now have access to safe water for approximately eight hours each day, compared with only a few hours before. But today was about more than infrastructure. Speaker after speaker emphasized that the system belongs to the community and that its future depends on local leadership, responsible management, and residents paying their water bills so it can be maintained and sustained.
- 4 **That is the heart of HANWASH's work.** A water system is not truly successful simply because it has been built. It is successful when the community has the capacity and ownership to keep it working.
- 5 Thank you to the many people and organizations that helped carry this project forward over several years!

WWW.HANWASH.ORG

One commune at a time. WASH for all of Haiti.

SERVICE SATURDAYS

TOGETHER, WE **CREATE LASTING IMPACT.**

Rotary



District 7020

Creating Lasting Impact

One day.
Many projects.
Stronger communities.
A better tomorrow.



WHAT ARE YOUR CLUBS DOING?

From communities near and far, Rotary clubs across District 7020 are making a difference. Here are just a few ways we're showing up and creating change.



PROMOTING PEACE

Building understanding and fostering lasting peace.



FIGHTING DISEASE

Supporting health initiatives and improving lives.



PROVIDING CLEAN WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE

Improving access to clean water and sanitation for all.



SAVING MOTHERS & CHILDREN

Supporting maternal and child health and well-being.



SUPPORTING EDUCATION

Empowering students and strengthening futures.



GROWING LOCAL ECONOMIES

Creating opportunities that strengthen communities.



PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Caring for our planet today for a better tomorrow.

READ MORE >

Tag us and use the hashtags below to be featured in upcoming editions!

#ServiceSaturdays | #District7020 | #CreateLastingImpact

**SHARE YOUR IMPACT.
INSPIRE OTHERS. BE EPIC.**



SERVICE SATURDAYS

DISTRICT 7020 **CREATE** LASTING **IMPACT.**

Every act of service tells a story,
AND WE WANT TO SEE YOURS!

Complete a service project on any Saturday that aligns
with Rotary's Five Avenue Of Service.

Share your project on social media using

#SERVICESATURDAY

#DISTRICT7020

#CREATELASTINGIMPACT

Include photos and a brief description of
your project and **its impact.**

The District Public Image Team will monitor the
hashtags through **MARCH 31st, 2027**

EARN
50
BONUS
POINTS

Every qualifying Service Saturday earns your club

50 BONUS POINTS

towards the District Governor's Goals

More importantly, it's an opportunity
to showcase your club, inspire others,
and celebrate Rotary in action
across District 7020.

Tag us and use the hashtags below
to be featured in upcoming editions!

#ServiceSaturdays | #District7020 | #CreateLastingImpact

ONE SATURDAY. MANY PROJECTS. LASTING IMPACT.
SHARE YOUR IMPACT. INSPIRE OTHERS. BE EPIC.

SEPTEMBER FUN CORNER

BASIC EDUCATION & LITERACY MONTH

RotaryDistrict7020 | **Learn. Decode. Discover.**

Rotary
District 7020



PEOPLE OF
ACTION

LEARNING
TOMORROW



CRACK THE ROTARY CODE!

Each letter has moved 3 places forward: A becomes D, B becomes E, C becomes F. Move each letter back 3 to decode.

**LEARN
DECODE
DISCOVER**

1

HGXFDWLRQ RSHOV GRUV DQG URWDK KHOSV WXQU WKH NHBI!

Hint: September's Rotary focus is your biggest clue.

2

VHUYLEFH DERYH VHOI VWDUWV ZLKWK VKDULOJ ZKDW ZH NQRZ.

Hint: It begins with Rotary's best-known motto.

3

UHDG WRGDB , OHGD WRPRUURZ.

Hint: Two rhyming actions connect learning and leadership.

4

HYHUB ERRN LV D QHZ DGYHQPXUH.

Hint: Look on a library shelf for your passport.

5

WRJHWKHU ZH FUHDWH ODWWLQJ LPSDEFW.

Hint: This one echoes Rotary's 2026-2027 presidential message.

THREE 'WAIT, REALLY?' ROTARY FACTS

ROTARY INSPIRE UNESCO

In 1942, Rotarians organized a London conference where education leaders discussed rebuilding peace after World War II. Those conversations helped inspire UNESCO.

PEACE CLASSROOM

Since 2002, Rotary Peace Centers have trained more than 1,900 fellows who now work in over 140 countries, including in education, government and international organizations.

YOUTH EXCHANGE IS NEARLY 100

Rotary's earliest youth exchanges began in Europe in the 1920s, using international learning and cultural immersion to build understanding across borders.



HOW DID YOU DO?

1-2: Code Cadet | 3-4: Literacy Leader | 5: Rotary Codebreaker!

*Good Ideas
Change Lives*

ANSWER KEY - NO PEEKING!
1. Education Opens Doors and Rotary Helps Turn The Key! | 2. Service Above Self Starts With Sharing What We Know. | 3. Read Today, Lead Tomorrow. | 4. Every Book Is A New Adventure. | 5. Together We Create Lasting Impact.

Rotary



BARCELONA
2027



DISTRICT 7020

takes

BARCELONA
2027

JUNE 26 – 30, 2027

KEEP EXPLORING

USEFUL LINKS



**VOICES OF
7020 PODCAST**



HANWASH

Haiti National Water, Sanitation
and Hygiene Initiative

HANWASH



**BARCELONA
2027**

RI CONVENTION



**ROTARY DISTRICT
7020 CONFERENCE**

Rotary
District 7020



THE COMPASS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF ROTARY DISTRICT 7020

Expanding our family, creating new clubs
and building stronger communities
across the Caribbean and beyond.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



7020.org

UNITE | CONNECT | TAKE ACTION

Service Above Self • People of Action • Create Lasting Impact