

Rotary District 7090 Rotary Foundation Newsletter

June 2026



A Year of Impact. A Future of Possibility

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

 **Meet Our 2026 Scholarship Recipients**

 **Human Trafficking Global Grant Update**

 **Where Does Your Rotary Dollar Go?**

Plus: Peace Fellowships • PolioPlus Challenge • Year-End Giving

WHERE IS MY ROTARY DOLLAR TODAY?

FOLLOW ONE HYPOTHETICAL \$100 ANNUAL FUND DONATION



EVENTUALLY, YOUR \$100 HELPS CHANGE LIVES!

 NIAGARA



Literacy programs
empowering
our youth

 BUFFALO



Food insecurity
initiatives feeding
our neighbors

 NIAGARA



Peace Pole and
peacebuilding projects
promoting understanding
and goodwill

 KENYA



Clean water projects
bringing hope and
opportunity

 AND MORE...



Environmental, education
and health projects
and so much more!

ROTARY DIRECT

Rotary's recurring giving program

Rotary Direct
is a simple,
sustainable way
to support The
Rotary Foundation
all year long.

There are three ways to enroll in
Rotary Direct:

Online: my.rotary.org/en/rotary-direct
By mail: Rotary Direct, 17th Floor, Annual Giving
Rotary International
One Rotary Center
1560 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201-3698 USA
By phone: +1-866-976-8279

Manage your recurring giving at any time by signing in to My Rotary
and clicking on My Account, then selecting My Donations.

Rotary Direct

Growing participation helps provide
consistent support throughout the year
and strengthens future District and
Global Grant opportunities.

176 District 7090 Rotarians now support
The Rotary Foundation through Rotary
Direct.

Thank you for helping create sustainable
support for grants and projects that
change lives.

Did You Know? Your Annual Fund Gift Comes Home

When Rotarians contribute to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund, many assume their donation simply disappears into a large international account.

The truth is much more exciting.

Every contribution to the Annual Fund enters **Rotary's SHARE system**. After three years, a portion of those funds returns to the district that generated them. In District 7090, those dollars become the fuel that powers both District Grants and Global Grants.

That means your contribution may help:

- A local literacy project in your community
- A food insecurity initiative serving families in need
- A youth leadership program
- An environmental project protecting our watershed
- A Peace Pole promoting understanding and goodwill
- A Global Grant bringing clean water, education, or healthcare to communities around the world

Every dollar given today creates opportunities for Rotarians tomorrow.

One of the unique strengths of The Rotary Foundation is that local and global impact are connected. Through the SHARE system, Rotarians can address needs in **their own communities** while also supporting life-changing **projects across the world**.

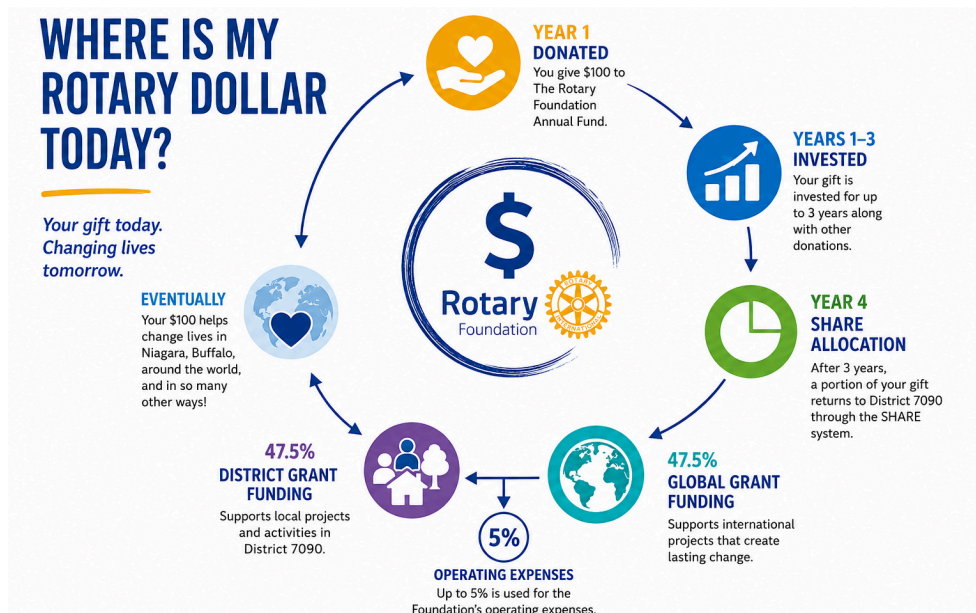
Many of the projects supported by District 7090 clubs each year are made possible because Rotarians before us invested in the Annual Fund.

In other words, **today's Annual Fund gifts become tomorrow's District Grants and Global Grants**.

The next time you see a District Grant project in your community, remember:

Someone's Annual Fund contribution helped make that happen.

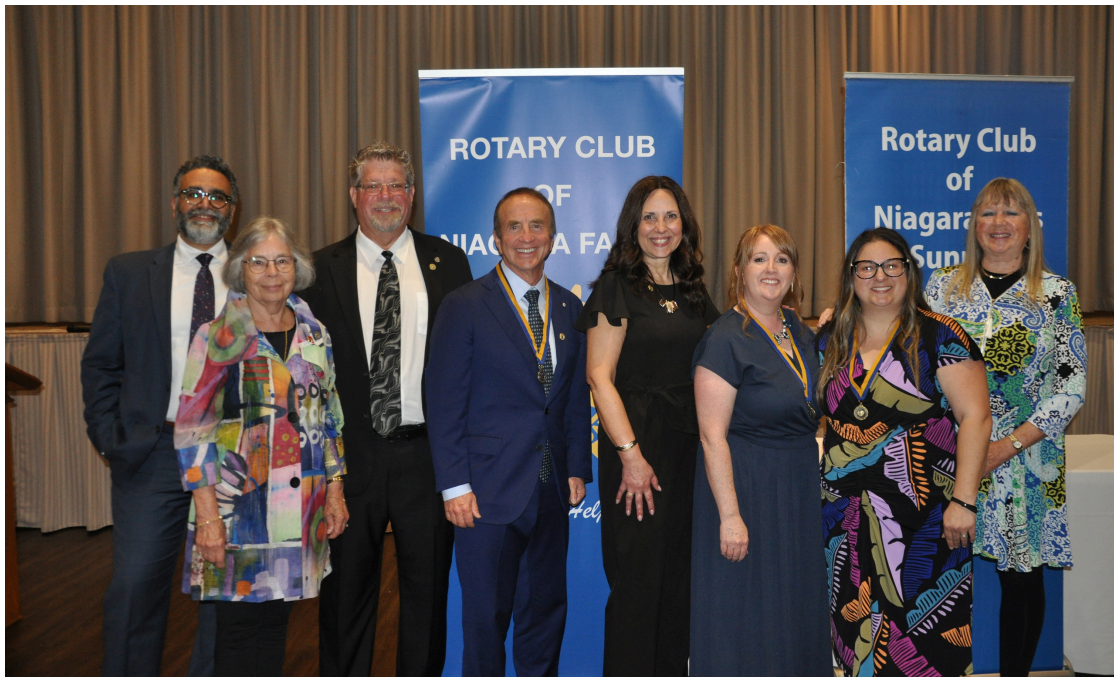
Thank you to every Rotarian who supports The Rotary Foundation and helps create opportunities for service both here at home and around the world.



The Paul Harris Fellow: Rotary's Most Meaningful Recognition



Photo: Club President Frank Adamson (centre) is flanked by Honourees Lt. Adam J.D. Carter, Judy Adamson, Tina Schulz, Collins Acheampong. Honouree Leon Evans was unable to attend.



A remarkable evening celebrating remarkable people. ✨

Pictured with our evening's hosts are the six outstanding recipients of the Paul Harris Fellow Award, recognized for their exceptional leadership, generosity, community service, and commitment to making a difference.

These honourees join a distinguished group of individuals whose actions exemplify Rotary's motto, Service Above Self. Congratulations to all six recipients on this well-deserved recognition and thank you for the lasting impact you continue to make in our community and beyond. 💙💛

Names (from left to right): Mac Mekawi (Host), BJ Romans (Host), Paul Bright, John H. McCall MacBain, Dolores Fabiano, Amanada Braet, Marla Smith and Erika Jaluvka

DISTRICT GRANTS



Grants Chair - Sue Foster
Sub-committee - Club Grants Chair
suefoz@gmail.com

District Grants are used for flexibility in funding local & international short-term projects.

District Grants are beneficial for clubs because they energize members and encourage community collaboration!

IT'S TIME TO COMPLETE YOUR DISTRICT GRANT PROJECT REPORT

- If your project has been completed from 2025/26 and the club has not yet received your District Designated Funds please check the status of your project and complete the required Individual Project Report at your earliest convenience .
- The report will be reviewed by the grants committee and **a stewardship review** will be completed **Please ensure all documentation is downloaded to prove that the grant monies have been used for the required purposes.**
- Add all expense items. Please be specific and add lines as needed.
- Attach/upload a copy of all relevant records relating to this project in the "documentation" tab.
- Proof of expenditure requirements could include:
 1. Copy of vendor's invoice(s) indicating it was paid.
 2. Copy of cancelled cheques/checks, both sides, credit card statements, bank drafts, etc. that match invoices paid.
 3. Copy of club bank statement indicating club funds withdrawn from the Club's account, if other evidence not available.
- Any other information required will be communicated to you by the Grants team
- Once approved a cheque will be initiated for the requested DDF and mailed to the club

THE DISTRICT GRANTS MODULE IS **CLOSED FOR GRANT REQUESTS**

- All funds assigned to District 7090 by the Rotary Foundation for club District Grants have been designated for 2026/27.
- If funds become available in future clubs will be informed and the District Grants submission in the module will be reopened.
- A memo was sent to all Club Presidents and Foundation chairs on June 3, 2026

District Scholarships

Investing in Tomorrow's Leaders: District 7090 Scholarships

One of the most meaningful ways Rotary invests in the future is through education.

Each year, District 7090 offers scholarships to outstanding graduating high school students who demonstrate academic achievement, a commitment to community service, and a desire to continue making a difference in the world around them. Applicants are evaluated based on their academic record, volunteer involvement, and an essay outlining their educational and career goals, as well as their future commitment to service.

This year, the Scholarship Committee faced an enviable challenge. The quality of applications received from across District 7090 was exceptional. The students represented the very best of their communities— young people who are already leading through service, volunteering, and making a positive impact long before beginning their post-secondary journeys.

Originally, District 7090 planned to award three scholarships. However, the strength of this year's applicants inspired the committee to recognize an additional student, resulting in four scholarships being awarded for 2026.

These scholarships are more than financial assistance. They are a statement of Rotary's belief in the next generation of leaders, professionals, volunteers, and community builders. By supporting students as they pursue higher education, Rotarians are helping create a future shaped by service, compassion, and leadership.

The District 7090 Scholarship Program is funded through The Rotary Foundation and the generous support of Rotarians who believe that education remains one of the most powerful tools for creating lasting change. Every scholarship awarded reflects Rotary's commitment to investing in people and strengthening communities on both sides of the border.

Congratulations to our 2026 District 7090 Scholarship recipients.

We look forward to seeing the impact you will make in the years ahead.



Cooper

Jay Renn Hoo – Rotary of Dundas Valley Sunrise
Dyane Jantzi - Westfield-Mayville Rotary
Whitney Koopman - Akron Newstead Rotary
Cooper Stenger - Rotary Dunkirk-Fredonia



Dyane

Congratulations to all applicants who participated. The future of our communities is bright because of young leaders like these.

Recognizing the Scholarship Committee

A special thank you to Scholarship Chair Carol and the members of the District 7090 Scholarship Committee for their commitment to this important program. Each application represents a student's dreams, accomplishments, and aspirations, and the committee devoted significant time and care to reviewing every submission. With so many outstanding candidates this year, the decision-making process was particularly challenging. We are grateful for their dedication in helping identify and support the next generation of leaders who will make a difference in their communities and beyond.

Global Grant District 7090

The first among several Rotary Foundation global grant-funded trainings on Human Trafficking Awareness, Education and Prevention occurred Saturday, May 23rd at Batavia Downs Gaming and Hotel by People Against Trafficking Humans (PATH of WNY).

A comfortable number of pre registered attendees made it through the 2” of rain that fell Saturday. PATH’s Kamiya Jacobs and Grace Parr presented and Dr. Marty Floss, Hilbert College, did the pre- and post- knowledge assessment.

The Steering Committee made up of Paul Lehman (Chair), Paul Saskowski (Batavia Rotary), Dr. Tommy Gerbasi (Lewiston-NOTL Rotary and Timothy Priano were present. Lezlie Murch, Niagara on the Lake Rotary was not present but she and the late Dr. John Boronkay had also contributed greatly to getting this first session off the ground.

Joanne Serkeyn, Rotary District 7090, Governor-elect shared her thoughts and insights



Additional training sessions are planned as the project continues to build awareness and prevention strategies throughout District 7090 and beyond.

A FOUNDATION MOMENT

WHAT'S THE LAST DAY OF THE YEAR TO DONATE TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION?

Every year, 30 June is the last day for donations to be counted toward the final annual giving total for you and your club. We encourage you to make your year-end contributions early to be sure that your gifts are processed in time.

Remember, every contribution made to the Annual Fund-SHARE by 30 June means that your club and district will have more grant funding available in the years ahead.

Make a contribution today to ensure that your club can make a difference in the world in the future!

WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO MAKE A YEAR-END GIFT TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION?

Giving online is the easiest and fastest way to ensure that your year-end gift is received in time.

Visit rotary.org/donate and sign in to My Rotary to ensure that you and your club receive appropriate recognition for your contribution. If you need help, call the Rotary Support Center at +1-866-976-8279.

Together, we can make lasting change in the world!

CONTINUING THE MISSION

The year is almost over, but the mission of The Rotary Foundation doesn't end.

The Foundation's programs address current needs — promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water and sanitation, saving mothers and children, supporting education, growing local economies, and protecting the environment — in ways that make sustainable change for the future and improve people's lives all around the world.

Thank you for supporting the Foundation and helping our work continue!

IN CLOSING

Thank you for supporting The Rotary Foundation this past year!

The need for the Foundation's programs never stops, and the need for your support and participation continues as well. The Foundation will keep changing lives long into the future.

Let's be proud of our accomplishments during this amazing year!

Every contribution made by June 30 helps strengthen future District Grants and Global Grants in District 7090.

The Rotary Foundation is the engine that transforms and supports projects that change lives in our local communities and around the world.

The
Rotary
Foundation



Rotary Peace Fellowships

This year, The Rotary Foundation will award up to 170 fully funded fellowships through our Rotary Peace Centers at leading universities worldwide. These fellowships are designed to empower and equip the next generation of peacebuilders and connect them for collective action.

Through a blend of academic learning, practice, and global networking, participants gain the skills and knowledge needed to promote peace, prevent and transform conflict, and advance sustainable development in their communities and beyond.

Find the Rotary Peace Centers map and other resources on the peace fellowships webpage:
<https://on.rotary.org/4lszHAz>

ROTARY PEACE CENTERS



District 7090's PolioPlus Challenge

June marks the final month of the Rotary Year, and there is still time for every club and Rotarian in District 7090 to strengthen our commitment to **Rotary's top humanitarian priority — ending polio forever**.

“The **\$1,500 Annual PolioPlus Goal** is a fundraising benchmark established by Rotary International for every Rotary and Rotaract club. It is the primary financial target for the **Club Excellence Award** and helps raise crucial funds to eradicate polio worldwide. Clubs that raise or donate US\$1,500 or more to the PolioPlus Fund within a Rotary year receive an **End Polio Now: Countdown to History Campaign Certificate of Appreciation** from The Rotary Foundation.” (Rotary Zones 33/34)

“The impact of every dollar is extraordinary. **Rotary International has committed to raising \$50 million each year for polio eradication**, and the **Gates Foundation has pledged to match every \$1 Rotary raises with \$2** — up to \$50 million annually. That transforms Rotary's \$50 million into \$150 million every year for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.” (The Rotary Foundation Canada)

Will your club achieve the \$1,500 Annual PolioPlus Goal? District 7090 is home to 75 Rotary and Rotaract clubs (D7090 website). Of the 68 clubs listed on the current PolioPlus District Report, only 20 have achieved the \$1,500 goal year to date. We are extremely grateful to the **Batavia, Niagara-on-the-Lake, and Dundas Valley Sunrise** clubs for their extraordinary PolioPlus support — and to the several other clubs whose year-to-date donations have gone well beyond the \$1,500 goal.

The very good news? There is still time whether your club is close to the goal or looking to make a significant leap. **Here's what you can do right now:**

- ✓ Review your club's PolioPlus giving
- ✓ Encourage members who have not yet made their PolioPlus gift
- ✓ Share your club's progress
- ✓ Make one final push before June 30

If you'd like to know your club's PolioPlus status, reach out to our **District 7090 End Polio Co-chairs Frank Adamson** (fadamson@vaxxine.com) and **Elaine Richard** (emmrichard55@gmail.com). We would be delighted to review your progress and help you identify every opportunity before year-end (including joining **District 7090's PolioPlus Society**) to help your club reach its Annual PolioPlus Goal.

District 7090 Rotary clubs receiving Certificates of Appreciation at the 2025 Foundation Celebration



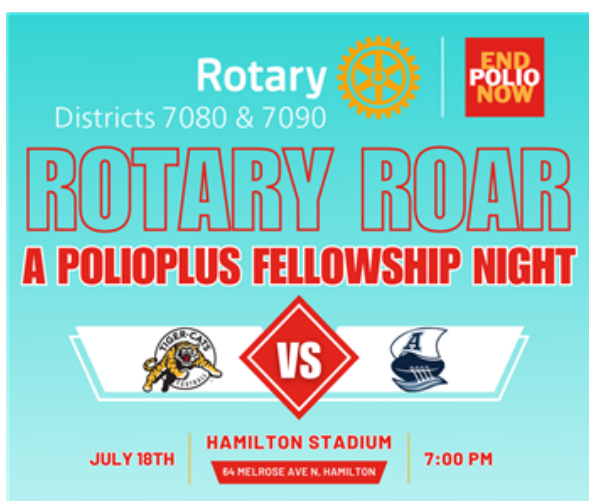


KEY EVENTS

- June 30 Contributions to Foundation for year 2025-26 must be postmarked by June 30, and arrive by July 5
- **July 18-Rotary Roar a PolioPlus Fellowship Night at Hamilton Stadium**
- Set your Foundation Goals for 2026-27

LOOKING AHEAD

- September 26, 2026-**Participate for Polio**
- November 14, 2026-Foundation Celebration
- Book a Foundation Speaker for your club Anytime



THANK YOU DAVE • WELCOME AARON

Leadership Today. Impact Tomorrow.




DRFC DAVE ALEXANDER
THANK YOU



We extend our sincere appreciation to **DRFC Dave Alexander** for stepping in for the 2025-26 Rotary year and providing strong leadership and steady guidance for The Rotary Foundation in District 7090.

We are pleased to welcome **DRFC-Elect Aaron Carlson** as he begins a three-year term on July 1, 2026.

Together, we will continue
Uniting for Good



DRFC-ELECT AARON CARLSON
WELCOME

Thank you, Dave, for your dedication. Welcome, Aaron, as we look forward to another three years of impact!

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

- **It's Not Too Late to Set Your Foundation Goals**
- **June 10- deadline for global scholarship applications to RI for September 2026 starting or 3 months prior to courses**
- **qualify for Global Grants-year round**
- **June 30 Contributions to Foundation for year 2025-26 must be postmarked by June 30, and arrive by July 5**
- **Global Grants applications year round**

www.rotary7090.org

see events

2025-26 District 7090 Rotary Foundation Committee

Note: Many Committee members make great speakers at your club

District Foundation

DRFC-IPDG Dave Alexander 2025-2026

DRFC-DG Aaron Carlson 2026-2029

Past Rotary Foundation Chair - PDG Lisa Bishop

Fundraising Chair -IPDG David Alexander

Annual Fund - John Weismantel

Committee: Annie Holtby

Paul Harris Society - Paul Lehman

Endowment Fund - Wolfgang Lindemann

Polio Plus Chairs - Elaine Richard/Frank Adamson

Coordinator PolioPlus Society - Elaine Richard

Stewardship Chair - Paul Saskowski

committee: Michel Harrington

Lezlie Murch, Sandi Chard

Grants Chair - Sue Foster

Subcommittee:

Club Grants Chair-Sue Foster

Global Grants Chair- Lezlie Murch District 7090

International Service Committee: Brad Wood

Global Vocational Training Team - Dan Smith District

Scholarships - Carol DeNysschen

Ontario Cluster Fund - Dave Berry

New York Cluster Fund-TBA

District Governor: Aaron Carlson

District Governor Elect: Joanne Serkeyn

Governor-Nominee: Paul Gibel

District Grants Review Committee:

Margaret Andrewes, RC Lincoln

Don Lawrence, RC Amherst

Jim Ellison, RC LeRoy

Cameron Johnston, RC Brantford Sunrise

Lezlie Murch, RC St. Catharines

Ken Schander, RC Niagara on the Lake

John Teibert, RC St. Catharines South

Glen Christenson -RC Brantford Sunrise

District Scholar Peace Subcommittee Chair Bob Munroe

**Bold is Voting Members of Foundation
Committee**

Editor: Sandi Chard sandichard@gmail.com

