# **ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FACT SHEET**



#### WHO WE ARE

Rotary brings together a global network of volunteers who dedicate their time and talent to tackle the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Rotary's members, known as Rotarians, work to impact lives at both the local and international levels, from helping families in need in their community to working toward a polio-free world globally.



# **Mission:**

To enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

### The Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Foundation, established in 1917, transforms donations into grants awarded to Rotarians for projects that change lives both close to home and around the world. Foundation grants empower our Rotarians to approach challenges such as poverty, illiteracy, and malnutrition with sustainable solutions that leave a lasting impact. Strong financial oversight, stellar financial and transparency ratings, and a unique funding model mean that we make the most of every contribution.

#### ROTARY'S LEADERSHIP IN POLIO ERADICATION

Rotary launched its polio immunization program, Polio Plus, in 1985. In 1988, Rotary became a spearheading partner of the **Global Polio Eradication Initiative** (GPEI), along with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation later joined the initiative. In the year when the GPEI was launched, there were 350,000 cases of polio in 125 countries. Eradicating this disease is Rotary's top priority.

The Rotary Foundation has committed over \$1.6 billion, including matching funds from the Gates Foundation, to banish this paralyzing disease. Globally, we have helped to vaccinate 2.5 billion children, preventing 16 million cases of the disease and the deaths of 1.5 million children. Today, through the efforts of the GPEI partners and Rotary's PolioPlus program, we have reduced polio cases by 99.9 percent. When those last few cases are eliminated, polio will become only the second disease, other than smallpox, that humans have been able to eradicate.

TAKE ACTION: www.rotary.org



## **RECOGNITIONS**

#3
2016 CNBC Top 10
Charities Worldwide

"World's Outstanding Foundation 2016" The Association of Fundraising Professionals

2016 Charity Navigator:100% score and4-star rating

**"A"**Charity Watch

Wise Giving Alliance of the Better Business Bureau

#### **OUR CAUSES**

In addition to Rotary's corporate dedication to the eradication of polio, we have identified six key areas of focus to maximize our impact in the world. These areas encompass some of the world's most critical and widespread humanitarian needs.



Disease Prevention and Treatment



Water and Sanitation



Maternal and Child Health



Basic Education and Literacy



Economic and Community Development



Peace and Conflict Prevention/ Resolution

### **ROTARY GRANTS**

One way Rotary responds to community needs and supports clubs and districts is by offering global grants for large-scale, international activities with sustainable, long-term outcomes. Global grants provide needed resources in our six focus areas. Additionally, Rotary offers district grants that support short-term projects and activities at the club and district levels.

Grants overview: 2015-16

**1,165** Total global grants

128 Countries with global grant activity

\$76M Allocated to global grants

**10.6%** More global grants than 2014-15

\$70K Average global grant amount

**494** Total district grants awarded

**\$25M** Allocated to district grants

Breakdown of global grants: 2015-16



**DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT** 

Number of grants: 378

\$27.0M



**WATER & SANITATION** 

Number of grants: 272

\$18.9M



**MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH** 

Number of grants: 93 \$7.0M

**BASIC EDUCATION & LITERACY** 

Number of grants: 173 \$10.2M

**ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** 

Number of grants: 165

\$9.1M



PEACE & CONFLICT PREVENTION & RESOLUTION

Number of grants: 84 \$3.7M