



FOUNDATION CHAIR
Past District Governor, Marilyn Bedell

Rotary Foundation News

July 2015

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

As I write this we are closing in on the end of the 2014/2015 Rotary year. Final donations for the year are being processed. As of June 28, 2015 we are still about \$12,000 from our goal of \$120,000 in donations to the Annual Programs Funds. Several clubs have assured me that additional donations have been sent to the Foundation so I will give you the final tally in the August donations.

As a reminder, the annual programs fund donations from this year will be the funds we have available for District and Global Grants in 2018-19. Fifty percent of the money we donate will come back to us to decide how we want to spend the funds we have raised. Of the 50% that comes back to us, we most likely will use 50% of these funds for District Grants (the maximum we can use for District Grants), and the other 50% will be for Global Grants.

In this edition of the Newsletter, you will find information on all of the District Grants that have been approved for the 2015/2016 Rotary year. Here is the feedback I received from Jesse Davis, our Regional Grants Officer at the Rotary Foundation. “This was an excellent District Grant, in my opinion. It featured well defined and expertly explained projects, as well as a variety of activities both domestic and international. Once last year’s District Grant is closed and funds returned or exhausted, I will be able to pay out DG1630802, but you are now authorized to begin work on a reimbursement basis, if that is within the parameters and guidelines of your district. Again, thank you for a well-structured application.” I hope as you read the grants we approved, you will agree with Jesse’s assessment of the quality of our District Grants. The funds for these grants should be transferred to our District on 1 July 2015. For the clubs that received grants have fun implementing them. Larry Vars and I will look forward to hearing updates about your projects.

Other Updates

From the Rotary Foundation: Rotary releases \$40.3 million for polio immunization activities

Rotary is releasing \$40.3 million in grants to support polio immunization activities in 10 countries, including Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan, the three countries where the disease has never been stopped. The funds come at a critical time and will build on gains Rotary and its partners have been making in the fight to eradicate polio. Nigeria, the last polio-endemic country in Africa, is approaching one year without a case of polio

The funding commitment comes at a critical time as Nigeria – the last polio-endemic country in Africa – approaches one-year since its last case of polio, which occurred in Kano State on 24 July, 2014. If the current progress continues, WHO may remove Nigeria from the list of polio-endemic countries as early as September. In addition to the notable progress in Nigeria, no new cases of polio have been reported anywhere in Africa since August 2014. Read more at: [http://endpolio.org/stories/posts/rotary-releases-us\\$40.3-million-to-end-polio-worldwide/](http://endpolio.org/stories/posts/rotary-releases-us$40.3-million-to-end-polio-worldwide/)

Our Donations to PolioPlus:

Rotary District 7850 PolioPlus donations for 2014/2015 will top \$45,000! Our RYLarians raised over 2,000 for PolioPlus and this pushed us to over the \$45,000 mark. Please remember the Rotary Foundation reminds us, “Experts do, however, strongly caution that it is too soon to fully celebrate. Nigeria needs to go an additional two years without polio to be certified polio-free. Funding and support for high-quality immunization campaigns and surveillance activities will be key to sustaining current gains.”

I hope you will continue to offer your support to PolioPlus during this new Rotary year. I will look forward to hearing what you have planned for World Polio Day on October 24, 2015.