



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
ROTARY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
IN SERVICE TO HUMANITY
2019-20

Dan Blankenau
Nominated by Lincoln East Rotary Club

Personal biography

Mr Blankenau grew up in McCook Nebraska, graduated from the University of Nebraska with a BS in Geology and has over 30 years experience in geologic investigations. He has supervised over 150 wildcat and development wells as well as many other activities in his field. He currently lives in Lincoln, Ne, is married and has 5 children. Two of his boys have traveled to Zambia with him to assist with Rotary projects. His father-in-law is a Rotarian.

Rotary service activities

Dan has been an invaluable resource to the Rotary District 5650 and Lincoln East Rotary Club's work in Zambia over the past 10 years. Without his help we could not have achieved the results that we have.

At his own expense he has traveled to Zambia on 5 occasions to consult and supervise our water projects. He has been instrumental in assisting the procurement of our 2 Global Grants as well as helped with other Rotary grants and club funded activities. He has provided consultation and training to our partner the SAM project and its local director in Zambia. He has helped the latter with scholarships and employment that has enabled the director to volunteer there.

Dan has sought consultation and assistance from several groups in Lincoln, one of which provided consultation on the dam structure and another that is building over a river that prohibits access to during the rainy season. He serves on our Rotary committee that is providing oversight to our current Global Grant and to the nutrition project that Lincoln East is funding.

His work has benefitted over 2,000 Zambians.

Non-Rotary service activities consistent with Rotary's ideals

Whereas, most of Dan's humanitarian work has been with Rotary, he is active in his church, has served the St Vincent's de Paul organization dedicated to serving the poor. I am uncertain as to the outcome of this work. Currently, his working to reduce carbon dioxide levels by innovative ventures such as planting trees in Zambia to receive carbon credits. These are potentially sustainable projects that may have an impact on climate change.