



# **Rotary Positive Peace Activator Program**

In 2017, Rotary formed a strategic partnership with the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), a think tank dedicated to measuring peace. IEP works with a concept called "Positive Peace," which refers to the attitudes, institutions and structures of peaceful societies. IEP's research shows that peace requires more than just an absence of violence, but thrives when a community has a supportive social system, in which citizens have access to needed services, there is good governance, business can thrive, and there is respect for the rights of others. Rotary's partnership with IEP was created to help Rotarians "frame" peace — to recognize the grassroots work they do in Rotary's six areas of focus helps to build Positive Peace — and sustainable peace in the long-term.

In order to help make Positive Peace more tangible for Rotarians, Rotary created the **Positive Peace Activator Program**. Between 2020 and 2023, 180 new Positive Peace Activators will be trained in six regions around the world.

#### Who are the Positive Peace Activators?

Rotarians, Rotary Peace Fellows, Rotaractors, and other Rotary stakeholders:

- Selected through a competitive process and who demonstrate a clear commitment to peacebuilding; some are Rotarian volunteers and others are full-time peacebuilding professionals.
- Attend an intensive 20-hour training on the Positive Peace methodology and framework.
- Make a two-year commitment to provide training, education, and support to Rotarians.

## How can you engage with a Positive Peace Activator?

- Invite them to join peace-related committees in your district; include them as a district resource.
- Encourage clubs interested in learning about the Positive Peace Framework to invite the Activator to offer a workshop or presentation.
- Your district may also consider hosting a district-wide event to bring the Positive Peace framework to your clubs through a larger event. Recognizing that there is a lot of time, energy, and commitment that goes into a Positive Peace workshop, training, or project, please be cognizant of each party's level of professional or volunteer involvement.
- Consider hosting any of these proposed events online/virtually if in-person events are not possible.

## Interested in learning more? Let us connect you with an Activator.

Activators are asked to connect directly with Rotarians and offer their support, just as Rotarians are welcome to connect with Activators based on their peace needs. The <u>Activator Directory can be found here</u>; you can also contact the Rotary-IEP Partnership Coordinator <u>Summer.lewis@Rotary.org</u> to connect with an Activator.

#### Why are the Activators important now?

In the midst of the global coronavirus situation, it's more urgent than ever to build strong social systems – now and for when we overcome this situation. Our lives and our projects as Rotarians will forever be impacted. How do we build stronger communities that can weather this storm? The Positive Peace framework provides ideas, and Activators can help bring this message to your club, district, and community.

Thank you for your commitment to peacebuilding – we look forward to helping you do this work with Activators!

Rebecca Crall

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The Rotary Foundation