Greetings District 5950 Rotarians!

We are excited to share news that our District has received an anonymous gift of $1 million to be used to help support international projects initiated by clubs in District 5950!

This anonymous and extremely generous donation comes from a Rotarian in our District who understands the power we have as Rotarians to leverage The Rotary Foundation to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate in our global community.

The purpose of the gift is to support international projects over and above funding from clubs, the District, The Rotary Foundation and any collaborating partners as follows:

* $333,334 for projects in the ‘Water and Sanitation’ area of focus
* $333,333 for projects in the ‘Disease Prevention and Treatment’ area of focus
* $333,333 for projects in the ‘Maternal and Child Health’ area of focus

Our clubs must initiate grants in the areas identified above and in accordance with current Rotary Foundation guidelines for grants.  The donors also prefer that their gift leverage other financial support, in addition to supplementing the funds raised by Rotary clubs, Districts, The Rotary Foundation and collaborating partners through the normal Global Grant process.

A special committee has been appointed to oversee this fund:

Jim Nelson, Past-District Governor, City of Lakes Rotary; One year term

Tim Murphy – District Governor, Rotary Club of Edina; Two year term

Mark Hegstrom – District Governor-Elect, Edina Morningside Rotary; Three year term

Bob Halagan – District Governor-Nominee, Buffalo Rotary; Four year term

Don Stiles – District Rotary Foundation Chair-Elect, Bloomington Rotary; Four year term

Sandy Schley – District Rotary Foundation Chair, Rotary Club of Edina; One year term

Jeff Ohe – Committee Chair; Assistant Governor Area 3, District Assistant Governor Coordinator, Rotary Club of Edina; Term: Until funds are depleted and projects/reporting completed.

The committee will consider grants prior to the 15th of each month.  Those grants that meet the criteria of this gift will be forwarded to the Chair of the Global Grants Committee, Todd Bollig of the Rotary Club of Eden Prairie Noon, for review, approval, and recommendation to The Rotary Foundation.

The project must focus on one of the 3 areas listed above and meet the current $35,000 minimum Global Grant criteria.

EXAMPLE:

Club funds: (Can be accumulated by multiple clubs or 3rd parties) $10,000

District Match: $1 for $1 $10,000

TRF Award: ($1 for $1 of District match & $.50 to $1 on club dollars) $15,000

Total: (minimum TRF Global Grant) $35,000

Special fund match: (Up to 100%-or in this case $35,000) $35,000

Total Project $70,000

This gift gives clubs an opportunity to increase the size of grants, potentially doubling them, and creating an international project with larger impact. These special fund dollars are an add-on only after all normal global grant criteria has been met as established by The Rotary Foundation and cannot be used as ‘club funds’.

Funds will be distributed on a first come-first serve basis until the money is depleted.

If you have questions, please contact me or one of the members of the committee.

We in District 5950 have an unprecedented opportunity to ***Be a Gift to the World*** and I look forward to hearing from you and seeing the difference our District’s Rotarians will make in the world!

In Rotary Service,

Jeff Ohe

Chair – On behalf of the Committee

Assistant Governor Area 3

District 5950 AG Coordinator 2015-2016

Rotary Club of Edina President 2014-2015

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