

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION
(information taken from online Rotary Learning Center modules)

Discussion questions:

- *What are the responsibilities of the club Rotary Foundation committee? What are your responsibilities as chair?*
- *What club goals are assigned to your committee?*
- *How can your committee encourage members to contribute to The Rotary Foundation every year and help them to do so?*
- *How will you advocate for the Foundation and inspire members to give?*
- *How will you promote the Foundation to members of your community?*
- *What tasks will you delegate to committee members? How will you support them?*
- *What plans do you have for fundraising activities?*

Responsibilities of your role as The Rotary Foundation Chair. Your chief responsibility as chair of your club's Rotary Foundation committee is to inspire your club's members to give to the Foundation and participate in its activities.

- Promote Foundation grants and activities and help members participate in them.
- Inspire club members to give to The Rotary Foundation.
- Attend the grant management seminar to ensure that your club qualifies for Rotary Foundation global grants.
- Oversee the global grants qualification process.
- Conduct inspirational, Foundation-focused club programs at least four times a year.
- Work with your treasurer to manage any Rotary grant funds your club receives.
- Work with your district's international service chair and service projects committee to develop and fund projects.
- Work with your treasurer to submit donations to the Foundation in an accurate and timely manner.
- Work with your club's membership committee to ensure a positive club image and experience.

Collaborate with your club's other committees to maximize your club's impact. For example:

- Work with the service projects committee to determine if any current or future projects can be funded by Rotary grants
- Work with the public image committee to promote projects and fundraisers, and drive member participation
- Work with the membership committee to find alumni and involve them in club activities

You should also work with your district's international service chair to obtain resources, and advise on conducting community assessments and planning successful global grant projects.

Setting Goals. In your role, you'll make sure your committee sets and achieves annual goals that support the club's strategic plan. You'll set goals with your incoming president and other club leaders at the district training assembly. The president or secretary can enter the goals in Rotary Club Central.

Effective goals. Be sure your annual goals reflect committee capabilities and club interests. Goals should be shared, measurable, challenging, achievable, and time-specific (example: All club members will contribute to the Annual Fund by 1 January).

Action plan. Work with your committee to develop an action plan or a series of smaller steps needed to achieve each annual goal. For every step:

- Determine who's responsible for implementing it.
- Set a due date.
- Decide how you'll measure progress and success.
- Identify the resources you already have, and get any that you need.
- Regularly assess your progress, and adjust your goals if necessary.

Motivation. Part of your role as chair is keeping your committee members motivated. Remember, they are volunteers. Common motivators include:

- Assurance that the committee's goals are attainable and will benefit the club and community
- Opportunities for fellowship and networking
- Assignments that use each member's expertise
- Efforts to make the committee's work enjoyable

Budgeting. Before 1 July, work with the outgoing committee chair and club treasurer to discuss the funds your committee will need and request that they are included in the club's budget. Be sure to consider any planned fundraising activities. Oversee your committee's funds, transactions, and reports, and be aware of its budget status at all times. If you meet regularly with your club's treasurer, you'll be able to take action as soon as issues arise.

ROTARY PEACE FELLOWSHIPS

The Rotary Peace Centers program has a vision of sustainable peace — encompassing a network of peacebuilders and community leaders dedicated to preventing and resolving conflicts around the globe. The Rotary Peace Centers program has a vision of sustainable peace — encompassing a network of peacebuilders and community leaders dedicated to preventing and resolving conflicts around the globe.

Up to 130 fellows are selected every year in a globally competitive process based on personal, academic, and professional achievements. Fellows earn either a master's degree or a post-graduate diploma in peace and development studies at one of the seven Rotary Peace Centers, located at leading universities around the world. Through this program, Rotary Peace Fellows develop skills they need to serve as leaders and catalysts for peace and development both in their own communities and around the globe.

Over 1,400 program alumni are working in more than 115 countries as leaders in national governments, nongovernmental organizations, education and research, law enforcement, and international organizations such as the United Nations.

Programs

1. Master's degree program

Rotary Peace Fellows in the master's degree program study peace and development issues with research-informed teaching and a diverse student body. Up to 50 master's degree fellowships are awarded each year. The programs last 15 to 24 months and include a two- to three-month field study, which participants design themselves.

The ideal candidate is academically strong, has a bachelor's degree in a related field, and has work experience in peace and development. Candidates need to demonstrate a commitment to peace and conflict resolution, be able to undertake extensive reading and discussion in the pursuit of knowledge,

and be able to participate actively within a diverse cohort of students. After the program, candidates should be willing to share their own work and experience, staying in touch with peace fellows in their region and maintaining strong connections with Rotary members.

Qualifications

- Be proficient in English
- Have a strong commitment to cross-cultural understanding and peace as shown through professional and academic achievements and personal or community service
- Demonstrate leadership skills
- Have at least three years of full-time experience in peace or development work

2. Professional development certificate program

During the one-year program, up to 80 experienced peace and development professionals with diverse backgrounds gain practical skills to promote peace within their communities and across the globe. Fellows complete field studies, and they also design and carry out a social change initiative.

The ideal candidate is a proven peace and development leader with at least five years of relevant work experience. Candidates need to come to the program with a social change initiative to promote peace and development within the program region or their community, and have a clear vision of how the fellowship experience and network will help advance their peace work and increase their impact. After the program, candidates should be willing to share their own work and experience, staying in touch with peace fellows in the region and maintaining strong connections with Rotarians.

Qualifications

- Be proficient in English
- Have a strong commitment to cross-cultural understanding and peace as shown through professional and academic achievements and personal or community service
- Demonstrate leadership skills
- Be able to explain how their plan to promote peace aligns with Rotary's mission
- Candidates for Makerere University must either be from Africa, have worked in Africa, or work with African communities or initiatives outside the continent.

Application timeline

- February: Application opens and is available at <https://rotary.embark.com/apply>
- May 15: Completed applications due
- July 1: Rotary districts submit endorsements
- November: Selection notifications released

Eligibility Restrictions. The following people are not eligible for the Rotary Peace Fellowship:

- Active Rotary members
- Employees of a Rotary club or district, Rotary International, or other Rotary entities
- Spouses, lineal descendants (children or grandparents by blood or legal adoption), spouses of lineal descendants, or ancestors (parents or grandparents by blood) of any living person in these categories
- Former Rotary members and their relatives as described above (within 36 months of their resignation)

Please note that master's fellows are eligible to study only at a Rotary Peace Center in a country other than their home country.

ERADICATING POLIO

Eradicating polio is Rotary's top philanthropic priority. We've been fighting polio for four decades, and we've made incredible progress toward ridding the world of it forever. The development of an effective vaccine meant that polio could be eradicated. Among human diseases, only smallpox has ever been successfully eradicated.

In 1979, Rotary began an effort to immunize 6 million children in the Philippines against polio. In 1985, we launched the first initiative to immunize all the world's children against this disease — our PolioPlus program.

PolioPlus funds are used to:

- Get vaccines and administer them to children
- Conduct regular surveillance to detect the disease
- Raise awareness of the benefits of immunization
- Support disease experts

National Immunization Days. We use the National Immunization Days model in countries that are affected by polio or at high risk of being affected. This means that we try to vaccinate every child under age five in just a few days. We've helped immunize nearly 3 billion children in 122 countries.

Nearly 19 million people who would otherwise have died or been paralyzed are alive and walking because they were immunized against polio.

Rotary's goal is to raise \$50 million per year for polio eradication activities. The money is then matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which triples the impact we can make for children around the world.

DISASTER RELIEF/RESPONSE GRANTS

Districts that are affected by events such as hurricanes, cyclones, earthquakes, and wildfires can apply for disaster response grants to support local recovery efforts.

These grants help communities deal with the effects of natural disasters. Districts can work with established relief organizations to help survivors and can use grant funds to provide basic items such as water, food, medicine, and clothing.

Funding. A district in an affected area or country can apply for a grant of up to \$25,000. The availability of these grants depends on contributions to Rotary's Disaster Response Fund. The district must already be qualified for Rotary grants.

The district governor and district Rotary Foundation chair complete the application. A district may apply for additional grants after it successfully reports the outcomes from each previous grant.