



Before After 1 Year Later
Why We Do What We Do!



August 2013

Dear Friend,

My name is Linda Young and I have been a Rotarian in District 7430 since 2001. My passion as a Rotarian Volunteer is to help provide smiles to children with cleft lips and cleft palates around the world. We do this in partnership with an organization called Rotaplast International. Our Rotary District, through our Rotaplast Committee, has committed to doing a mission every other year to provide this life-saving surgery for children. Since 2003, our Rotarians changed the lives of over 400 children and their families through 6 missions in Peru, Chile, Venezuela, Colombia, and the Philippines.

Why is this surgery so important? Children born with cleft lips are often shunned by their communities. They drop out of school, do not participate in social activities, and may have life-long problems with employment. Children with cleft palates are susceptible to constant upper respiratory infections, have difficult eating and drinking, become malnourished, and have serious dental and speech issues. Multiple surgeries are often needed to correct all of the abnormalities in these children.

Each mission now costs \$100,000+ depending on its location. This money is used to support the medical team transportation, transportation of equipment and supplies, and other "in-country" expenses. Our Rotarians serve as non-medical volunteers and pay their own airfare to participate in the mission, in addition to raising funds throughout the year. Our major fundraiser is our annual On-Line/On-Air Channel 69 Auction. This year it will be held on Saturday, December 7th. We are beginning to prepare for this auction NOW.

How can you help? Won't you please help?

1. Please consider becoming a TV sponsor for one of our auction segments. This will get your name/company on TV for a 15 minute segment. In addition, your name/company will be featured on our On-Line Website.
2. Donate an auction item(s) and/or gift certificate(s). Electronic devices, game tickets, sports memorabilia, vacation stays are all popular items.
3. Make an individual/company donation to help these children smile. All of these donations will help children smile and improve their lives.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions and/or need additional information, feel free to contact me directly.

Yours in Rotary Service

For more information contact: Linda Young, 1050 Sunset View Circle, Bethlehem, PA 18017,
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Rotary District 7430 Foundation/Rotaplast is a 501.c.3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible. All donations are used to support Rotaplast Medical Missions that provide fee reconstructive surgery for children with cleft lips and palates.