

## District 7780 Foundation Committee Report

2016-17

Marty Peak Helman, District Foundation Chair

July 28, 2017

### Dollars Expended

**District Grants.** The District had \$44,032 available to expend on District Grants in 2016-17. Of this sum, \$9000 was set aside for the District outreach to Cuba; \$35,032 was available for Club projects. Thirteen qualified clubs applied for District grants, each of these applications were approved. (Two more clubs applied that had not completed the qualification process. As it happened, neither of their applications met the published criteria, so even had the clubs been qualified, the applications would not have been approved.) Of the approved projects, nine took place locally and four were international. Because the Cuba outreach did not take place, that \$9000 was unspent and returned to our DDF "pool."

In the new year of 2017-18, a total of 33 clubs completed the online grants training. Based on previous giving, the District had \$51,798 available for District Grants. Of that sum, \$9000 was set aside for a District outreach; that left \$42,798 available for District grants initiated by the Clubs. Please note that the funding available increased by about 15% because the amount of funding we as a District are donating to Annual Giving is also increasing.

**Global Grants.** Clubs in our District led four Global Grants that were approved in 2016-17. These are:

- Biddeford-Saco led a multi-club effort to provide literacy opportunities to Syrian refugees in Jordan. *Note that this is the first GG in the Rotary world to support refugees on the front lines!*
- Portsmouth led a project to send medical equipment to Tanzania.
- Sanford-Springvale led a new project that continues its good work to build check dams in India.
- Brunswick-led master's level scholarship to Oxford for Lonnie Hackett (instrumental in the two Zambia grants). *Note that this is the first Global Scholar to be underwritten by our District!*

In addition:

- A Global Grant to provide health materials to children in Zambia was initiated in District 7930 and actively supported by our clubs.
- A follow-on GG for the Guatemala Literacy Project was initiated in another District and actively supported by our clubs.

The total amount of District DDF spent to support these six grants was \$53,429.

Two more Global Grants are currently in process and are expected to be approved fairly early in the 2017-18 year:

- Westbrook-Gorham-led water and sanitation project in Guatemala (extension of this year's District Grant). Expected DDF spend in 2017-18: \$10,000.
- Grant led by 7950 to support literacy efforts at Safe Passage in Guatemala. Based on donations from four of our clubs, expected DDF spend: \$10,000.

### **Dollars Raised:**

**Annual Fund.** As the books close on the Rotary year, it is clear that the 2016-17 Centennial Foundation year was marked throughout District 7780 with record giving. Our Annual Giving reached \$246,625,119, or \$151.12 per capita, or 45% higher than our \$174,376 goal. Every club contributed to the Annual Fund, and a record 26 clubs reached the benchmark \$100 per capita figure. These clubs are:

Bath Sunrise  
 Bethel  
 Biddeford Saco  
 Boothbay Harbor  
 Brunswick Coastal  
 Damariscotta-Newcastle  
 Dover  
 Exeter  
 Freeport  
 Hampton  
 Kennebunk  
 Kennebunk Portside  
 Kittery  
 Ogunquit  
 Oxford Hills  
 Portland  
 Portland Sunrise  
 Portsmouth  
 River Valley

Saco Bay  
Saco Bay Sunset  
Sanford Springvale  
South Portland-Cape Elizabeth  
Westbrook-Gorham  
Yarmouth  
York

Rotary asks that every Rotarian give at least something every year. We had nine clubs that did just that! Our EREY clubs are:

Bath  
Bath Sunrise  
Damariscotta-Newcastle  
Durham-Great Bay  
Exeter  
Kennebunk Portside  
Kittery After-Hours  
Portland Sunrise  
Sanford-Springvale

**Polio Plus.** Our clubs collectively donated a total of \$70,462.20 to PolioPlus. This figure is a record, and so is 100% participation. The Trustees ask each club to donate \$1500 each year to end polio; a record 16 clubs met that mark. They are:

Boothbay Harbor  
Bridgton-Lake Region  
Damariscotta-Newcastle  
Dover  
Durham-Great Bay  
Exeter  
Hampton  
Kittery  
Portland Sunrise  
Portsmouth  
River Valley  
Saco Bay  
Sanford-Springvale

Seacoast Portsmouth  
South Portland-Cape Elizabeth  
York

South Portland-Cape Elizabeth, home of the International Polio Plus Chair, gave an astounding \$18,274 to PP this Rotary year!

In addition to club/individual giving, the Trustees ask each Rotary District to donate 20% of their DDF to polio eradication. We have done so with a gift of \$17,616.

Further, we gave a gift of \$11,744 in DDF to the Rotary Peace Centers. The DDF gifts to PolioPlus and the Peace Centers were made in accordance with the members' wishes as noted in the 2015 DDF Spending Seminar.

### **Endowment and Major Gifts**

The District is marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a concerted effort to increase planned giving and major gifts. Since the initiative started in 2015-16, the District has inked well over \$1 million in gifts. This initiative will continue through the 2017-18 year, and we expect more good things.

### **Procedural Issues**

**DDF "match" increase.** The DDF available to us to "match" Global Grants and fund District Grants is increasing, due to increased giving throughout the District. As a result, the District Foundation Committee voted to increase the DDF "match" for Global Grants. The higher match, which went into effect July 1, 2016, means that, if three or more District 7780 clubs contribute up to \$20,000 to a Global Grant, the District will match up to that amount as well. Matches are less if fewer District 7780 clubs are involved. See website, Grants Folder, or District Foundation Chair for specifics.

**Changes in Grant qualification process.** With experience comes learning! Based on past years' "issues," the following changes in the grant qualification process took effect:

- Transition to online Grants Training is complete. All training was done via learning modules on Rotary's Learning Center ([learn.rotary.org](http://learn.rotary.org)) and available to everyone with a rotary.org logon. *It is worth noting that we were the first District in the world to post our training on the Learning Center; now a handful of other Districts are following our lead. Our leadership in this regard has been recognized by TRF in that we were asked to present on our grants training at the 2017 International Convention.*

- Dedicated email: [grants@rotary7780.org](mailto:grants@rotary7780.org) has been set up for all grants communications (MOUs, applications, et cetera). The point is to avoid any confusion concerning when and if material is filed.
- Deadline for grants training moved up. The deadline for District grant applications remains June 1. The deadline to take the training was moved up to an earlier date. The rationale: The previous year, many clubs waited until the last minute to take the training – and two clubs even took the training AFTER their District Grant application had been filed. Perhaps not coincidentally, those two clubs' applications did not meet the prescribed criteria. The District Foundation Committee decided to ensure that Rotarians would not succumb to last-minute-it is and actually use the training for, you know, training.
- The first member of each club to complete the training received a hard copy Grants Folder with all pertinent info to apply for, manage and close out District and Global Grants.

**Document Retention Policy formally approved.** Approval of this policy had been delayed for several years but was voted upon by the District Foundation Committee and is now in place.

**District Foundation Committee Report will now be available via final District Newsletter of the year.** This report had previously been updated at the end of the Rotary year and posted on the District website. However, auditors for The Rotary Foundation require that it be available via a link on the District newsletter. So starting in 2017, that was done as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Marty Peak Helman

District Foundation Chair

July 28, 2017