



## ENGAGING YOUNG LEADERS

Rotary's programs for young leaders are developing community and service-minded individuals from around the world and challenging them to improve their leadership skills; develop innovative, and sustainable service projects both locally and globally; and make peace a priority. Rotary clubs guide, mentor, and partner with young leaders and younger professionals to activate Rotary's fifth Avenue of Service – Youth Service – through a variety of impactful, engaging, and fun experiences.

### OUR YOUNG LEADERS

**Rotaractors** (ages 18-30): 240,971 (estimated); 109,535 (reported)\*

**Rotaract clubs:** 10,477 in 185 countries/geographic areas

**Interactors** (ages 12-18): 501,354 (estimated)

**Interact clubs:** 21,798 in 160 countries/geographic areas

**Rotary Youth Exchange** (for ages 14-19): More than 8,700 students from over 100 countries on long-term and short-term exchanges

**Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA):** Thousands of secondary school students, university students, and young professionals participate in local leadership development programs each year.

*\*As of 1 July 2017*

### WHAT WE CAN DO

- Engage younger professionals through [Rotaract](#). Connect through professional mentoring, invite Rotaract members to [join Rotary before leaving their Rotaract club](#), and promote community-based Rotaract clubs as Rotary club partners to expand and diversify service in communities.
- Build effective, ongoing relationships with younger professionals and the Rotary family, including Rotaractors and other program alumni, by inviting them to put their leadership skills into action through Rotary club and district service projects.
- Give young people the opportunity to discover the power of Service Above Self while having fun through [Interact](#). Engage younger students by starting junior high school Interact clubs, connect Interact clubs with Rotaract clubs to promote near-peer mentoring, and encourage Interact leaders to get involved with RYLA or participate in Rotary Youth Exchange.
- Develop leaders in your community and club, and build goodwill, international understanding, and life-long friendships by organizing [RYLA](#) events that challenge leaders – and young people with leadership potential – to develop new skills, become dynamic leaders, and unlock their potential to turn motivation into action.
- Create unique experiences for different age groups, expand existing RYLA programs to emphasize diversity and inclusiveness, and encourage and support participants from underserved communities who might otherwise not have access to leadership development opportunities.

- Promote peace and international understanding by supporting [Rotary Youth Exchange](#) in certified districts. Invite Rotary clubs to become host families, encourage exchange students to get involved in Interact or RYLA while on exchange, and develop opportunities for youth exchange alumni to stay connected to the Rotary family after they return home.
- Customize a [New Generations Service Exchange](#) program that allows adult professionals to develop a skill while giving back to another community. Utilize existing international networks through Rotary Fellowships, Rotarian Action Groups, and club connections to create unique opportunities for younger professionals to hone a skill, network with community leaders, and contribute to international service projects.

## **FIND OUT MORE**

Learn more about [Rotary's programs](#) and how we empower leaders.

Customize promotional cards for all of Rotary's programs for young leaders or download additional promotional resources in [Rotary's Brand Center](#). Purchase promotional materials from [Shop Rotary](#).

Follow [Rotaract](#) or [Interact](#) on Facebook to stay connected on social media.

[Subscribe](#) to the Young Leaders in Action and Youth Exchange newsletters.

Celebrate Rotary's impact by adding completed club and district service projects that empower youth and younger professionals to [Rotary Showcase](#).

The Secretariat's key experts on Rotary's programs for young leaders are:

- Director, Programs and Grants [Victor Barnes](#)
- Manager, Rotary's Programs for Young Leaders [Adam Doty](#)
- Senior Supervisor, Rotary's Programs for Young Leaders [Jessie Dunbar-Bickmore](#)
- Senior Supervisor, Youth Exchange and Youth Protection [Thomas Woods](#)

Send general questions to [rotarysupportcenter@rotary.org](mailto:rotarysupportcenter@rotary.org).