ROTARY YEAR 2019-20 (FY20) DISTRICT GRANT BASICS

It’s time to start thinking about your club’s District Grant for the 2020-21 Rotary Year. This coming year District 5520 will have about $88,000 to distribute for district grants; this is about $30,000 less than we have during the current Rotary Year and is the result of $120,000 less Annual Giving in the FY18 Rotary compared to prior year, the Rotary Centennial year.

How much could your club expect for a grant for the 2020-21 Rotary Year? Your club’s grant is based on your giving during the 2017-2018 Rotary Year AND whether or not your club achieves $100/capita THIS YEAR.

* Your minimum grant (baseline) will be 15% of your 2017-18 Annual Program Fund (APF) giving;
* BUT, if your club achieves $100/capita (i.e., your 1 July 2019 membership \* $100.00) THIS YEAR then you’ll get an equal share of the $56,000 “pot” with all other clubs that also achieved $100/capita… a share is typically at least $1,000.00; AND,
* Because your club achieved $100/capita this year, you’ll also share in the “sweep-up” (i.e., all of the unclaimed district grant funds)… this usually amounts to at least $1,000 per club…
* The more appealing your project is often results in a greater award; so ask for what you want and the Foundation Committee will distribute what they have.

D5520 usually has about 25 clubs achieve $100/capita… the key to the “kicker pot”

So, what must you do to get a district grant? Your club must:

* Be in good standing with Rotary International and the District
* Be current on Rotary International and District 5520 dues
* Be current on all Global and District Grant reporting
* Be current on your IRS-990 reporting
* Have AT LEAST TWO members attend Grant Management Training (most of which will be online (i.e., Zoom)
* And, of course, complete the agreements and the project application

I have some questions:

* What if my club wasn’t chartered in 2017-2018? Your baseline will be established at $249.00.
* Where do I find how much we gave in 2017-2018? Start by looking at your club’s Foundation page in Rotary Club Central and then ask District Rotary Foundation Chair (DRFC) Tom Walker to see if there were “reductions” to your club’s Annual Giving (about 10 clubs had some)
* When will I find out how much money was approved for my grant? The Foundation Committee usually completes its deliberations in mid-July.
* Does my club have to match the district grant? NO, but many clubs elect to do so to maximize their district grant project.
* When can my club start work on its project? Your project must be approved by The Rotary Foundation; starting work before you have money in hand is a risk that you may choose to take.

For more information, contact DRFC Tom Walker (505-237-0237 or ftwalker1@comcast.net) or DGSC Peter Falley (575-388-2004 or falley@SilverCityRotary.com).