

FUNDRAISING FOR ROTARY PROJECTS

AN OVERVIEW

Introduction

Rotarians enjoy using their energy, vocational and other skills, time, networks of business associates & friends, and their feeling of “Service Above Self” to serve humanity.

There are so many projects that for convenience we group them into Community Service (meaning mainly our own local community but also anywhere in Australia), International Service, Youth Service, and Vocational Service. There are no fixed boundaries – for example the International Youth Exchange Program has both youth and international aspects but is usually placed under Youth Service. Some Clubs group all four under a Director Service Projects.

Some members are involved in Club Service (looking after Club activities such as the weekly meeting arrangements, arranging guest speakers and Club social events). And in all cases having fun!

All projects need money, whether run by a single Club or collaboratively by several Clubs, or orchestrated by a District committee or run on a global basis (e.g. Polio Plus, Peace Centres).

Raising Funds

Donations from Club members, humorous fines sessions, film nights, quiz nights, sausage sizzles, markets, fairs, bike rides, concerts, radio auctions, special events for targeted invitees, individual philanthropy, corporate philanthropy, grants from non-Rotary sources, online crowd funding - the list can be as long as members have the imagination, passion, energy and skill to organize.

No matter how the initial money is raised there are ways to increase it. Some Clubs set up a fund or trust to which donors’ gifts are tax deductible. This attracts donations larger than would otherwise be the case. The fund or trust earns interest and once the capital in the fund or trust is large enough the interest can be used to support projects. Rotary International does this in the form of The Rotary Foundation, to which we are all encouraged to donate.

For information on tax deductibility of gifts go to www.ato.gov.au and search on Deductible Gift Recipient.

Four other methods expanded on here are:

- Grants from The Rotary Foundation
- Funds raised through projects registered with Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS)
- Grants from Lotterywest
- Grants from other sources web publication.

Grants from The Rotary Foundation

There are two types of grants available from The Rotary Foundation:

- District Grants – Revised information on District Grants is being published in the 2017-18 District Directory shortly available on the *new D9455 website* www.rotarydistrict9455.org Go to For Members then select the latest version of the Directory.
- Global Grants

All Rotary Clubs and Districts are eligible to apply for Global Grants from The Rotary Foundation to support SUSTAINABLE ACTIVITIES WITH HIGH IMPACT OUTCOMES in one or more of the six AREAS OF FOCUS. Grants are in the range USD15,000 to USD200,000 and require contributions from Clubs or Districts as set out in the references below. Projects can be anywhere but for Australian Clubs are often in undeveloped countries. Grant Applications can only be made online.

For detail information on eligibility, applying for, conducting, evaluating and reporting on global grant funded projects see *A Guide to Global Grants, 1000-EN—(1015)* downloadable from www.rotary.org/grants then click on *Global Grants* then under RESOURCES & REFERENCE click on Guide to Global Grants. The other documents in that section should also be read once you have gained a good understanding from the Guide. Early reading should include: *Areas of Focus Policy Statements*, and *Terms and Conditions for Rotary Foundation District Grants and Global Grants*. For good ideas and tips see *Rotary's Areas of Focus 965-EN (updated Sep 2015)* found at www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/document/rotarys-areas-focus

It is highly recommended that you attend a training workshop put on by our District Rotary Foundation Committee. These are advertised in the District Newsletter and on the District website.

Funds Raised through RAWCS

RAWCS Ltd is a not-for-profit company recognised by the Australian Tax Office (ATO). The ATO recognises as Deductible Gift Recipients two RAWCS Funds: Rotary Australia Overseas Aid Fund (RAOAF) and Rotary Australia Benevolent Society (RABS). RAWCS is also recognised by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

All Rotary Clubs in Australia are eligible to register a project with RAWCS. Projects can be overseas and utilise RAWCS' tax deductible RAOAF or within Australia and utilise RAWCS' tax deductible RABS.

Two additional Deductible Gift Recipient funds have recently been added:

- Rotary Australia Compassionate Grants. Grants are funded from the generous \$1million donation from Dick Smith and have to be matched by the Rotary Club on a 50-50 basis.
- Developed Countries Disaster Fund.

Registration of a project with RAWCS offers significant advantages to a Club:

- Visibility of the project to donors who would not otherwise be aware of the project, particularly the corporate sector (over \$30,000,000 has been raised in each of the past two years).
- Management of the donated funds by RAWCS with the Club remaining in control
- Benefits to volunteers regarding travel and insurance
- Access to the RAWCS Donations in Kind services.

It is suggested you view the PowerPoint presentation *What is RAWCS* and read the *RAWCS Strategic Plan 2015-2019*, and the National Policy Document *Advantages of Registering Projects* all available at www.rawcs.org.au Click on KEY DOCUMENTATION and select Documents, Presentations or Brochures as appropriate to select the required documents. It is strongly recommended you read the *Project Manager Manual* and the other documents listed that are relevant to your project.

Use Both Above Sources

The scope of items that are eligible under the two above Rotary sources overlap but have differences. A project can be, and usually is, both registered with RAWCS and separately obtains a grant from The Rotary Foundation.

Lotterywest

For a quick overview on Lotterywest grants see www.commerce.wa.gov.au Type Lotterywest into the search box at the top right of the front page.

For details on eligibility and grant application process see www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au Click on the three bars at top left of the front page, then from the drop down menu click on Grants. Or go directly to www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au/grants

On each of the grant types click on *Read more* for details of scope of projects and application process. It is recommended you contact the helpful Lotterywest staff early in your planning - 13 3777 or hello@lotterywest.wa.gov.au

Other Grant Sources

The Department of Local Government and Communities also publishes a guide to over 100 other sources of grants - see www.grantsdirectory.dlg.wa.gov.au

Further Information

You are encouraged to seek further information from members of your Club, particularly your International Service Director or Community Service Director. If necessary, they or you can contact the relevant points of contact listed in the D9455 District Directory.

Suggestions for improving this overview, are welcome. Contact:

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