



Opportunities for the Rotary family to partner with Ashoka

About Ashoka

For 40 years Ashoka has found exceptional Changemakers from around the world and guided them to grow unexpected ideas into transformative social progress. Ashoka's network enables over 4,000 social entrepreneurs to learn from one other while creating faster, more impactful large-scale change. Venture and Fellowship, the core of Ashoka's work, identifies leading social entrepreneurs with transformative ideas and provides them with the support and community they need to thrive. It is through these Ashoka Fellows that we see a world where everyone can be a powerful contributor with the skills to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Rotary and Ashoka

Ashoka invites the Rotary community to [be part of this movement](#) to build an *Everyone a Changemaker* world. By partnering with [Ashoka](#), the Rotary family gains access to a wide range of experts in social entrepreneurship and change-making who are equally vested in bringing about support and resources to improve the lives of their communities. Rotary's areas of focus align closely with Ashoka's vision and various programs to create solutions to local challenges through social entrepreneurship.

Service and engagement with Ashoka

Ashoka has an array of global programs that strengthen the power of collaborative entrepreneurship and enables a world where everyone is a Changemaker. Information about these programs, and suggestions on how to collaborate, are included here. If interested, [check whether they are available in your country or region](#). Keep in mind that those within both the Rotary and Ashoka networks operate autonomously, and so it is encouraged to formalize local partnerships with a memorandum of understanding detailing the responsibilities of all involved.

[Ashoka Fellows](#) are leading social entrepreneurs who come up with innovative solutions to some of the world's greatest challenges. Ashoka invests in these entrepreneurs at a key time in their venture, when minimal resources have maximal leverage. Through this program, Ashoka seeds ideas that represent potentially groundbreaking paths forward for society.

- Read about [Ashoka's network of fellows](#) to learn how they address challenges through innovative solutions. Invite a Fellow to present about their work at a club meeting. [Write to](#) an Ashoka country or Fellowship representative for an introduction to a local Changemaker.
- Design and implement projects in cooperation with an Ashoka Fellow. To help launch and increase the impact of joint projects, review Rotary's [resources for the lifecycle of a project](#). We encourage clubs that have qualifying projects to apply for a district or global grant for added support.

- Get involved with local Ashoka Fellows' work by offering hands-on support, giving technical guidance, or introducing fellows to businesses with shared interests.

The [Ashoka Support Network](#) (ASN) is a global community of successful, innovative leaders from a variety of fields who see entrepreneurship as the primary engine for economic and social development. ASN members engage with Ashoka and Ashoka Fellows based on interests and skills. Contact infoasn@ashoka.org to learn more about the Ashoka Support Network (ASN) and how to join. Members commit to sharing knowledge, networking, and making an annual economic contribution to Ashoka. Members participate in [Ashoka Globalizer](#) events, serve on advisory boards for Ashoka Fellows, attend local and regional retreats with members of the Ashoka community, help staff with institution-building efforts, and meet at global or regional summits.

[Ashoka's Your Kids initiative](#) works with corporations to foster employee/parent support for their kids becoming changemakers. Simultaneously, this initiative helps to build a changemaker culture within these corporations. The Your Kids program can also be used with parents to help their students become changemakers, or with other citizen sector organizations to help their organizations help young people become changemakers. To learn more, visit <https://www.ashoka.org/en-us/yourkids> and email Nick Boedicker at nboedicker@ashoka.org

Ashoka's Youth Years

For 40 years Ashoka has created the largest and most impactful network of social entrepreneurs and Changemakers globally. From these social entrepreneurs we found out that more than half of these exceptional Changemakers started to create change when they were young. Today more than ever we need more young people to step up, collaborate, and create change for the good of all. We see a world where everyone can be a powerful contributor with the skills to thrive in a rapidly changing world – watch this short video [here](#). Ashoka invites the Rotaract and Interact community to be part of this movement to build an *Everyone a Changemaker* world. Ashoka has an array of global opportunities to activate, support, and collaborate with changemakers for the good of all.

- [Ashoka Young Changemakers](#) are a network of changemakers under 20 who not only know how to create change but are also co-leading the Everyone a Changemaker movement. These changemakers are eager to collaborate.
- [Changemaker Challenges](#) are award- based competitions aimed to mobilize key changemakers and changemaker institutions to develop and scale the most innovative solutions.
- [LeadYoung](#) is Ashoka's storytelling initiative featuring changemakers' journeys from around the world who have identified a problem, formed a team, and created change while young. Read, write, and share LeadYoung stories to remind everyone that it is never too late or too early to be a changemaker.

Connect your club with local Ashoka Young Changemakers

- Read about [Ashoka Young Changemakers](#) and learn how she/he is addressing challenges through innovative solutions. Invite an Ashoka Young Changemaker to present about her/his work at a club meeting. Know someone who would be a fit? [Nominate or apply here](#).
- Sign up here to receive the most up-to date youth opportunities such as [T-Mobile Changemaker Challenge](#), [STEM for Good](#), and more. Sign up for the [latest opportunities here](#).
- Get inspired by young changemakers by subscribing to the [LeadYoung Story Series](#)

Just like Rotary clubs select which priorities they address, Ashoka Young Changemakers are independent individuals who strive to mitigate social problems. Clubs and young changemakers have full discretion over the partnerships they build. Clubs partnering with Ashoka Young Changemakers are encouraged to formalize their relationship with a memorandum of understanding detailing the responsibilities of both parties.

Share your impact

Have you collaborated with Ashoka? Publicize your joint work on [Rotary Showcase](#), and tell us about it through this [brief online survey](#). Your opinions help us better support the partnership. Success stories may be shared through Rotary and Ashoka media to further inspire local collaboration.