Rotary District 5000 2012-2013

Keiki Vision

1. Keiki Vision can be conducted after or before the Dictionary Project.
2. Contact the principal or coordinator for each school and arrange for a date and time suitable for the school and Rotarians. When that date has been decided, contact the school secretary and bring/e-mail copies of the forms to be used in the Keiki Vision Screening process. There are three types of forms:
	1. **Screening Permission Letter** is sent home to the parents/guardian with each child. The wording of this letter is such that if the parent/guardian *doesn’t return the letter* then the child *does* have permission to have the tests done. This letter also requests sharing the results with the teachers, health worker and principal of the school.
	2. **Screening Test paper** that the child carries during the screening process and is handed to us at the end. This second form is printed out by the school and given to the teachers the day before the screening so that each child brings a form with his/her name and the teacher’s name on it to the screening. Plan to forward a copy of this form to the school secretary a week or so before the screening occurs.
	3. **Results Summary** (pass or fail) to take home parents that evening. Examples of all three forms are on the Keiki Vision Literacy Page on the Rotary District 5000 website: <http://www.clubrunner.ca/Portal/SitePages/SitePage.aspx?accountid=60108&pid=75525>
3. Between ten and sixteen volunteers are needed for each school screening depending on the number of children involved. It’s important to give club Rotarians enough time to arrange their work schedules in order to volunteer. Two to three weeks ahead of time is the minimum amount of time for this purpose and a month or so is even better.
4. Check with the eye doctor who is working with your club to determine the number of vision charts that he has available and the number of screening forms and pass/fail letters that are needed for a given school.
5. For each set of charts, plan 1 volunteer to check the kids in, 2 volunteers for each distance chart, 1 volunteer for the near vision chart, and 1 volunteer for the exit to receive the screening paper – a total of 5 volunteers for each set. But in larger groups not all volunteers need to be increased in number: 2 volunteers to check kids in and 3 volunteers to check kids out. If you have extra volunteers, it’s useful to have several directing traffic and keeping the kids moving from one station to the next. If you have 10-12 volunteers for smaller schools and 16-18 volunteers for the larger schools, that works out well.
6. Consider including UH Rotaractors who have fun and are a valuable addition to the program. To reach them contact the District New Generations Director.
7. If you can, try to visit the health worker a day or two before the screening and explain what the screening form will look like. It’s also important to go into the concept of false positives and how many “failures” on a given sheet may mean that the child really does need a more thorough examination. On this visit, it’s also useful to check with the office secretary to see that the number of forms of each type have been created and the screening form distributed to each classroom. If it’s possible to meet the head custodian or head cafeteria worker to discuss the movement of the cafeteria tables before screening and cleanup afterwards, that’s also useful.
8. On the day of the screening, Rotarians need to check in at the school’s office to receive a visitor’s badge and then report to the screening site. The Keiki Vision screening is generally held in the cafeteria because of the amount of space needed. Decide the setup layout, set up the distance and near vision stations, the check in and exit stations and decide who will do what.
9. Give the pass/fail letters to the child for dissemination to parents or to the teacher to pass out later. Keep the screening forms. Copies are delivered to the school health worker depending on the wording of the permission letter. It’s useful to also print out a summary of the kids who failed for each individual teacher and give them to the contact teacher for dissemination. Generally the *number* of children who fail (but not their names) is recorded for statistical purposes. Nationwide about 20% of children need some sort of vision correction.
10. Take pictures for club newsletters and websites. Make sure that you have permission to use photos of the children.
11. At the completion of presentations to all four schools, write a project summary report to be abstracted at the end of the year for D5000 purposes. An example of this using the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay follows.

**HILO BAY ROTARY, 2010-2011 REPORT**

Name of Chair and Avenue of Service:

David C. Hurd, Community

Name of Project:

Keiki Vision Screening

Date and Time of Project:

January 11th, January 24th, February 8th, and March, 2011

Organization or Individuals Benefiting from Project:

Third grade students from Hilo Union Elementary, Ka ‘Umeke Ka’eo (Hawaiian Immersion Charter School), Waiakea Elementary and Waiakeawaena Elementary Schools.

Why project was important:

It is important for the students to have their vision screened. Students who have correctable vision issues that haven’t been addressed can’t do their best in the classroom. Keiki Vision Screening is important for discovering vision issues that can later be addressed more completely by an optometrist or ophthalmologist.

What was done:

At each school, a series of vision screenings to detect nearsightedness, farsightedness and binocular vision were given to the students under the supervision of Dr. Mitsui. Those students with “lazy eye” (amblyopia and/or strabismus) are also noted.

Number of Rotarians participating:

## Rotarians from Rotary Club of Hilo Bay; number of Rotaractors from UH.

How this project will be of benefit to the communities:

The project provides an opportunity for Rotarians to meet with both the 3rd grade students, their teachers, school staff and the Principal for each school thereby providing a necessary link between Rotary and primary education. The Keiki Vision Screening is a key element in fulfilling Rotary Literacy goals.