Rotary District 5160 | International Service

International Service: Ideas, Resources, & Opportunities

District 5240 International Service Chairs
January 19, 2026

Sheila Hurst, Redding West Rotary
District 5160 International Service Advisor

The Rotary Foundation

Rotary District 5160 | International Service

International Service: Ideas

The Rotary Foundation

Rotary's 5 Avenues of Service



The Rotary Foundation

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Did you join Rotary
or
Rotary International?

John Hewko: General Secretary and CEO of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation.

“International Service is the Overarching Priority for Rotary.”



The Rotary Foundation

In Rotary, International is our last name!

---Donna Boyd, Mt. Shasta Rotary

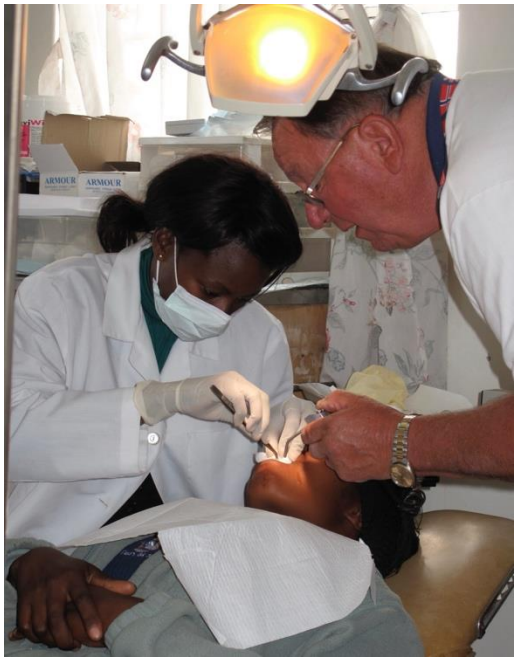


The Rotary Foundation

International Service is More Than Grants

Service projects, events, and activities taking place between Rotarians and others in two or more countries







The Rotary Foundation

A few ideas for International Service

- Write or support a Global Grant Project
- Work on an International District Grant
- Volunteer on a Rotary project in another country
- Raise or donate funds for an international project
- Volunteer or support a National Immunization Day
- Attend a Rotary Convention
- Visit a Rotary Club in another country
- Apply to become a Cadre
- Join a Rotary Fellowship or Rotarian Action Group
- Join a Sister Club
- Attend a Project Fair
- Contribute to Polio Plus
- Sponsor a Peace Fellow
- Host a Rotary Youth Exchange Student
- Be a Counselor for an Ambassadorial Scholar
- Donate to The Rotary Foundation World Fund
- Host a Rotarian from another country
- Join a Friendship Exchange

The Rotary Foundation

Rotary District 5160 | International Service

International Service: Resources

The Rotary Foundation



Rotary Action Groups

Rotary Action Groups

Who are they?

International groups of Rotarians, Rotarians' family members, Rotary program participants and alumni.

What do they do?

Help clubs and districts plan and implement large-scale projects in a particular area of service.

Why do they do it?

Because they have relevant expertise, experience, or a personal interest in a particular type of service activity.

The Rotary Foundation

Why Join a Rotary Action Group?

When planning a project, they can help you widen the scope of your project and/or make a bigger impact.

By joining an Action Group, you can be part of meaningful service activities outside your own club, district, or country.

By partnering with an Action Group, your club or district gains the support of experts.



The Rotary Foundation

Benefits to Rotarians



Service opportunities



Member empowerment



Alumni engagement



New friends & partners

The Rotary Foundation

Rotary's 7 Areas of Focus



The Rotary Foundation

Action Groups listed by Rotary's 7 Areas of Focus

Promoting peace

Domestic Violence Prevention
Peace
Refugees
Slavery Prevention

Fighting disease

Addiction Prevention
Alzheimer's/Dementia
Blindness Prevention
Blood Donation
Diabetes
Family Health/AIDS Prevention
Health Education and Wellness
Hearing
Hepatitis Eradication
Malaria
Mental Health
Multiple Sclerosis
Polio Survivors

Providing clean water & sanitation

Menstrual Health and Hygiene
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Saving mothers and children

Clubfoot
Reproductive Maternal and Child Health

Supporting education

Basic Education and Literacy

Growing local economies

Community Economic Development
Disaster Assistance

Protecting the environment

Endangered Species
Environmental Sustainability

In more than one area of focus

Food Plant Solutions

The Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisors

The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers

A group of volunteer Rotarians who provide technical expertise and advice to Rotarians planning and carrying out Rotary Global Grant projects around the world





The Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers

What They Do:

- Site visits
- Technical reviews
- Project Advising
- Project Monitoring
- Project Evaluation
- Audits - financial
- Audits - operational







The Rotary Foundation

Cadre members also offer …

Grant application guidance and assistance with

Community Assessments

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Rotary Grant model

Sustainable project planning

Best practices

Feedback on project implementation



The Rotary Foundation



Rotary Fellowships

The Rotary Foundation

What are Rotary Fellowships?

International groups that share a common passion

Make friends around the world

Explore and learn



Recreational Activities
Hobbies
Sports
Vocations
Rotary History & Culture



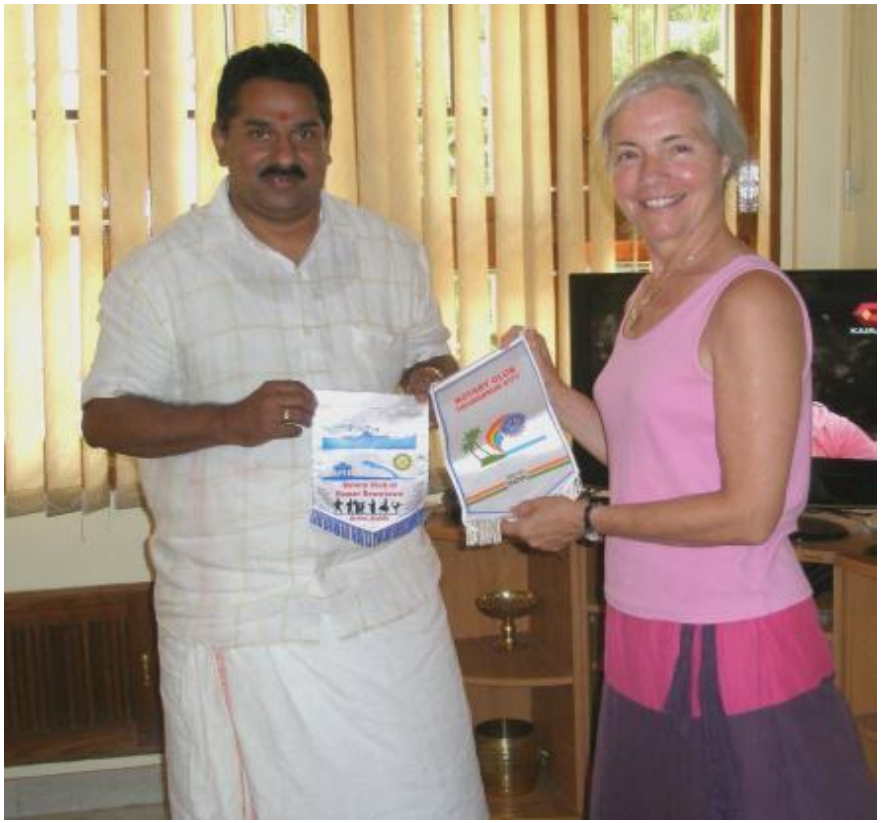
The Rotary Foundation

Benefits of Rotary Fellowships

Fellowships engage the family of Rotary through shared interests



Surfers Unite Rotarian Fellowship



International Travel and Hosting Fellowship

The Rotary Foundation

Examples of Rotary Fellowships

More than **100** Rotary Fellowships are officially registered with Rotary International



The Rotary Foundation

Rotary District 5160

International Service

Coaching & Mentoring for Grant Writing

The Rotary Foundation

You want to write a District or Global Grant

But you're…

- Not sure how to begin?
- Overwhelmed?
- Intimidated?
- Short on time?
- Confused by the process?



We can help…

- Take some of the confusion and stress out of the process
- Explain the steps
- Help you navigate the website(s)
- Clarify the instructions



The Grant Coaching and Mentoring Team

For District or Global Grants
For Newbies or for those
who are just stuck

You write – We Coach

Our Team has members
throughout the District

Rotary District 5160 | International Service

International Service: Opportunities

DISASTER RESPONSE FUND CONTRIBUTIONS





UKRAINE RELIEF FUND, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



The Rotary Foundation



POLIO PLUS CONTRIBUTIONS





Polio Plus Society

DDF FOR OTHER CLUBS AND DISTRICTS

The District 5160 International Service Committee may award up to $10,000 in District Designated Funds (DDF) per Rotary year for projects in which a District club is neither the host club nor the international club.

Elimination of Cervix Cancer Project in Guatemala



Transforming Lives Through Farming Mechanization in Uganda







Rotary Sister Clubs (Twin Clubs)

What are Sister Clubs (Twin Clubs)?

Two clubs from different countries that form a long-term relationship to promote international understanding and goodwill and to carry out service projects in their communities



The Rotary Foundation

When looking for a partner….

Consider clubs that

- Share similar interests, challenges, or history
- You've worked with in the past
- Are located in a place that matches your club's service interests
- Speak a common language

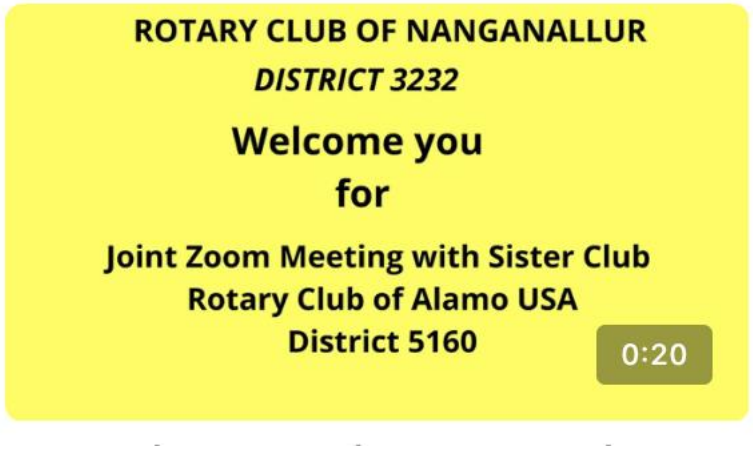
Sister Clubs May Mutually Agree To…

Promote friendship and understanding;

Coordinate and cooperate with each other regarding projects/activities of mutual interests:







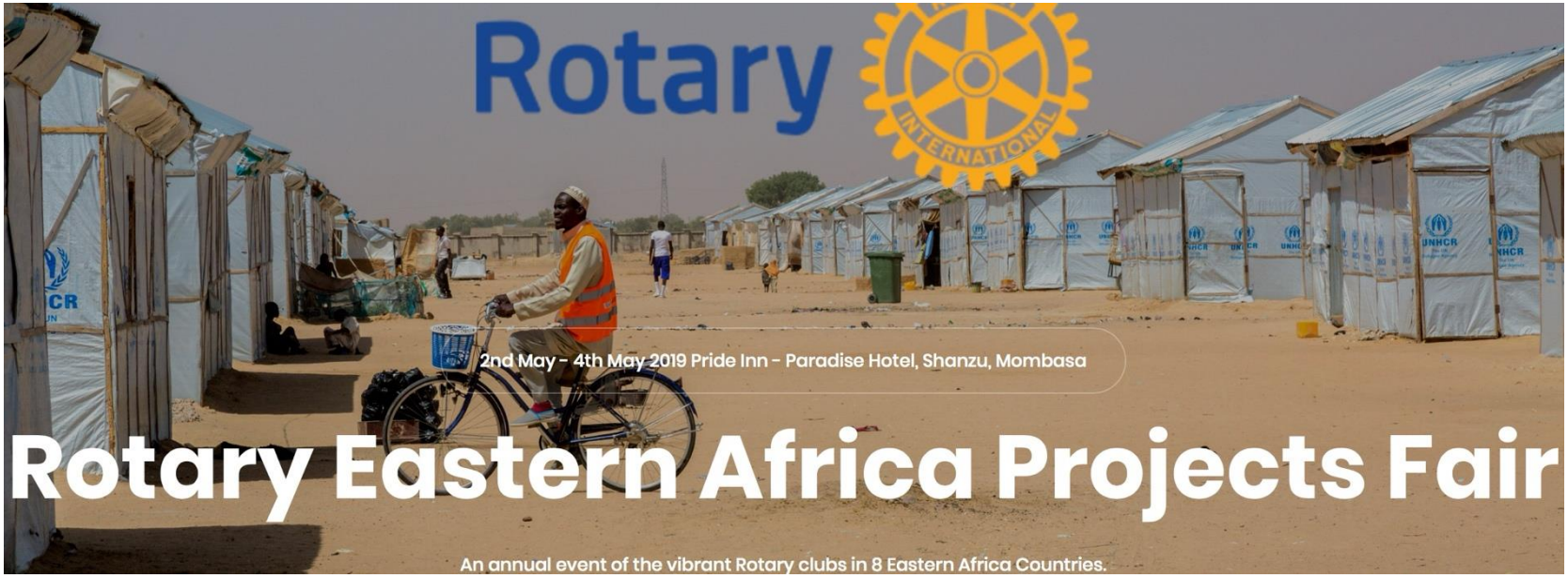
The Rotary Foundation



Rotary Project Fairs

Rotary Project Fairs

- Events that connect clubs seeking international service projects with those interested in collaborating with global partners
- Typically last 2 or 3 days



The Rotary Foundation

Rotary Project Fairs

- Any club representative or Rotary member interested an international service project can attend.
- May include visits to service projects or opportunities to experience the local culture





The Rotary Foundation

District 5160 Project Fair Attendance Grants

When DDF is available, the International Service Committee, in conjunction with the Grants Review Panel, can authorize Project Fair Attendance Grants to Clubs.

3 Project Fairs and 6 Rotary Clubs

Uniendo America Costa Rica
24-27 January, 2019
Lamorinda and Redding West

Colombia Bucaramanga, Colombia
1-3 February, 2019
Hercules and Woodland Sunrise

East Africa Mombasa, Kenya
2-5 May, 2019
Anderson, Woodland Sunrise, and
Dougherty Valley/San Ramon

The Rotary Foundation

TITLE | 3







The Rotary Foundation



Rotary Friendship Exchange

The Rotary Foundation

Rotary Friendship Exchange Guidelines

Coordinated at the district or club level

Reflect interests and choices of participants

In-person or virtual





The Rotary Foundation

Rotary Friendship Exchange Benefits

Build goodwill, foster peace, strengthen international friendships, expand international understanding, and create a more global community





The Rotary Foundation

Rotary Friendship Exchange Themes

Culture: Experiences that highlight a region's ethnicity, food, language, history, landmarks, hobbies through Fellowships, and more

Service: Opportunities for hands-on project involvement and support

Vocation: Exploring specific professions or jobs in a different cultural context

Rotary Friendship Exchange Details

Typical exchange is for 7 days

All exchanges funded by participants or their districts

Guests are responsible for their travel expenses and personal spending

Hosts are

- not expected to assume a significant financial burden
- are expected to provide housing and meals

The Rotary Foundation

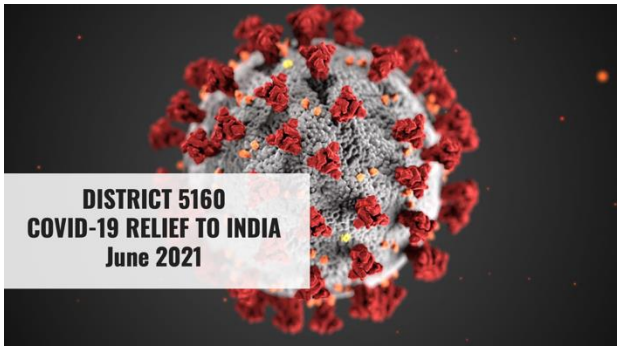
Rotary District 5160

International Service

International Service:
District Governor Projects

The Rotary Foundation

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S INTERNATIONAL PROJECT



A short-term fundraising effort that raised $35,000 in 3 weeks for life-saving oxygen products, equipment, and supplies to

D3030 and D3070 in India.





Districts 3030 and 3070 District 5160

The Rotary Foundation

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

A comprehensive project to educate, advocate, and collaborate to keep girls in school including providing **feminine hygiene kits to girls in Kenya at $10 each.**

Immediate economic impact: job creation for the locals sewing the kits.

Funds raised = $37,000+



The Rotary Foundation

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

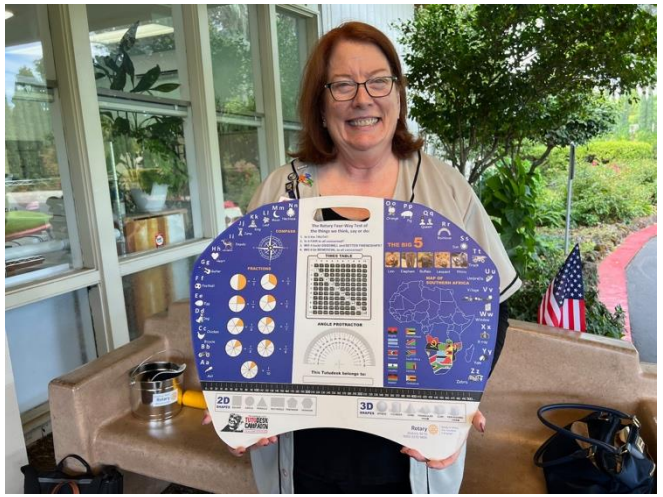
TUTUDESK (STUDY BUDDY) 2022- 2023 & 2023-2024









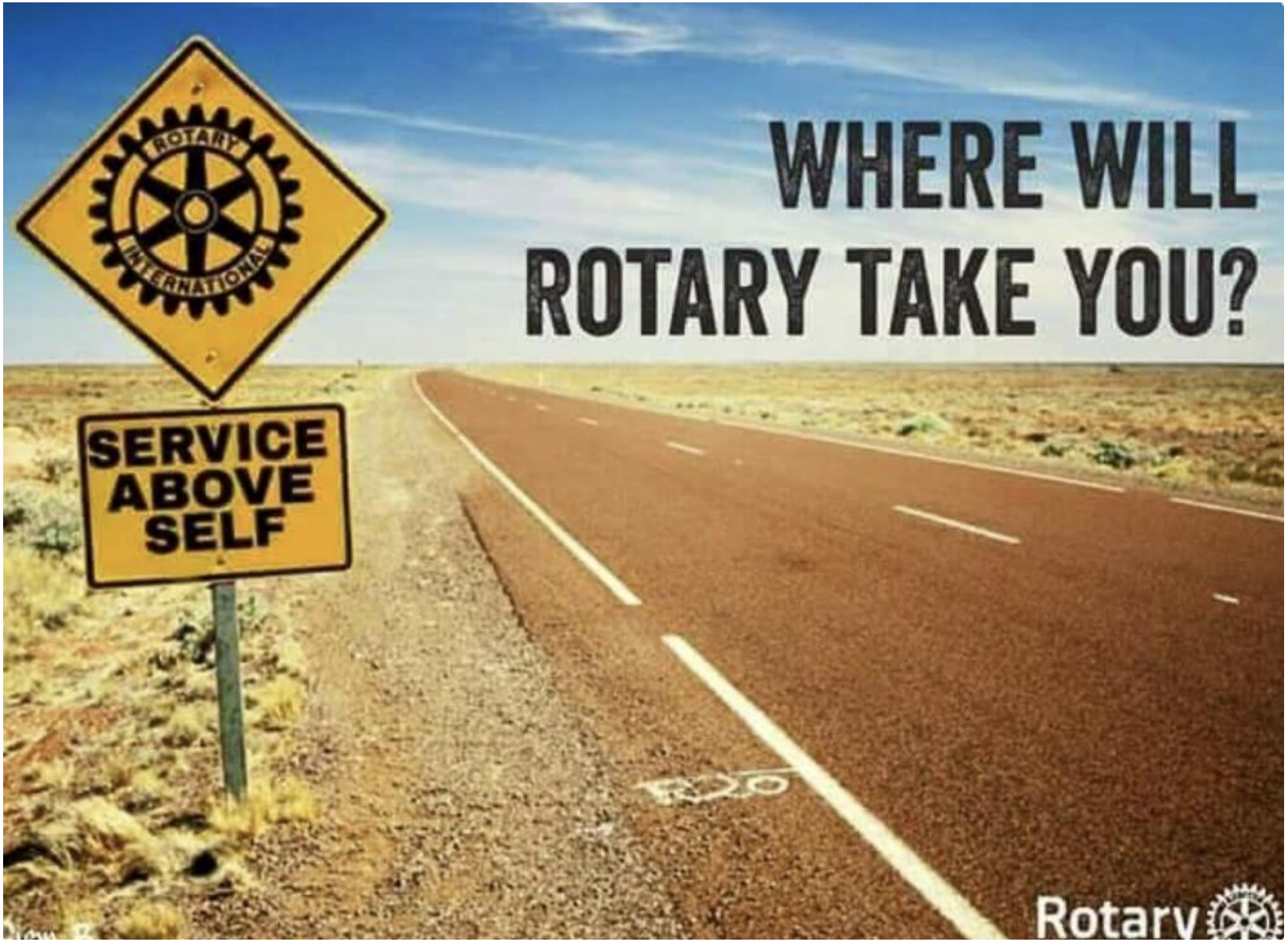


The Rotary Foundation

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE: SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES



The Rotary Foundation



The Rotary Foundation



The Rotary Foundation