

The District Rotary Foundation - April 2021

By PDG Frank Ortiz, District Rotary Foundation Chair

We all understand that The Rotary Foundation is a huge, complex, and oftentimes confusing necessity; but the fact is, we are the greatest service organization on the planet, which is largely attributed to why we support our Foundation and how we go about doing it.

Doing Good in the World has been the Foundation's mission for over 100 years. From the PolioPlus program to Global and District Grants, to Rotary Peace Fellowships and Peace Centers, the Foundation has received contributions in our history totaling well over \$4 billion dollars. Your donations ensure the progress and future of the Foundation's work. The Foundation is supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotary members and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world. This support is essential to make possible; projects funded with Foundation grants, that bring sustainable improvement to communities in need.

We all want to do good in our World - to make it a better place for everyone. Because of the diversity of our 35,000 plus Rotary Clubs; that statement can mean different things to each of us. Supporting our Rotary Foundation allows us to make a real difference in our local and global communities. Some of us do many 'hands on' projects, not only in our own communities; but communities in other Countries. That's what makes us humanitarians. Some of us contribute to the same efforts – but financially. That's what makes us philanthropic. Some of us do both. Not everyone can do this; but we can all do something. Because individually, we can do good things in our Rotary lives; but collectively, especially through our Rotary Foundation; the sky is the limit!

The #1 Goal of The Rotary Foundation still is to Eradicate Polio off the face of the Earth. We need to finish this job. Today; the 5 Top reasons to eradicate Polio can be looked at this way:

1. TO IMPROVE LIVES
2. TO INVEST IN THE FUTURE
3. TO IMPROVE CHILD HEALTH
4. TO SAVE MONEY
5. **TO MAKE HISTORY:** Polio Eradication would be one of history's greatest public health achievements, with polio following smallpox to become only the second human disease eliminated from the world.

How can we continue to make a difference? There is a program to promote individual giving to PolioPlus. Members of the Polio Plus Society of District 5240 agree to give \$100 per year toward polio eradication until polio is wiped out of the world. Let's get our Club members signed up! All you need to do is contribute at least \$100 to Polio Plus this Rotary year and you will be included in the Polio Plus Society.

Rotary continues to focus on key areas of focus around the globe through our seven (7) areas of focus. Each of these will be touched upon in the coming months through this DRFC newsletter.

The DRFC stands ready to support the efforts of Rotarians throughout District 5240 for the 2020-2021 Rotary year. Take a look at the DRFC subpage on the District Website at: DRFC subpage: <https://rotarydistrict5240.org/sitepage/the-rotary-foundation>