

Weekly Rotary Foundation Thoughts

Weeks 6-10



Educating Rotarians about the work of The Rotary Foundation is one of the most effective tools in gaining and broadening support of our Annual Programs Fund and the ***Every Rotarian, Every Year*** effort. The **Weekly Rotary Foundation Thought** is designed to inform our members of the many ways in which we impact the world — there's always something new and exciting going on in Rotary.

The club president can begin the tradition by opening each meeting with a brief moment on The Rotary Foundation, but consider rotating ownership of the weekly reading among club members. In fact, didn't Paul Harris have a similar idea about rotating?

Week 6:

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about PolioPlus.

By the time the world is certified polio-free, Rotary's contributions to the global polio eradication effort will exceed US\$600 million. This is the largest private sector donation to this initiative and second only to the US government in total contributions. PolioPlus has made the world take notice of Rotary and what we can achieve. We now have respected partnerships with such groups as UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We have earned their respect and are seen as instrumental to this initiative.

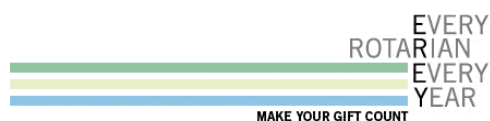
In the words of Carol Bellamy, former executive director of UNICEF: "Rotary's presence has been vital for the PolioPlus effort. Without Rotary, everything would have been different."

Week 7:

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about Matching Grants.

Matching Grants provide matching funds for international service projects of Rotary Clubs and districts. Sponsored by District 9110 in Nigeria and the Rotary club of Mount Airy, North Carolina, one grant provided water, clothing, food, drugs, toilets and farming implements to a leper colony in Africa. Over 1,000 people benefited from this project. The Rotarians sponsoring the project designed, supervised and kept the project on target, gaining both local and international attention. As a result of this project, the leper community will have access to basic amenities after many years of neglect. Dignity has been restored to the lives of those individuals living in the leper colony.

Wouldn't you like to feel that your efforts have brought dignity to someone's life?



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The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International
everyrotarianeveryyear@rotaryintl.org
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www.rotary.org

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continued

Week 8:

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about The Annual Programs Fund and the effort to gain the support of **Every Rotarian, Every Year**.

The Annual Programs Fund is the primary source of unrestricted support for the programs of the Rotary Foundation. It funds programs in 168 countries on seven continents with projects ranging from digging clean water wells for villages in Africa to teaching basic literacy skills to children in Latin America. During any given moment in a day, thousands of Rotarians volunteer their time and expertise to ensure that all contributions given to The Annual Programs Fund are spent wisely on quality Rotary projects. If **Every Rotarian, Every Year** makes a gift to the Annual Programs Fund, we will be able to continue the great work of our Rotary Foundation.

Week 9:

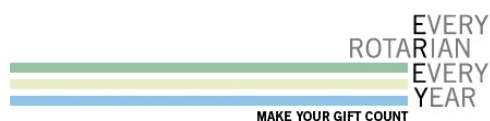
This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about Group Study Exchange.

Group Study Exchange is an educational program that promotes international understanding through organized travel and personal contact. This program provides travel grants for teams of young professional men and women to exchange visits between paired areas in different countries. For four to six weeks, team members study the host countries institutions and ways of life, observe their professions practiced abroad and develop personal and professional relationships and exchange ideas. Many worthwhile matching grant projects have resulted from Group Study Exchange team members seeing a need in another country and using the vast Rotary network. Only with our continued support will we be able fund these valuable exchanges.

Week 10:

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about a Matching Grant that has changed and saved lives in Jamaica.

Sponsored by the Rotary clubs of St. Andrew, Jamaica and Oviedo, Florida, this grant provided life-saving medical equipment to the Bustamante Hospital for children (the only children's hospital in the English-speaking Caribbean), and the Newborn Special Care unit at the University Hospital of the West Indies, which deals with premature newborn babies and babies with special medical needs. Doctors and nurses were trained to use the new equipment. In addition to providing machinery and equipment, this project refurbished the emergency wing the Bustamante Hospital. Approximately 500 patients benefit from this project daily. Many lives, namely those of children, will be saved as a result of this project and contributions to the Annual Programs Fund.



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