

Global Grant Tutorial

Are you or members of your Rotary club looking for opportunities to engage in international service? There are many different ways to engage in international service. One of the best and most immediate ways is to support a global grant.

Global grants are created when a local “host” club forms a partnership with an “International Sponsor” club. The two clubs then develop a concept for a global grant, complete a community needs assessment and work together to prepare an application, seeking a global grant from the Rotary Foundation. The global grant must address needs in one of the seven areas of focus identified by Rotary International and meet other specific criteria, such as sustainability. The two clubs select committee members who begin the effort of obtaining commitments of funds to leverage District Designated Funds (DDF) and the global grant from the Rotary Foundation. Projects must have a budget of a minimum of \$30,000. Many global grant budgets are well above this level and require the support of many clubs and individuals. The role of International Sponsor carries the same responsibility for the success of the project as the host club. As global grants have grown larger it has become essential for projects to gain the support of many additional clubs and individuals who contribute funds to the project. These clubs and individual provide vital support to the project without assuming the responsibility for project execution. Providing financial support is therefore an easy but critical role in the world of global grants.

If your club has members with experience in preparing and executing global grants, your experience and talent is a potential valuable resource for host Rotary Clubs seeking support from an international partner. Likewise, if you have members interested in a deeper experience with global grants and the desire to take the lead in raising funds, you may want to consider becoming an international partner.

If your club lacks the experience of sponsoring a global grant, but you have the desire to become engaged with international service through global grants, you may want to explore some of the global grant opportunities outline further in this article. Your financial support may be key to the project being fully funded. Further, your club’s involvement may provide opportunities for members of your club to gain personal exposure through project updates or even travel to see projects under way.

Leveraging resources: Keep in mind, that when a club (and/or its members) provides support to a global grant, that support will be matched dollar for dollar with District Designated Funds (DDF) from District 5190 up to the amount of funds annually available to the District. DDF are committed by the District on a first come – first served basis. DDF funds qualify for a match from the Rotary International Foundation at the ration of .8 to 1. So, \$1000 (plus a processing fee of 5% or \$50) from a club and its members will gain a match of \$1000 from the District and \$800 from the Rotary Foundation. \$1050 from your club is therefore worth \$2800 in the project budget. Likewise, \$5250 from a club or a group of clubs and individuals is worth \$14,000 to a project.

There are currently a large number of efforts underway that seek support from Rotary Clubs. In District 5190, we have gathered information on a number of these projects including from Rotary Clubs in District 5190. Some of these efforts have an international sponsor club in our District, or are being supported by a club or clubs in the District. In each case, full funding has not been achieved and additional support is needed. Some of these projects have come to the attention of District 5190 leadership through appeals from clubs in other districts. District 5190 is not endorsing any specific project and encourages clubs and Rotarians to follow up on any area of interest by contacting representatives of the projects.

Below you will find more information about the Global Grant opportunities we presented in the November Newsletter. Those who get involved in a Global Grant will find it very rewarding to connect with Rotary clubs and be helping people addressing challenges in other parts of the world. A club can either be a financial partner where funds are donated only, or the club can be the International Partner if there is not one already committed. As mentioned above, an International Partner has much more involvement and responsibility.

There are many unmet needs throughout the world and there are also many Rotary Clubs meeting that challenge by initiating projects both as host clubs and as international sponsors. Choosing where to begin or what to support can seem daunting or even overwhelming. But your support is needed and we have a couple of suggestions on how to narrow the choice down. And there are no bad choices. All the needs are great and waiting for our support.

One decision you may want to make is to work in a particular area of the world or individual country. It may be a country or area where your members have experience, have contacts or want to provide support.

Another decision you may want make is to work in one particular are of focus. Rotary International has identified seven areas of focus. They are:

Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention
Disease Prevention and Treatment
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
Maternal and Child Health
Basic Education and Literacy
Community Economic Development
Environment

More information about each of these areas of focus is available on the Rotary International website.

Another factor you may wish to consider is any relationship you and your club may have to a host sponsor (the club in the country of the project) or to an international partner

club or supporting club such as another club in District 5190. We encourage clubs within District 5190 to support projects through a joint effort.

If you are interested in any of these projects, talk with your club leadership to get a team working on the process. Contact the person identified as the point of contact for that particular global grant.

If you have general questions on Global Grant Projects, please contact District 5190 International Services Chair, Jon Gresley at jongresley@hotmail.com.

Finally, the process of applying for a global grant takes months of preparation, fund raising and refinement of plans. Some of the project outlined below will hopefully proceed and receive funding from The Rotary Foundation this Rotary Year. Others may take longer, and some may not proceed ultimately. Based on our assessment, we will group the global grants into different categories according to how quickly they are likely to proceed. (But no promises. Do your own due diligence!)