District 7780 Foundation Committee Final Report 2023-2024
For the Rotary Year Ended June 30, 2024

This report is submitted by the District 7780 Foundation Committee, which approved it unanimously on September 3, 2024. The report includes information furnished by DRFC Aileen Dugan (2024-2027), past DRFC Dave Underhill (2021-2024), Global Grant chair Carolyn Johnson, District Grant chair Michele Varuolo-Cole, Fund Development chair Brenda Cressey (2021-2024), Annual Fund team members Jeff Slaton and Marianne Pinkham, many other committee members, and from committee and Rotary Foundation records. Dollar figures are unaudited but believed correct as of August 31, 2024.

Dollars Expended (district grants):

The closing report for district grant DG 2453417 is attached and incorporated into this year-end summary.

The Rotary Foundation provided $60,735 in SHARE funds (DDF, or district designated funds) to the district under this grant. $9,000 of this amount was set aside for a district group exchange outreach to work with clubs in Poland, on projects that included relief for displaced citizens of Ukraine. The remainder was allocated to fifteen Rotary Clubs as outlined in the attached district grant report. At yearend, $55,346 had been spent and $5,389 was returned to The Rotary Foundation (which was subsequently deposited back into our DDF account). Please see the attached "closed" report for the details of the individual district projects and spending. The grant was marked "closed" at fiscal yearend, allowing the district to file for a new grant in July 2024.

Funds returned: these are detailed in the closing report noted above.

Global Grants:

As of June 30, 2024, District 7780 Clubs were participants in 25 active Global Grants. In addition, four grants were closed during the year, and five new grants were submitted and undergoing review by the Rotary Foundation at yearend. There were eight grants in draft form that had not been submitted as of June 30, 2024.

Excluding the drafts, the active, submitted and recently-closed grants reflected investment in global grant projects by 14 of our 39 Clubs totaling $186,384, to support total project funding of $3,823,174 – an impressive illustration of the power of our Rotary grant "leverage" around the world.

Sixteen of these grants were submitted by our Clubs acting as the international partner, and the remainder reflect investments by District 7780 Clubs in grants originated by others. Note that not all grants were started in the current Rotary year.

Your donor dollars: $133,150 in District 7780 DDF was at work, matching and increasing Club dollars in these grants.

When the participant clubs in Global Grants are added to the fifteen Clubs active with District Grant projects this year, a total of 22 of the district's 39 Rotary Clubs (56 %) have actively put Rotary Foundation dollars to work in this Rotary year.

Our grant policies now fully include Rotaract Clubs as eligible, but there were no Rotaract applications active during the year.

Dollars Raised for The Rotary Foundation in District 7780

Annual giving:
The Rotary Foundation (interim numbers as of this date, unaudited) showed our Rotarians and Clubs donated a total of $262,752 in Annual Giving. Of this amount, $251,896 went to the SHARE fund (which returns almost half its dollars to the district as DDF after three years, available for use in Rotary year 2026-2027).

The remaining $10,856 went to other named funds including the World Fund and Areas of Focus Funds.

PolioPlus:
In addition to the Annual Fund giving, our district Clubs and Rotarians donated $64,331 to PolioPlus. Further, the Foundation Committee authorized transfer of $5,700 in DDF to PolioPlus. The district's total giving to PolioPlus, $70,031, is then increased by an incremental 50% World Fund match to our DDF gift, bringing our total to $72,881. Finally, all this was then eligible for the Gates Foundation 2:1 match, raising our "impact" total to $218,643.

Endowment giving:
2023-2024 endowment giving from our district reflects a number of important elements.

The remainer of the Otto and Fran Walter Foundation multiple year gift to fund the new Rotary Peace Center in Istanbul was recorded during the year at just under $3.3 million. The Rotary world is grateful for this generous substantial contribution.

Other current-year donations to the Rotary Foundation endowments from members of our district totaled $406,342, raising our district's current-year endowment total to $3,705,477. The district's total giving amount was $4,094,808 including the Walter Foundation gift.

Endowment Campaign:
On November 1, 2023, the District Foundation team launched ShareForever 7780, a major effort to increase our Rotary Endowments. This campaign kicked off with an amazing gift from past Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Brenda Cressey of the Ogunquit Club and her husband

Dick. They offered a challenge bequest of one million dollars if we could raise one million new dollars in bequests and current gifts for the endowment by June 2024. A team of endowment ambassadors was trained, they coordinated efforts across our district and led us to report on June 29, 2024 that the campaign had reached a total of $3.4 million. This total included the challenge amount, but not the Walter Foundation gifts which were made prior to the campaign.

These gifts go to any Rotary Foundation endowment, and many of them are already designated to named-fund SHARE endowments which will increase our annual SHARE revenues in perpetuity.

The ShareForever 7780 endowment team then announced we would continue the campaign with a goal of reaching five million total dollars by the spring of 2025.

Further information:

Paul Harris Society (PHS) and PolioPlus Society (PPS) participation by individual Rotarians have been important parts of our fundraising this year. Members of the PHS pledge to contribute $1,000 or more each year to our Foundation. Members of PPS pledge to contribute $100 or more each year to End Polio, until the disease has been eradicated.

At yearend:
PHS Members: 72 (members who declared their commitment to give $1000/y to Foundation)
PHS Eligible but not PHS Members: 33
During the 2023-2024 Rotary year 6 Rotarians from our District became new PHS members.

PolioPlus Society: at yearend, we had 70 Rotarians who have pledged to donate $100 or more annually until Polio has been eradicated. These dedicated members contributed $13,750 of our PolioPlus total this year. We will be focused on developing further awareness in the coming year.

One challenge we have identified is non-giving members of PHS and PPS. Since pledges are voluntary and since Rotary does not have a strong system for tracking or reminding folks about their PHS/PPS commitments, we found there were 26 members of PHS who did not give to the Foundation during the fiscal year. We make efforts to reach out to them, but a better focus on this from all our members is encouraged.

Champion of Service:

In Rotary year 2022-2023, District 7780 presented its first recognition award for outstanding Rotary service. The Dr. Susan Black Champion of Service award this year recognized Rich Cromwell of the Bath Rotary Club for his outstanding work in Cambodia and his fostering of the values of international service within our District and Clubs. Nominations each year can be made electronically at champion@rotary7780.org. Please contact Carolyn Johnson of the Yarmouth Rotary Club for further information (cfj2@mac.com)

In closing:

We are grateful and extremely pleased with the substantial support of the Rotary Foundation by our Clubs and individual Rotary members this year, reflecting strong support of the Foundation's work through Club projects and dollars and through the wise investment of our DDF Foundation money, as well as the commitment of our Rotarians to support the Foundation with their own gifts.

We continue to celebrate the success of our many global and district grant projects, with gratitude to the many who support OUR Rotary Foundation.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the District Foundation Committee,

Aileen Dugan, District Rotary Foundation Chair (2024-2027)
Dave Underhill, Past District Rotary Foundation Chair (2021-2024)

Committee posting date: September 3, 2024

Attachment: closing report for DG 2453417 found at this link:
https://rotary7780.org/documents/en-ca/c50fdd58-c531-4715-8ec0-4410b0e07e38/1/