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A MESSAGE FROM OUR DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Greetings from DG Maile,

One of the things I treasure most about Rotary is discovering how connected we truly are. While my own international Rotary experience has been limited, attending the Rotary International Convention in São Paulo, Brazil was eye-opening. What struck me most was not just the scale of Rotary, but the consistency of its spirit. Encountering Rotarians serving communities deep in the Amazon reminded me that wherever you go, Rotary shows up with the same commitment to service and fellowship.

International service doesn't require traveling far; it begins with curiosity, partnership, and a shared belief that together we can make a lasting difference. Thank you for all you do to strengthen those global connections and to represent our district as true People of Action.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Maile

DISTRICT 5470 INT'L COMMITTEE UPDATES

D5470 International Coffee Bistro

D5470 International Coffee Bistro – Zoom Meeting

☕ ALL ARE WELCOME!

When: Every month on the First Saturday

Time (MST): 8:30am Social 9:00 AM Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89220238904?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89220238904?pwd=kEtJsWc6hk0KYushEfugA5GTPoyuSO.1)

[pwd=kEtJsWc6hk0KYushEfugA5GTPoyuSO.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89220238904?pwd=kEtJsWc6hk0KYushEfugA5GTPoyuSO.1)

 Add to your calendar:

Please download and import the following

iCalendar (.ics) file to

set this as a recurring monthly meeting:

[Monthly iCal Link](#)



This has been a perfect Saturday morning congregation. Thank you, Julie Dean



UPDATES:

The next 5470 International Bistro is coming up in March! Being part of Rotary, the largest service organization in the world with 1.4 million members, gives us the chance to make a difference both locally and globally. The International Bistro is a monthly Zoom gathering where Rotarians and guests can come together to share ideas, experiences, and practical tips about international service projects.

Bring your favorite coffee, tea, or other beverage, and join us for as long as you can—stay the full hour or just pop in for a quick 15 minutes. We want to hear what you're doing in your international projects and share what's working for others. It's a chance to learn, get inspired, and find ways to serve across the globe. All are welcome!

NEXT DATES:

March 7, 2026

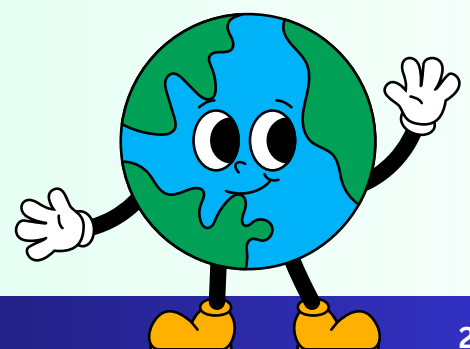
April 4, 2026

May 2, 2026

June 6, 2026

Interested in joining the District's International Committee and/or email list. Please let our District's International Chair, Michael Coplan know:

michael_coplan@fastmail.com





LALMBA'S UPDATE CLUB AND DISTRICT GRANT SUPPORT

Tri-Lakes Dynamic Rotary Club
Monument, Colorado
Rob Andzik



The Maternity Ward

INTRODUCTION:

Rotary supporters have reason to celebrate the impact of their contributions in Matoso, Kenya. A recent visit to Lalmba's clinic highlighted why the support from the Tri-Lakes Dynamic Rotary Club and the District matters so much.

Two weeks ago, during a weekend visit, the clinic's clinical officer, Steve Awino, was on call. It turned out to be an incredibly busy couple of days, with Steve delivering four babies, including a set of identical twins.

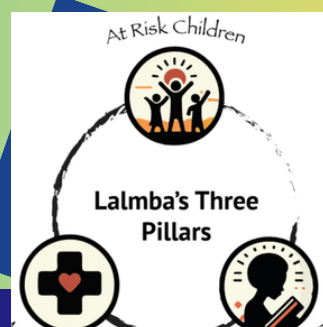
At the time, the clinic was in the midst of renovating its old building into a proper maternity ward, so all deliveries had to be conducted in a tiny, cramped outpatient holding room. Despite the awkward and crowded conditions, Steve and the staff made it work. On Monday morning, during the staff meeting, everyone applauded Steve, celebrating the successful deliveries despite the tight space.



This is Steve, our clinical officer

EMPOWERING SELF-SUFFICIENCY:

This is exactly why the \$5,000 raised—\$2,500 from the club and a matching contribution from the District—is so significant. For the past 15 years, deliveries had been conducted in a building that was never really designed for it. The multipurpose space included offices and even a server room, far from the most comfortable spot for a new mother.





On the left is a photo of Rehema Atieno, a 30-year-old female, Para 3+0, who was managed at our facility, Matoso Clinic in Lalmba, Kenya. She progressed well into the second stage of labor and successfully delivered identical twins, a male and a female, sharing one placenta. Both infants scored well at birth, each weighing 3.0 kg, although the second twin was delivered after 1 hour and 30 minutes. Over the weekend, our team also conducted three other successful deliveries, all with single infants.

With support from Rotary we are buying eight maternity beds, a delivery bed, a refrigerator for vaccines, and some nebulizers. When we have our grand opening in March 2026, the moms in Matoso will finally have a dignified, professional place to give birth.

Thanks to everyone in Tri-Lakes Dynamic Rotary Club and the District for helping out. It's going to make a world of difference for Lalmba's staff and the families in this remote community.

Please enjoy the video message I shared with out Tri-Lakes Dynamic Rotary Club as I gave them a tour.

Rob Andzik



VIRTUAL TOUR HERE

[Join Rob on a virtual adventure!](#)

[🌐🌟 Click HERE as he takes his club on a tour of the Matoso Clinic-staying connected and in the know, even from miles away!](#)

ROTARY WORK NAVAJO NATION ARTICLE FEBRUARY 2026

GLENWOOD SPRINGS ROTARY CLUB

Nancy Bo Flood, MFA PhD

Debbie Wilde, MNM

Imagine not being able to read.

What does your future look like? What could you dream about becoming, doing, being? Could you even survive in today's world?

Imagine growing up without books.

Now imagine your home without electricity, running water, internet, and certainly no home computer. Nearly half of Navajo families face this reality daily. How will you learn to read without any books? Without any electricity to provide light, how will a parent read a bedtime story to their child?

The Navajo Nation is the largest Native reservation in the U.S., stretching along the northern part of Arizona between Utah and New Mexico. But large areas of the reservation lack basic services. Nearly 50% of Navajo families have no running water, no electricity, no internet, no libraries. This means that children have limited access to educational materials – no books, no place to borrow or buy books without driving over 100 miles. Students begin preschool and kindergarten significantly behind in basic literacy skills. It's hard to learn to read when there is nothing to read. Basic literacy research again and again has shown that how well a child does in school is related to how many books are at home. Research also shows that how well a student is doing in 3rd grade is the best indicator of how well that child will do in life.

What could change these statistics?

Navajo parents and educators asked themselves that very question: what to do, where to start. Parents, teachers, and pediatricians – and Rotarians – recognized that reading skills are essential for a child's future success. Those skills need to be developed during early childhood – from birth! – and supported by parents and teachers – by the whole community.

Two important goals emerged:

- 1.Improve early literacy and access to books.
- 2.Create a space to support community development.

Chinle Planting Hope (CPH) was the first nonprofit that emerged. The second was Read at Home. During the past five years, the work of these two Native nonprofits, working in collaboration with many Rotary Clubs and a variety of volunteer groups, has made a real impact toward these goals. The Read in Beauty Bookmobile, a mobile van free library service, provides regular, dependable access to books.

A few statistics:

- Since 2023, over 10,000 donated books have been cataloged.
- The bookmobile makes regular weekly stops at all schools in the area and at many community events.
- During 2024-2025:
 - Over 3,000 students are now the proud owners of library cards.
 - Over 40,000 books have been checked out.

More than 500 preschool children now receive a year's subscription to "Highlight's High Five" magazine. The monthly magazines are first sent to the schools where teachers introduce the new magazine, teach from the contents, and then each child takes home their very own copy to share with their family. What a special feeling to see a big grin on a child's face when he/she proudly holds up his magazine and says, "Look what I can read!" In the fall of 2021, the Glenwood Springs Rotary Club began its ongoing partnership with Chinle Planting Hope with 702 service hours and 7,500 pounds of household items and clothes, which included inventory for the thrift store and 15,000 children's books.

As the Rotary-Chinle Planting Hope partnership grew, a Rotary International Global Grant was applied for and awarded. The Grant provided for the furnishing of the 3,000-square-foot Imagination Station Learning Center and funding to supply materials, teacher training, and start-up program direction for STEAM education, a "browsing library," explore learning areas, computer centers, and special "hands-on" educational and creative activities, similar to what public libraries and children's museums provide in many U.S. towns and cities.

The Imagination Station is a significant part of the Chinle Planting Hope "community campus," which also includes a thrift store (proceeds help support the Bookmobile), a bicycle repair shop plus bikes and helmets given to children (once they complete their biking class at school), and a community garden.

Glenwood Springs Sunset Rotary Club began the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program with CPH to fund over 100 children aged 2-5 to receive a book each month. Now a private foundation has picked up the project and added 200 more children!

For five years, Glenwood Springs Rotary has led a service project weekend in Chinle. Each year, more Rotary Clubs and Rotarians participated.

A quick summary of the accomplishments of the Navajo Work Weekend in June 2025:

- Over 40 volunteers from different Rotary Clubs across Colorado and Canada worked with Navajo CPH board members.
- A roof repaired, a storage shed made more "sandstorm safe," shelves built and installed, a shipping container painted for the expanding Thrift Store.
- A community and children's garden planted.
- Over 2,000 donated books unpacked, sorted, and 1,000 cataloged and shelved. At each school stop, the Bookmobile must be prepared and stocked to have several hundred books checked out by students.
- Solar panels with lights installed on many homes and hogans without electricity (a long-time project of the Durango Daybreak Rotary Club).
- New mattresses, bedding, and pillows brought to elders without beds.
- New friendships were made. Many Navajo tacos eaten, prepared for all the volunteers with chief cook, Bessie, in charge.
- The first of several summer children's book events was hosted. "All aboard for the reading train" was the theme. Children and families attended for over two hours, checking out books, getting library cards, and participating in over 10 different hands-on explore centers.

What an example of "just imagine" and then working together, Rotarians and Navajo, to make the dreams and goals REAL.

How can you help?

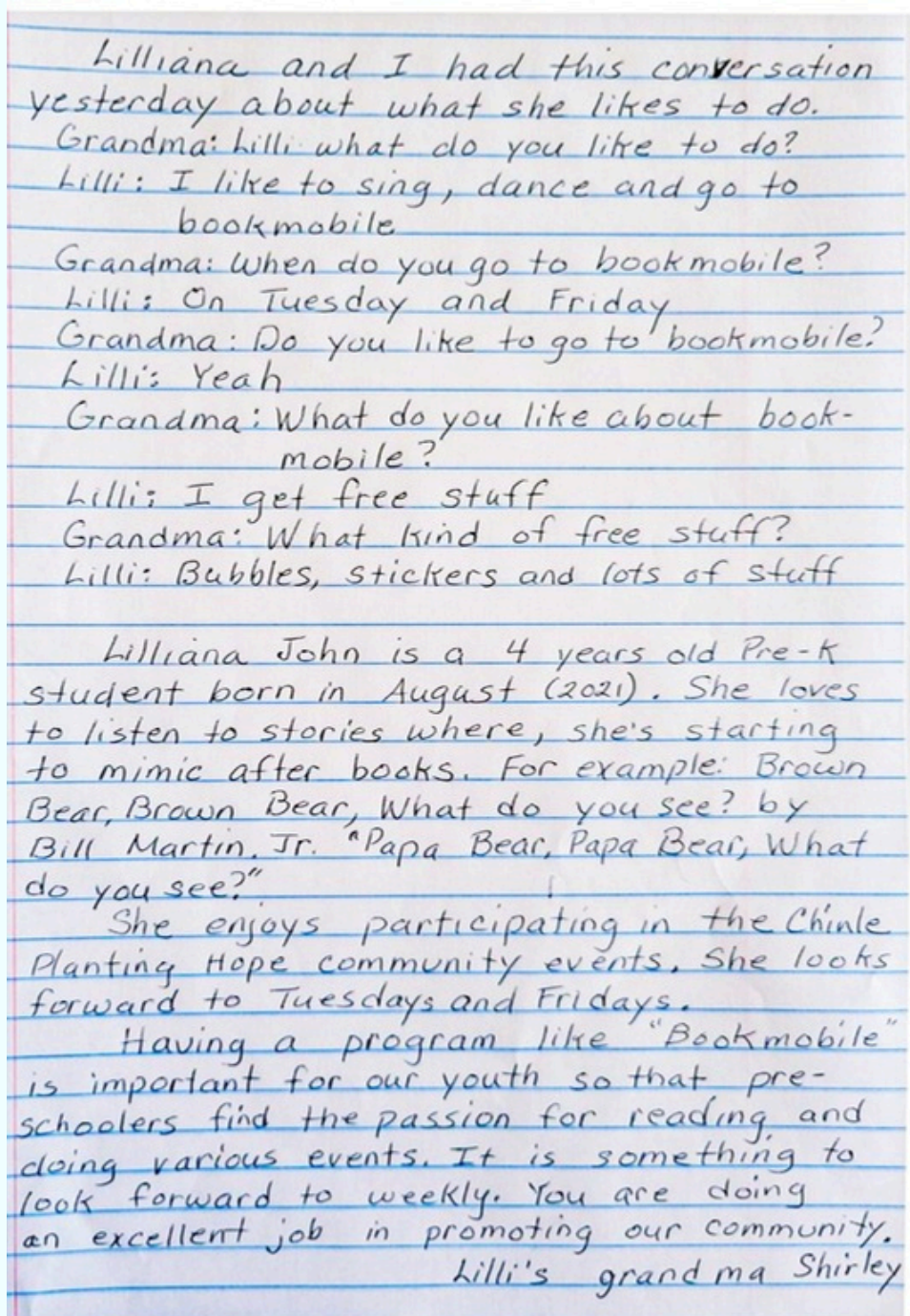
- Become a monthly or annual donor – see www.chinleplantinghope.com
- Expertise and funding for signage for the programs and buildings on the CPH campus – \$5,000
- Financial support for "Keeping the Lights On and The Bus Running"
- Sponsor preschool children to receive a year's subscription to "Highlight's High Five" magazine at \$20/child/year. (Full project is 500 children.) Think about your club creating a matching district grant to cover the costs
- School Supplies – \$1,000–\$3,000
- Polar Express Project – new Christmas gifts – \$2,000–\$3,000

Working together makes dreams happen and friendships grow. Speaking of which, our Glenwood Rotary's next work weekend is scheduled for early June 2026. Interested in helping "hands on?"

Request information, specifics, and updates from:

Debbie Wilde
debbiewilde@debbiewilde.com

Nancy Bo Flood, PhD, MFA
wlflood@hotmail.com



Lilliana John is a 4-year-old Pre-K student from Chinle. She faithfully visits the Bookmobile with her grandma every Tuesday and Friday. She has checked out 229 books!

What can the Rotary clubs in District 5470 do to change the lives of students in Ethiopia?

REBEKAH KISER
ROTARY CLUB OF EAST COLORADO SPRINGS

What can the Rotary clubs in District 5470 do to change the lives of students in Ethiopia?

I hope you enjoy this story as an example of one of the many students who have been supported with sponsorship by the Rotary Club of East Colorado Springs, the Colorado Springs Rotary Club, the Rampart Range Rotary Club, kind individual Rotarians and helpful grants provided by our District 5470 Grant Committee.

Aynalum

Aynalum began her early life in a small village in North Shoa, Ethiopia. She lived with her older sister, brother and her parents on a sustenance farm. Life was hard and the small plot of land provided barely enough for the small family to live. To make matters worse, both of Aynalum's parents had health problems. This may have been a contributing factor to their constant fighting and finally divorce when Aynalum was in the fourth grade.

Aynalum's mother had been a housewife thus work and food were even harder to come by. But Aynalum had some advantages. One, her older brother was a mathematics teacher who pushed her to learn math early. Also, Aynalum had a kind first grade teacher who would sit with the children at lunch and tell them how much he believed in them. Aynalum remembers him holding her face and looking into her eyes while he told her that he knew she was on the path to greatness.

What Aynalum considers to be one of the most important contributing points of her success is her best friend, Muluemebet, also a Trampled Rose graduate. She remembers when they were only six years old and had held hands in their village of seven grass houses as they promised each other to stay together and be accountable as they journeyed toward their goals.

When the time came to begin high school, Aynalum had heard villagers talk about a project in Ankober, the nearest high school, where there was an organization helping poor but hard working students. She and her best friend made the decision to travel the forty kilometers. They began the journey with the support and belief of Aynalum's mother. They travelled mostly on foot but occasionally were picked up and put in the back of a pickup for a small fee.



Aynalum was indeed helped. All her expenses were covered and her biggest problem was missing her family and her village customs. Life was content and Aynalum stayed focused on her dream of a career in the medical field until her senior year. This year was most important of all because it was the preparation for her final national exam that determines her acceptance into university and her field of study.

Aynalum and her friends didn't imagine that the village of Ankober and the surrounding remote area would become one of the key battlefields for the current civil conflict. She remembers vividly one time when she was in the school library (with computers provided by a D5470 grant) studying and a car bomb exploded not thirty meters away. She sought shelter under a table and covered her head. She remembers hearing the voice of Tesfaye at Trampled Rose. He had encouraged all the girls not to say thank you but instead pass the help they had received on to the next people in need. She made the courageous decision to stay fighting for her education because she knew this was her only chance to graduate and she would not have anything to pay forward without a degree.

In spite of all these obstacles, Aynalum kept her promise to succeed, graduated with scores so high she qualified for a full scholarship to Debre Berhan University. She is now in her third year of study as a Pediatric Nurse. She and nine of her friends believe that the key to happiness is serving others (the result of another district grant providing lifestyle training to thousands of Ethiopian students) These nine have committed to each other to skip breakfast every day and use those funds to pay for a meal they serve every Saturday to refugee children who have been displaced by the war.

Wishes really do come true!

Thank you for caring for those who need us the most,

Rebekah Kiser

Rebekah Kiser



www.trampledrose.org

MALARIA EFFORTS FROM OUR DISTRICT

WAKAM2 EXTENDING THE WESTERN ALLIANCE OF KENYA AGAINST MALARIA

DAN AND BRYNA PERLMAN

Carbondale Rotary

Happy New Year! Below is the letter Bryna sent to all our WAKAM Global Grant Kenyan Rotarians. It is a testament to the work already done. To sustain the project, we are putting together WAKAM2....a scaled up version of WAKAM, which was sponsored by Aspen Rotary. 45 District 5470 Clubs contributed funds to WAKAM....our ask is to get a contribution from EVERY club in this district to continue this critical work. Please contact Dan Perlman at dperlman1@mac.com or call 303-601-6013 to make a pledge. Thank you.

My purpose for writing this to each and every one of you involved with our WAKAM project comes from my heart. Most of you who have met me in person, or visited online with me, know where I stand in terms of the huge need in Kenya (and elsewhere) when it comes to malaria eradication - elimination - control - and survival of populations. I am humbled by all of you, by the friendships we have made, by your hard work, and by the experiences we have shared.

Now, I would like to take this opportunity to speak to you all - as individuals, as a group, and as "family". Little did I know when Dan and I met Alice at a RI Convention in Houston, and shortly after in Kenya 4 years ago, that I had found my new "family", and this happened very quickly. We realized the intense need to rally around malaria issues in the country, but had to focus on manageable locales as we all are "small but mighty".

As we are rounding the corner to the "end" of WAKAM ONE, there are thoughts I want to share with you.

Forever, I shall remain humbled by the TRUST that you put in us. Here we were - two Mzungus from the US, in a new country, without any prior experience there. We were guided initially by Alice, the incredible force that she is, who scheduled so many meetings, allowed us to meet many of you, and hear stories that we do not hear or read about in the US. You trusted us to COLLABORATE and collectively come up with a concept, a plan, to rally around the boots on the ground efforts to help save the lives of young children and more. As we developed our goals and plans, we gained insight into how things work in Kenya, and all of you learned more about us.

I learned, and this was a lesson in humility for me personally, to understand what real COMMUNITY is all about. What we in the US call the "Village Mentality", is not a common occurrence. Community centric ways of thinking are just beginning to take place in the US. Yet, what we found in Kenya, was that community IS and has been a way of life that has so many benefits to both young and old. (Cont. on next page)



(Continued)

The biggest impression that I came away with is the LOVE that I witnessed everywhere we visited. It was an eye opener to see the compassion, concern, and energy from all to create, launch and implement this project to make headway in the efforts to combat malaria in rural villages. We felt the ENERGY - We felt the URGENCY - We felt the level of COMMITMENT - We recognized the NEED. We have seen many of you blossom during this process and make significant contributions to our efforts. During our initial WAKAM launch, emotions were exhilarating. We were joined by the Malaria YOUTH Champions and I had hoped and continue to hope that there would be strong coordination as they have incredible energy and capabilities.

During the Cadre visit in August 2025, I came away from our visits with the CHP's with the humbling understanding of the EMPOWERMENT that had been given to these individuals who face the fight every day. Their WORK ETHICS are beyond my expectations, and we can strive to emulate them in our own ways.

We are now in the process of organizing the WAKAM 2 grant. Victor has done an exceptional job of coordinating our WAKAM 1 grant, and spearheading WAKAM 2.

The world is changing, and achieving our goals has become more difficult. However we must continue the fight, to achieve our goals, to impact and make a difference. We have to make the efforts to be more united, to be more open to different concepts that might increase our efforts, and to work together in a more cohesive manner.

In closing, I want to pay my respects and show appreciation to all of you who have been involved in WAKAM. During this experience, I have learned much from all of you, the community health promoters, and those directly impacted by malaria, and seen how this project has benefitted so many.

It is now 2026 - and we have only a few months till the grant ends. Our collective efforts are critically needed for our ultimate success.

Our District is where ROTARY MALARIA PROJECTS originated.
Now Dan is Chair of the Rotarians Against Malaria-Global
ROTARY ACTION GROUP. Bryna is Chair of Fundraising.
Please join RAM-Global Rotary Action Group at the website;
RAM-Global.org

Let's all remember why we started WAKAM, the positive impact we have made, the visibility we have achieved, and the lives we have saved. Please do not lose the energy, dedication, focus, and love that we have created. We are all privileged to have been involved in this endeavor - something we will always remember. We can always all do better.

Together, we must Fight Malaria From All Fronts.

Dan Perlman

Business Owner

dperlman1@mac.com

RAM-Global.org



RESTORING HEALTHCARE ACCESS IN LA CUESTA, JALISCO GLOBAL GRANT GG2682537

by Peter Jeschofnig
Glenwood Springs Sunset RC



For the people of La Cuesta, this project represents far more than a renovated building — it restores local access to essential healthcare, dignity, and hope for healthier futures.

For additional information, please contact Karl Dyer w.karl.dyer@gmail.com or Barbara Wilson bbwphd@gmail.com

Or check out the project summary at <https://www.matchinggrants.org/global/project3820.html>

An important new Rotary Global Grant is bringing renewed hope to La Cuesta, an indigenous village located between Mezcala and San Pedro Itzicán on the north shore of Lake Chapala, Mexico. The surrounding area, home to approximately 14,000 residents, is among the most medically underserved regions in Jalisco and is known internationally for having one of the highest per-capita rates of end-stage kidney disease in the world. Although a healthcare clinic was built in La Cuesta eight years ago, it ceased operation when a private practice closed. In early 2025, the building reverted to the indigenous landowners, and by mid-year the community approached the Rotary Club of Chapala Sunrise with a simple request: help us reopen our clinic.

Recognizing the urgent need and the long-term potential impact, Chapala Sunrise embraced the project. The club already supports regional initiatives in diabetes awareness, nutrition, cardiology, dentistry, and a Global Grant kidney transplant program that serves many patients from this very area. Restoring the La Cuesta clinic will allow for early diagnosis, follow-up care, and prevention, potentially reducing the need for dialysis and major surgery. Through strong collaboration with the State of Jalisco Secretary of Health (Region IV) and the local government of Poncitlán, an agreement has been secured to fully staff the clinic once renovations are complete. The facility will operate as a certified “Casa de Salud,” providing primary care doctors, nurses, a psychologist, nutritionist, and a full-time dentist, along with medical equipment, maintenance, and support staff supplied by the Health Department.

This Global Grant is hosted by Rotary Club of Chapala Sunrise (District 4140) in partnership with Rotary Club of South San Francisco (District 5150), with additional support from Winnipeg West (District 5550). With a total project budget of \$91,753, the team is now working to close the remaining funding gap and move quickly toward reopening the clinic.



EMPOWERING GIRLS THROUGH MENSTRUAL HEALTH EDUCATION

By Hana Figueroa Urías & Peter Jeschofnig
Glenwood Springs Sunset RC

Rotary Global Grant Transforms Lives of 760 Girls in Rural Mexico

In rural communities across Jalisco, Mexico, 760 girls are standing a little taller, attending school more regularly, and facing their futures with newfound confidence—thanks to a groundbreaking Rotary Global Grant project.

From November 2024 through June 2025, the Rotary Club of Ajijic, Mexico, partnered with the Rotary Club of Glenwood Springs Sunset, Colorado, to implement "Empowering Girls: Menstruation, Health & Education" (Global Grant #GG2239997). Working with local nonprofit Niñas Sabias A.C., the project delivered culturally sensitive menstrual health education to girls aged 9–15 in 26 schools.

Breaking the Silence

Through 37 interactive "Wise Girls" workshops, trained educators created safe spaces where girls could learn about their bodies, understand menstruation as a human right, and gain practical knowledge for managing their periods with dignity. Each participant received a menstrual kit containing sustainable products—with an impressive 99.7% distribution rate reaching 751 girls.

The impact was profound. School attendance during menstruation increased by approximately 30–35%, and post-program surveys revealed that 70–90% of participants now recognize menstruation as a human right tied to dignity and education. Perhaps most remarkably, 75% demonstrated scientific understanding of menstrual cycles, hormones, and reproductive health at levels beyond typical for their age group.

Reaching Those Who Need It Most

The project placed special emphasis on Indigenous communities, reaching 140 Indigenous girls in marginalized areas where menstrual health education is rarely available. Using Niñas Sabias' unique "ritual pedagogy" approach, workshops blended science with cultural respect and emotional support, creating transformative learning experiences.

"No girl should be left behind because of menstruation," the project team emphasized. "Empowered girls become women who lead with purpose."

Building Lasting Change

Beyond educating students, the initiative strengthened seven local women educators, building community capacity for continued menstrual health advocacy. The project offers a replicable model for Rotary clubs worldwide seeking to advance gender equity, school retention, and health awareness in their communities.

The Rotary Clubs of Ajijic and Glenwood Springs Sunset, along with The Rotary Foundation, made this transformation possible. Special recognition goes to Jeannette Monosoff of the Ajijic club and Hana Figueroa, Director of Niñas Sabias, whose visionary coordination brought this life-changing program to fruition.

What happens when thousands of Rotarians gather in a vibrant city filled with culture and innovation? Answer: #Rotary26 in Taipei.

<https://convention.rotary.org/>



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

TAIPEI, TAIWAN | 13-17 JUNE 2026

Rotary 

 TAIPEI
2026

#Rotary26

ARE YOU GOING TO THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN TAIPEI?



You're invited to an in-person workshop for select district leaders and Rotary experts who support project planning and implementation and oversee service projects and Rotary grants.

At the workshop, you'll learn strategies for collaborating with each other and clubs seeking project guidance. The goal of the workshop is for you to leave inspired to work with fellow leaders and district resource network members to help clubs improve project outcomes and enhance partnerships with community members to increase impact.

Collaborating to Increase Impact Workshop

Saturday, 13 June

9:00 - 13:30

Registration opens at 8:30

Networking lunch from 12:00 - 13:30

Location at or near the Convention venue to be announced

Language: English (interpretation in additional languages to be determined based on need)

Space is limited. Invitations to participate and waitlist notifications will be sent by April 2026.

REGISTER HERE

Please note that completing the form is not the same as registering for the Rotary International Convention. For convention registration, go to convention.rotary.org.

Questions? Write to rotary.service@rotary.org.

We look forward to seeing you in Taipei!



Rotary
Distrito 4465

Projects Fair
Virtual
Peru

Dear District International Service Chair (DISC):

Rotarians from District 4465 who serve communities in North of Peru, invite you and your district Leaders to participate in our 2026 Virtual Project Fair.

Communities in our area continue facing deep gaps in Health, Education, WASH and other development opportunities. Behind every need, there are people waiting for a chance to transform their lives. We believe that with your support we can turn a need into a transformed life.

Please come and know the need for initiatives outlined by community members and possible solutions we designed with a sustainable approach, aligned with Rotary's focus areas to Create long term Impact. Each project represents an opportunity to change lives

We will much appreciate it if you can attend our Fair, which will be held at 08:00am (EST) next February 20, via Zoom.

With Rotary regards,

CADRE María Julia Plascencia Q.
Chair of the 3rd District 4465 Virtual Project Fair
Rotary International – District 4465
Peru

"Rotary Serving Humanity"

✓ Together, let's Increase our Impact

REPORTS:
☎ +51 944 992 971 - MARÍA JULIA PLASENCIA
www.projectsfair.rotary4465.org





Rotary
District 4465



20 Projects Presented!



✦ Basic Education and Literacy **3**

3 Projects



✦ Water, Sanitation and Hygiene **2**

2 Projects



✦ Maternal and Child Health **4**

4 Projects



✦ Disease Prevention and Treatment **5**

5 Projects



✦ Community Economic Development **5**

5 Projects



✦ Environment **1**

1 Project

United for a Better Peru

For your information. This is a opportunity to attend a Virtual Project fair on February 20 to be held in Lima, Peru. (Lima is 2 hours ahead of us so it will start at 6 am MST.)

Tema: III Project Fair Distrito 4465
 Hora: 20 feb 2026 08:00 a. m. Lima
 Join the Zoom meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83972207874?pwd=XnJsQNZ6MmxoJjbrW1z8OqHeJbjaNv.1>

IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?



EGGS FOR THE “DISPLACED” IN ETHIOPIA

REBEKAH KISER

ROTARY CLUB OF EAST COLORADO SPRINGS

Seven years ago, Penny Kelly, Rebekah Kiser of the Rotary Club of East Colorado Springs and Robby Dale Nelson of the Rampart Range Rotary Club began to think about the existing unfairness that we, our children and grandchildren have everything we could want for our holidays, but what about those around the world? What about those who don't even have food for their families? What could we do? Could we get some meals to few? Would we be able to make a small difference for some? The idea came to us to think “excessively big” and commit to distribute 4,000 eggs, with the financial support of our club members, to the poorest.

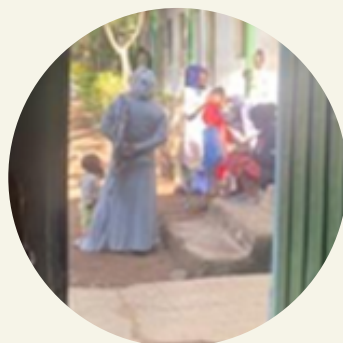
In Ethiopia our biggest celebrations center around two religious holidays, Eid Mubarak, the end of the fasting period of Ramadan and Fasika, or what we in USA call Easter. Both holidays are celebrated with a traditional soup made of onions, chicken, chili pepper, and boiled eggs called Duro Wot. In this time of great turbulence, even eggs are difficult to afford. Why not bring hope for one day to children and their parents who are most affected by poverty. For most, this is the only day of the year they will have eggs.

In these last six years, our clubs have distributed over 170,000 eggs to over 9,000 families. The photos you see are of the celebration of Eid last year with “displaced” Somalis in Dukem, Ethiopia. We are in the process of distributing 100,000 more eggs this year with the help of a matching D5470 grant during Easter week.

If you'd like to participate in this way of spreading love and hope, just let us know!

Penny Kelly pennykelly002@msn.com

Rebekah Kiser bkiser@aol.com



Dental Clinic Project District 4060 Dominican Republic

by Reggie O'Brien
Vail Edwards Rotary Club
<https://www.vailedwardsrotary.com/>

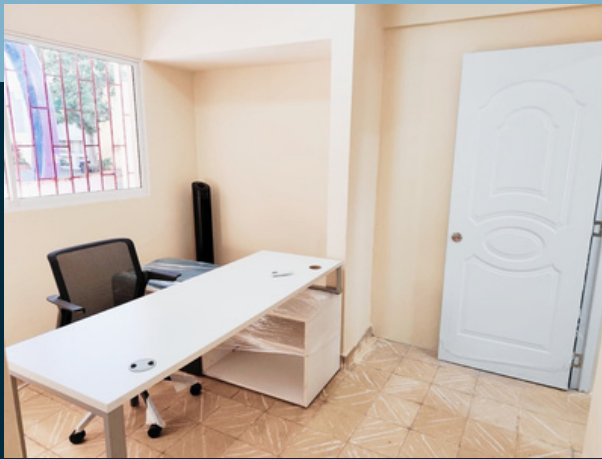
The project started with a trip by two Vail Edwards Rotarians to the Dominican Republic to visit a friend serving in the Peace Corps in the DR. The friend is a senior volunteer, which is a way of saying that they are significantly older than the usual volunteer Peace Corps population. That was in October of 2023.

Cynthia Blancke and I took the opportunity, while in the capital city of Santa Domingo, to visit the Mirador Rotary Club. We were warmly greeted and accepted into the group. The humor flowed and that characters were revealed. Cynthia and I are on the international committee of our Club and suggested that we might do a small project together. It was pretty rapid brain storming. The Mirador Club let us know the projects that they were working on and a school based dental clinic had a doable ring to it. We left the meeting with contacts exchanged and many suggestions for our holiday in the DR. Both of us speak Spanish so the gathering was a lot more entertaining.

Over the next 6 months we worked with the Mirador RC on the scope of the project and a budget. We proposed the project to our Club and then wrote for a District Grant for the following fiscal year. We were approved by the District in the fall of 2024. Then the real work began for the DR Rotary Club. (Continued on next page)



(PHOTO CREDITS: AMARIUS MEDINA)



The final report was recently submitted to the District Grant Committee. What started out as a casual Rotary visit to a Dominican Rotary Club turned into a successful joint project, two years in the making.

The center was donated to the Quisqueya School, run by the Sisters of Charity of the Order of Cardinal Ciriaco Sancha, who was a promoter of social work and was beatified in October 2009.

The center will provide services to approximately 950 students from the school in its two class shifts, as well as to the school's staff and their families. It will also serve the families of the students and other families in the surrounding community. This translates to approximately 2,150 visits per year, with services offered in both morning and afternoon shifts.

I encourage all traveling Rotarians to take the time to find a local Rotary Club in your holiday country and see the great works that they are doing. You just might find an international project within your reach.

For more info: regina.obrien.pchn@gmail.com



FORMING FUTURE LEADERS WHILE STRENGTHENING RURAL COMMUNITIES IN NORTHERN BENIN

Martin Burlingame
Rotary Club of Colorado Springs



The Colorado Springs club has partnered with the Valereas-Nyons club in southern France to support a Benin rotary club on an agrarian and hydroponic project in upper Benin.

In northern Benin, in the rural village of Gaah-Baka, the Grand Diocesan Seminary Providentia Dei is carrying out a mission that goes far beyond priestly formation. Through a unique blend of spiritual education, sustainable agriculture, and community partnership, they are helping to improve living conditions for some of the region's most vulnerable families—while building new international relationships to strengthen this work in the years ahead.

Established in 2015 within the Archdiocese of Parakou, the Grand Seminary Providentia Dei was created to respond to the growing number of priestly vocations in northern Benin. Most seminarians come from families living in extreme economic hardship, largely dependent on subsistence farming.

Recognizing these realities, the seminary has embraced a formation model that integrates spiritual growth with practical skills and social responsibility. Central to this approach is agro-pastoral training. Seminarians actively participate in farming and livestock activities such as vegetable cultivation, poultry, sheep, pigs, rabbits, and beekeeping. These efforts help the seminary move toward partial self-financing while preparing future priests to serve rural communities with humility, resilience, and hands-on experience.

They work closely with families in Gaah-Baka, a village of roughly 1,000 inhabitants where more than 90% of residents rely on agriculture for survival. Many families face food insecurity, degraded soils due to former cotton production, limited access to healthcare, and serious barriers to children's education. Through cooperative farming, the seminary provides access to rehabilitated land and promotes environmentally responsible practices that protect both soil and health.

As they continue to grow, the Grand Seminary Providentia Dei is developing a new partnership initiative with the Rotary Club of Valréas-Nyons in France and the Rotary Club of Colorado Springs in the United States. These clubs are currently exploring ways to support the seminary's agro-pastoral and community development projects in alignment with Rotary's values of service, education, and sustainable development. Their prospective involvement represents an important step toward international cooperation and long-term impact for the families of Gaah-Baka.



Looking ahead, Providentia Dei has identified several priority initiatives, including the acquisition of a tractor to replace rudimentary tools, the development of fish farming on an existing pond, and the expansion of apiculture through the construction of additional beehives. These projects aim to improve food production, generate income, and reinforce cooperation between the seminary and the surrounding community.

Providentia Dei stands as a place of formation, solidarity, and hope—where future leaders are shaped, rural families are supported, and emerging international partnerships promise a more dignified and sustainable future for northern Benin.

FOR MORE INFO:
[Rotary Club of Colorado Springs Website](https://www.rotaryclubofcoloradosprings.org/)
Martin Burlingame
martin@martinburlingame.com

The International Minute

Joan Goodfellow

Rotary Club of the Broadmoor District

Colorado Springs, Colorado

<https://www.rotarybroadmoor.com/>



The Rotary Club of the Broadmoor District has started the “International Minute” at our lunch meetings on the first, third, and fifth Thursday of the month. January 8th we celebrated International Thank You Day with blank thank you notes left on the tables for members to fill out and send. On Jan 22nd we discussed the gift of education to celebrate the UN International Day of Education. These short presentations raise awareness for Global issues and suggest small ways an individual member can contribute to Global peace and understanding. In building awareness, we build interest. And with interest we can cultivate involvement and real progress to Global peace.

Why Serve Internationally When There is so Much Need in my Community?

Joni Ellis

Rotary Club of Fruita, Colorado

Fruita, Colorado

<https://sites.google.com/view/the-rotary-club-of-fruita/home>



As Rotarians, we use the Four-Way Test to guide us when answering difficult questions.

Is it the truth?

Yes. Need is universal. Challenges such as food insecurity, illiteracy, and conflict exist everywhere, from our local neighborhoods to global regions facing water scarcity or devastating floods.

Is it fair to all concerned?

With 46,000 Rotary Clubs worldwide, international service allows us to support our fellow Rotarians. It is only fair to recognize that all children deserve food, water, and shelter, and that every person deserves basic dignity and respect.

Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Trust is the foundation of friendship. Working on projects alongside those from different backgrounds establishes profound bonds. International service replaces prejudice with understanding through shared meals and cultural exchange, fostering lasting global friendships.

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Yes. International service acts as a catalyst, allowing us to return to our own communities with new ideas, renewed energy, and a deeper commitment to service.

ROTARY FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE

NEW FRIENDS AWAIT IN EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD.

BENEFITS OF AN EXCHANGE:



rotary.org/en/our-programs/friendship-exchange

BENEFITS OF AN EXCHANGE

- Broaden international understanding
- Explore a profession or job in a different context
- Build enduring friendships
- Establish a foundation for peace and service
- Gain opportunities for active project involvement and support
- Learn about a region's people, food, languages, customs, and history
- Find partners for grants

From: <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/friendship-exchange>



Friends + Exchange

Friendship Exchange is an international exchange program for Rotarians to exchange being hosts with each other. You can participate as a family, individual, or group whether you're a Rotary member or not.

Types of exchanges:

Vocational: Participate in help with fixing, repairing, building, medical, and various aspects of helping out.

Culture: Meet with the locals and leaders.

Fellowship: Enjoy music, food, dance, culture, etc

For more info:

<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/friendship-exchange>

USEFUL ROTARY RESOURCES ON GLOBAL GRANTS

Compiled by PDG Chehab Elawar, Rotary Club of Las Vegas WON
"Kindness is not an act, but a lifestyle."

How To Find Partners And Funds

<https://www.matchinggrants.org/>

Regional grant coordinators

<http://msgfocus.rotary.org/c/12kRRsDf7Me8F1nzWrvyKUCNvimO>

Cadre – Technical Advisers

<https://my.rotary.org/en/take-action/apply-grants/cadre-technical-advisers>

Give to the foundation Donate | Rotary International

<https://www.rotary.org/en/donate>

Charitable Remaining Trust

<https://rotary.planmygift.org/charitable-remainder-trusts>

Disaster fund application

<http://msgfocus.rotary.org/c/1pteO9SscGf8IbulMYMvR3I7Wh>

Google sheet for global grant partners

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1UP2yBWmNAHglSrzdO_dypaq5YVgJhACsjJ2Rewo49E/edit#gid=0

To join WhatsApp Global Grant Partners (only if you are serious about global grants)

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/Cwqvm79MleB59aI7WEHoQU>

Raise funds with Rotary

<https://raise.rotary.org/>

Rotary Showcase

https://map.rotary.org/en/project/pages/project_showcase.aspx

Rotary Public Relations

<https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/learn-topic/public-relations>

Action Groups projects WhatsApp

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/J9MeDruh0IkBoaBo7Vo7p>

DISTRICT 5470

Grants Training Seminar



DISTRICT 5470 GRANTS TRAINING SEMINAR

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026
8:00 AM (~ 2 HOURS)**

**REGISTER HERE FOR THE
ZOOM LINK**

Hello Presidents, President-Elects, and Secretaries,

This is a reminder and invitation to attend the District 5470 Grants Training Seminar, which is required for clubs planning to apply for Rotary grants. While Presidents, President-Elects, and Secretaries are strongly encouraged to attend, ***any club member*** may participate and serve as the club's trained representative.

At least one representative from each club is required to attend in order for the club to be eligible for district and global grants.

During the training, we will review:

- Grant eligibility requirements
- District and Rotary Foundation grant processes
- Expectations and responsibilities for clubs applying for grants

Seminar facilitated by members of the District Foundation team, including:

Sam Kevan, District Foundation Chair, Sheree Fukai, Carol Bach,
Melanie Phelps (Global Grants)

For more info, see our District 5470 Website [HERE \(CLICK\)](#)

What the Rotary District 5470 International Service Committee does:

- Encourages us to expand our definition of community
- Educates and nurtures Rotarians and clubs working in the Seven Areas of Focus
- Connects clubs
- Builds relationships
- Educates, assists and may help finance clubs' international project development and fulfillment efforts

It also inspires Rotarians, like you, who chose to visit international projects and see first-hand how to Imagine Rotary.

Write an international project article submission for the International Service Newsletter? What do you need to Include?

Share your club's international projects , recipes, Rotarian travels, and interests with us.

We want to know what YOUR club is doing. **You can start adding them today.**

1. Club Name and website
2. Name of who wrote the article
3. Name of your project or Item you're submitting
4. Your Article in PDF/Word format (PDF preferred)
5. Photos/images (Person who took photos if possible). Photos within the article are good or attached to the email.
6. Video website address/URLs if you want to include those.
7. Submit via Google Forms (Preferable please) with this link:
<https://forms.gle/5qsuZQBxPdFEDvb39> OR if you can't, then
Email: maryameatond5470rotary@gmail.com with subject: Int'l Newsletter #49



*Next
Due Date:*
May 1, 2026