

# Rotary



Rotary Action Groups  
2021 Annual Report

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## Introduction

Rotary Action Groups are international, RI-recognized groups whose members have expertise and experience in a particular area of specialization. They use their knowledge, passion, and global network to help clubs and districts plan and implement impactful service projects. By bringing expertise, partners, funding resources and best practices to projects, they help clubs scale up smaller projects to larger, higher impact, more sustainable international initiatives.

Every year Action Groups submit a report of activities and finances to Rotary International. These annual reports summarize the groups' membership statistics and highlight their humanitarian service activities. The following report provides an overview of the work Action Groups are doing to advance the Object of Rotary worldwide.

Additional information about Action Groups can be found online, [www.rotary.org/actiongroups](http://www.rotary.org/actiongroups).

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## Action Groups at a Glance

Since Action Groups were first recognized by the RI Board of Directors in 2005, they have grown in impact and reach around the world. The following provides a broad look at Action Groups' membership, finances, and support for club and district-led service projects in 2020-21.

### Membership

In 2020-21, 26 groups reported a combined membership of 34,129 in more than 150 countries worldwide. Excluding the Rotary Action Group for Reproductive, Maternal, and Child Health, which reported the largest membership of any group at 12,833 members, the average size of each RAG is around 880 members. On average, each Action Group represents 43 countries with its membership. The Rotary Action Group for Blood Donation and the Rotary Action Group for Peace reported the highest geographical representation with 139 and 124 countries, respectively. The leading ten countries with the highest concentration of Action Group members reported in 2020-21 are USA, Canada, India, Australia, the UK, Nigeria, the Philippines, South Africa, Germany, and Brazil.

### Administration

Action Groups are independent, international entities. Each group oversees its own governance, membership, and activities in accordance with RI policies. Groups also independently elect their board of directors and executive officers based on the guidelines outlined in the Action Groups Standard Bylaws. Currently, Action Groups engage 284 Rotarians, five Rotaractors, and five peace fellows in leadership roles. These leaders represent 43 countries. The average size of each Rotary Action Group's board is eleven members. The Rotary Action Group for Clubfoot reported the largest board with 18 members in 2020-21.

### Service Impact

Rotary Action Groups supported 2,445 projects in total in 2020-21. Among those: 2,044 were club projects, 157 were district projects, and 123 were multi-district projects. Rotary Action Groups raised US\$960,682 in total, which was used solely for supporting club and district projects. 15 of 25 Action Groups reported supporting at least one TRF-funded global grant project in 2020-21. Those 15 Action Groups reported assisting with 68 TRF global grant projects in total.

Nine Action Groups participated in Programs of Scale in 2020-21 by partnering, reviewing and/or providing feedback on the proposals. Among the five finalist projects, three of them were supported by Action Groups of which one became the awardee and the other an honorable mention.

## **Finances**

Together, these groups reported a combined income of US\$1,050,727 from membership dues, grants, and other charitable contributions. The combined income of Action Groups has decreased by 16.29% in the Rotary year 2020-21. 18 groups required members to pay either annual or lifetime membership dues. The average annual membership cost was US\$31 and average lifetime membership cost was US\$139. Some Action Groups offer three-year or five-year membership options and rely on ongoing financial support from their members. Action Groups reported expenses of US\$1,074,579 in support of international humanitarian service projects and other activities. At year end, RAGs reported combined net assets of US\$1,074,282. The Disaster Network of Assistance RAG reported the highest revenue with US\$432,135 and the highest expenditures with US\$852,242.

# Summary of Annual Reports

## Rotary Action Group for Addiction Prevention (RAG-AP)

**Topic:** assisting clubs and districts in the prevention of substance abuse and addiction

### **Membership**

In 2020-21, RAG-AP reported 643 members in 48 countries. Among those, 630 are Rotarians, two are Rotaractors, and eleven are non-Rotarians/non-Rotaractors. 36 Rotary clubs and 28 districts are also members of the group. The group's membership is concentrated in Belgium, USA, India, Canada, and Germany. The group is administered by six Rotarian board members who are from Belgium and India.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$25

**Lifetime Membership Dues:** US\$500

**Other Membership Dues:** \$500 for a Rotary Club lifelong /\$1000 for a Rotary District lifelong

### **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 88 projects in 2020-21: six TRF-funded project, two district projects and 80 club projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

#### **Technical Support**

- RAG-AP developed a toolkit for measuring social impact that starts with setting up a community coalition that does a need assessment study, determines the target group and goal, and selects partners to start the evaluation. More information about the toolkit can be found [here](#).
- Members of RAG-AP represented the group in the four new TRF-funded projects - one in Nepal, two in India, and one in the US - where RAG-AP is a partner.
- The group helped local task forces to start working in Uganda, Philippines, Spain, US, and Brazil.
- The group's scientific committee worked together with researchers in Cambridge University to advise on local data collection and measurement of social impact.

#### **Fundraising**

- In the Rotary year 2020-21, the group raised funds for projects from various resources such as from its members and the broader Rotary network.

#### **Training and Advocacy**

- RAG-AP hosted two webinars - one in India and one internationally - discussing the vision and strategy of the group. They also presented and promoted their newly developed projects and toolkits. In these webinars, Rotary members discussed their experience in implanting RAG-AP's projects.
- Members of the group made presentations to be shared with various Rotary and Rotaract clubs around the world on Zoom.

#### **Partnerships**

- The group was recognized by the Economic and Social Council of the UN and received special consultative status which enables RAG-AP to participate in UN meetings and to organize side events for countries and NGOs.

- Dianova International and Movendi International partner with RAG-AP as cooperating organizations. RAG-AP and these two organizations facilitate each other's work at the local level by bringing Rotary clubs and local chapters of the NGOs together for actions in the field.

### **Programs of Scale Participation**

RAG-AP partnered, reviewed, and provided feedback on a Programs of Scale application called the "Addiction Prevention Education Collaborative Pilot in the U.S.". This project educates both adult and youth community members on substance misuse and the brain chemistry of addiction, and work to lower rates of use and addiction while strengthening local level infrastructure to implement best practice addiction prevention measures. This will be accomplished by enhancing the addiction prevention supports and assets within participating communities utilizing two age-appropriate addiction prevention education programs (adult and youth). The model will become a blueprint for raising local community awareness of social/cultural norms that perpetuate drug use and the brain chemistry of addiction, as well as how best to take action to prevent substance misuse and addiction.

### ***Notable Collaborations***

#### **Formal Collaborations:**

United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), World Federation Against Drugs, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Vienna NGO Committee, European Monitoring for Drugs and Drug Addition (EMCDDA), Dianova International, Movendi International

### ***Contact Information***

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## **Alzheimer's/Dementia Rotary Action Group (ADRAG)**

**Topic:** providing information and support to Rotary members on dementia and Alzheimer's disease

### ***Membership***

In 20120-21, ADRAG reported 45 members in five countries. Among those, 37 are Rotarians, five are Rotaractors, and three are non-Rotarians/non-Rotaractors. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, England, India, Australia, and Canada. The group is administered by eight Rotarian board members who are from USA, India, Canada, and England.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$25

### ***Projects and Activities***

The group supported 104 club projects in 2020-21. The type of assistance provided to clubs is as follows:

#### **Technical Support**

- ADRAG, which is composed of expertise in all fields of patient care, care of caregivers, research, treatments, and best practices, provided guidance in how to begin, continue, and sustain the efforts of awareness and acceptance of Alzheimer's and dementia.
- The group's data collection consists of identifying and tracking Rotary clubs that received a program on the issues of Alzheimer's and dementia. This data tracks how many clubs developed and maintained their awareness efforts.

#### **Fundraising**

- In the 2020-21 Rotary year, ADRAG raised funds for projects from various resources such as from the Action Group members, the broader Rotary network, donors outside of Rotary, and external organization/corporations.
- With the help of Rotary clubs and individual Rotarians, Walk Teams were created through coordination with the National Alzheimer's Association to attract donors that committed funds per mile walked by an individual and the Teams.
- For the Alzheimer's Association/Walk Teams project, ADRAG conducts monthly meetings where they review and publish their monetary and membership success. The group also meets periodically to share updates on the ADRAG-India Chapter where they review and report to their membership the advances in India.

#### **Training and Advocacy**

- ADRAG worked with ADRAG-India chapter on a nationwide awareness program which emphasized an open discussion on dementia and Alzheimer's disease.
- The group conducted subject-matter trainings and workshops at the 2021 Rotary International Convention.
- Alzheimer's Association, a resource partner of ADRAG, conducts one of the best awareness campaigns by using information provided by their five resource partners. They distribute the information about research, care giving, take care of "caregivers," and community approaches worldwide.
- ADRAG's chairman and immediate past chairman participated in two major meetings as subject-matter experts. One was at the Africa National Rotaractors Committee virtual meeting, where five countries in Africa were represented. The other one was a meeting where the two chairmen addressed a team of the ADRAG-India chapter with over 30 Rotary members from multiple Rotary districts via Zoom.

#### **Partnerships**

- ADRAG partners with The CART Fund, which is a grassroots non-profit organization comprised of Rotary clubs mainly in RI Zones 33 and 34. Currently 23 Rotary districts in Zones 33/34 organize annual fund-raising activities

for CART. Since inception CART has raised over US\$10.2 million. 100% of funds raised by CART go to cutting edge Alzheimer's Disease. ADrag's signature method of fundraising is using Little Blue Buckets (provided at no cost to the district or clubs). They collect, report and remit the loose coins from Rotary members from over 1,000 clubs. Within the past three years, ADrag helped raise US \$1 million per year. With these funds over 55 research grants were funded. The funds ADrag help raise are dedicated to address early detection, bio-markers, blood testing for AD, and research into the cause and the prevention.

- The group is coordinating with a new group of concerned non-Rotarian citizens, who are volunteers and government employees, to develop and foster a program called "Dementia Friendly America." Many of these teams are run out of or supported by the local government agency of the Department of Social Services. This is a new addition to ADrag's Resource Partner Team.
- CAF, a resource partner of ADrag, raises funds to solely conduct leading research to find the cure or prevention of Alzheimer's and dementia. CAF is able to dedicate 100% of all donated funds to AD research thanks to four philanthropic families that provide all operating funds for the organization. CAF raises US \$20 million per year.
- Amazon Smiles General Electric is one of ADrag's private donors.

### ***Notable Collaborations***

**Formal Collaborations:** Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust (CART), Alzheimer's Association, Cure Alzheimer's Fund (CAF), Music Mends Minds, Rotarians Easing Problems of Dementia (REPoD)

### ***Contact Information***

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# Basic Education and Literacy Rotary Action Group (BELRAG)

**Topic:** enhancing the capacities of communities to provide education and literacy to all.

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, BELRAG reported 295 members in 32 countries. Among those, 289 are Rotarians and six are Rotaractors. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Canada, the Philippines, India, and the UK. The group is administered by eight board members who are from USA, Australia, Canada, Guatemala, and Uganda.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$25

**Other Membership Dues:** US\$100 (5 years)

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 16 projects in 2020-21: 10 TRF-funded projects and six club projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- Supported clubs through community assessments, project design, proposal writing, and incorporating sustainability into projects. When contacted by Rotarians seeking to develop global grants, a coach is assigned to assist with designing the project (ensure key elements - community assessment, sustainability, etc.). The group reviews drafts and offers feedback before the grant is submitted.
- Utilizing the expertise its members offer, BELRAG advised Rotary members in best practices for basic education and literacy. BELRAG members also advised clubs in sound education practices and how to submit Programs of Scale grant applications.

### **Training and Advocacy**

- The group offered a series of webinars about early childhood literacy with the help of a collaboration with Save the Children US. They also offered webinars in Girls Education through a partnership with the Rotary Club of Washington Global, addressing education needs in difficult contexts, best practices in developing BEL grants, and building resilient learning environments. BELRAG also participated in webinars for how to incorporate education elements in WASH projects.
- BELRAG often spoke at Rotary clubs, for districts, and zone events about the importance of literacy and how clubs and Rotary members can get involved locally and internationally.

### **Partnerships**

- The group continued their partnership with Save the Children, promoting involvement in early childhood education programs. BELRAG's partnership with Education Beyond Borders is a resource for providing quality professional development for teachers. BELRAG has been developing a partnership with Rotary India Literacy Mission as well.

## **Notable Collaborations**

### **Formal Collaborations:**

Education Beyond Borders (EBB), Save The Children (US).

### **Contact Information**

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### **Rotary Action Groups**

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# Rotary Action Group for Blindness Prevention

**Topic:** prevention of blindness and the promotion of eye health and vision worldwide

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, the Blindness Prevention Rotary Action group reported 186 members in 44 countries. Among those, 183 are Rotarians and three are Rotaractors. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, India, Nigeria, Canada, and Pakistan. The group is administered by nine Rotarian board members who are from USA, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, India, and Germany.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$50

**Lifetime Membership Dues:** US\$100

**Other Membership Dues:** Rotaract: US\$25 (annual)

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 50 projects in 2020-21: one TRF-funded project, 14 multi-district projects, nine district projects and 18 club projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- The Blindness Prevention Action Group coached clubs and Rotarians on developing a TRF global grant application through community assessment, identifying an international partner, proposal writing, and incorporating sustainability into project. Action Group board members have cooperated on several TRF-funded projects for avoidable blindness.

### **Fundraising**

- The Blindness Prevention Action Group raised funds from the broader Rotary network, donors outside of Rotary, and external organizations / corporations.
- The group worked with District 3272 on technical details of the global grant project called Cataract Surgeries for Blindness Prevention. The project will offer screenings to marginalized groups in Multan, Punjab, Pakistan and make referrals for cataract surgery. The group leadership also helped raise funds for the project.

### **Training and Advocacy**

- The group is helping the Rotarian-established and supported Eye Care Center at Karol Bagh Expansion-Glaucoma Treatment Center by introducing cutting edge glaucoma surgical equipment and training to staff surgeons. They also took part in the training of health workers, who are already conducting door to door visits for polio monitoring, routine vaccines, etc.
- The Blindness Prevention Action Group held a conference in Malaysia in the summer which normally occurs every other year. One of their board members was a primary organizer while the chairman and chairman-Elect participated as speakers and panel members via Zoom.

### **Partnerships**

- The Blindness Prevention Action Group has a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with multiple cooperating organizations including The International Agency for Preventable Blindness, Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital, and The International Eye Foundation cooperating organizations.

## ***Notable Collaborations***

### **Formal Collaborations:**

The International Agency for Preventable Blindness, Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital, The International Eye Foundation

### ***Contact Information***

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# Rotary Action Group for Blood Donation

**Topic:** blood donation projects

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, Rotary Action Group for Blood Donation reported 4,385 Rotarian members in 139 countries. Three Rotary clubs and one district are also members of the group group's membership is concentrated in USA, the Philippines, Netherlands, and Nigeria. The group is administered by 16 Rotarian board members who are from USA, India, France, Slavonia, and the Netherlands.

**Membership Dues:** None

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported eight projects in 2020-21: one TRF-funded project, one multi-district project, two district projects, and four club projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- Rotary Action Group for Blood Donation coached clubs and Rotarians on developing a TRF global grant application through community assessments and incorporating sustainability into a project.
- The group served as a cooperating organization on a global grant by 1. providing and implementing the international principles of voluntary non-remunerated and regular blood donation; 2. introducing and implanting WHO basic donor selection criteria and hygiene conditions for blood collection; 3. creating awareness of privacy protection and respect of potential blood donors.
- Rotary Action Group for Blood Donation also provided the developed tools (handbook) and advised on implementation while collaborating with a registered blood center. They also advised on data collection and usage.

### **Training and Advocacy**

- The group contributes to standardizing blood donor management and blood collection for clinical use along the lines of WHO.
- The group took part in local, regional, and international Rotary and public meetings.

### **Partnerships**

- The group facilitated partnerships by providing guidance to Rotary clubs in India who started actions for blood collections.
- Rotary Action Group for Blood Donation also strengthened a partnership with the Etablissement Francaise du Sang in France. Similarly, in India, they facilitated partnerships with hospital blood banks and Rotary club-led blood centers.
- The group partners with Rotary districts to provide support and extend voluntary non-remunerated blood donation. They also partner with Rotary clubs on spreading and practicing the RAG BD objectives.
- The group supports and implements blood donation to ensure strengthening safe blood supply worldwide, which is also a strategic element of WHO's 2020-23 action plan.

## **Notable Collaborations**

**Formal Collaborations:** Not applicable.

**Informal Collaborations:** World Health Organization (WHO)

**Contact Information**

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## **Rotary Action Group for Clubfoot (RAG4Clubfoot)**

**Topic:** treating clubfoot deformities

### ***Membership***

In 2020-21, RAG4Clubfoot reported 40 members in 11 countries. Among those, 37 are Rotarians and three are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Bangladesh, Columbia, Puerto Rico, and India. The group is administered by 18 Rotarian board members who are from USA.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$25

### ***Projects and Activities***

The group supported two projects in 2020-21: two TRF-funded projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

#### **Technical Support**

- RAG4Clubfoot coached clubs and Rotarians on developing TRF global grant applications by securing funding and identifying an international partner. They also encouraged club members to participate in RI sponsored global grant seminars. The group provides reports of progress on projects to its board members at a regular basis.

#### **Fundraising**

- RAG4Clubfoot raised funds from Action Group members, the broader Rotary network, and donors outside of Rotary. They promoted membership and donation options to Rotary members through participation in conferences, Facebook, the action group website, and newsletters.

#### **Training and Advocacy**

- To publicize the group's successes of projects and initiatives, RAG4Clubfoot created a professional video.
- A member of the group presented on the role of TRF global grants and responsibilities associated with global grants.
- Several members of the group have been speakers at a variety of meetings about RAG4Clubfoot's Ponseti Method treatment and the realities of clubfoot for children around the world. The group presented at Rotary club meetings, medical student seminars at major universities, and the virtual 2021 House of Friendship.
- The Ponseti International Association (PIA) at the University of Iowa has a formal partnership with the group which provides the technical expertise to train providers around the world in Ponseti Method training. RAG4Clubfoot facilitates partnerships with clubs, districts, and other funders for the trainings.

#### **Partnerships**

- Members of RAG4Clubfoot work with clubs and districts around the world to help facilitate partnerships for projects and work with the Ponseti International Association.

#### **Programs of Scale Participation**

RAG4Clubfoot partnered with a Programs of Scale grant application called "Scaling Up National Programs to Eliminate Clubfoot Disabilities in Latin America". Objectives of the program are to provide training to and improve access to healthcare personnel and expand sustainable medical services.

### ***Notable Collaborations***

**Formal Collaborations:** Ponseti International Association (PIA) at the University of Iowa

### ***Contact Information***

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# Rotary Action Group for Community Economic Development (RAGCED)

**Topic:** alleviate poverty through sustainable microfinance and community development

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, RAGCED reported 945 members in 93 countries. Among those, 919 are Rotarians, one is a Rotaractor, and 25 are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. One Rotary club is also a member of the group. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Canada, India, Nigeria, and the Philippines. The group is administered by 17 board members who are from Canada, USA, Zimbabwe, Mexico, and Brazil. Among those, 16 are Rotarians and one is a Peace Fellow.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$25

**Other Membership Dues:** US\$100 (5 years)

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 336 projects in 2020-21: 335 club projects and one ot district project. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- RAGCED coached clubs on developing TRF global grant applications by providing community assessments, securing funding, identifying international partners, guiding project design, advising on proposal writing, and incorporating sustainability into projects.
- RAGCED has advisors in all aspects of global grants including needs assessment, Rotary partners, cooperating organizations, and sustainability. Recent examples include a microloan program for construction of enclosed Greenhouse Gardens in Dajabon Province of the Dominican Republic. The objective of the project is to empower low-income farmers to develop commercial greenhouse gardens that provide income to their families.
- RAGCED has a cadre of advisors who work with project planners to evaluate the goals and objectives of the project, recommend mechanisms to collect data during performance of the project and for monitoring project progress, evaluating project results during and after its completion. An example of providing technical assistance is the Launch My City project originated in Raleigh, NC, USA which, RAGCED, through its website and technical advisers has assisted with successful replication of the project in ten communities.
- The group supported Rotary Clubs of Brazil (District 4521) and Anging Mammiri (District 3420) with three virtual meetings to answer questions about developing a TRF microfinance global grant application using the experience gained from developing and implementing the Launch Detroit two-year global grant using the Group Lending Model. They also supported discussions with the Rotary Club of Kisumu in Kenya (District 9212), and the Rotary Club of Umungasi-Aba in Nigeria (District 9142) to discuss the requirements and components of developing a successful global grant application.
- RAGCED has also continued to support its long term projects including Honduras Economic Community Development (Honduras), Namaste Direct (Guatemala), and Microfinance for Low Income Women (California, USA). RAGCED members are advising Rotarian Silvana Galletto who is doing her thesis on how Rotary intervenes in the provision of microcredit in developing countries, in particular by favoring women.
- RAGCED maintains a Guidebook for Building Sustainable Microfinance Projects, available from its website. Advisors from RAGCED respond to requests for information regarding global grants from members and clubs. The guide includes information on meeting the requirements of a global grant and is available from the RAGCED website. A list of TRF global grant projects in the CED area of focus is posted on the RAG's website as a reference.
- The group has experienced project managers who have implemented sustainable community development projects and now provide input, reviews and recommendations for planning and implementing sustainable economic development projects in their communities.



## **Fundraising**

- While RAGCED does not raise funds directly for use on club or district-led projects, it assists clubs with fundraising by introducing them to external fundraising platforms and potential external funding sources.

## **Training and Advocacy**

- Stories about successful CED projects are solicited from Rotary members by sending them to [stories@ragced.org](mailto:stories@ragced.org). The stories are posted on the RAGCED website and on its Facebook page. Stories of successful projects are also included in the bimonthly RAGCED newsletter. The group regularly posts information about projects in the planning stages as a means of publicizing projects that are looking for partnerships or investors. All presentations on community economic development include examples of successful projects with focus on the beneficiaries to help others understand the community and personal impact of these projects.
- RAGCED works through its partners to make people aware of Rotary's involvement in CED projects and the benefits of a project partnership with a local Rotary club. Launch Detroit, a program supported by RAGCED was described in an article in the September 2020 issue of the Rotary Magazine.
- RAGCED members participate in training focused on the basic building blocks of sustainable community economic development projects and how the elements are combined in different environments to create a successful project. Some training has been done in Spanish. Representative programs include: President Prudente, Valle de Santiago, Feria de Proyectos Colombia, Feria de Paz Argentina, and Hawassa Ethiopia Vocational training Program.
- The RAGCED Guidebook for Sustainable Microfinance Projects describes the building blocks of a sustainable microfinance project. Best practices are posted on the RAGCED website and included in presentations made by RAGCED. In 2020-21, RAGCED created a YouTube channel that has recordings of presentations and instructional videos that provide guidance on creating successful, sustainable community economic development projects.
- The impact of the coronavirus pandemic on local economies resulted in an increased number of requests for support for community development projects. In reviewing the different project requests, the RAGCED team has confirmed the statement that CED projects are based on six building blocks: community assessment, education, capital, mentoring, networking and evaluation. In assisting Rotary and Rotaract clubs and districts with community economic development projects, RAGCED addresses each of the six building blocks but has also found the manner in which the building blocks are applied is based on the specific community need, project goals, local culture and implementation strategies. In 2020-21 RAGCED began the process of updating its guidelines documentation to match the application of the building blocks to specific types of projects. This activity is continuing in Rotary year 2021-22.
- Members of RAGCED teach project management to Rotarians. The curriculum is based on actual Rotary Foundation global grant projects and highlights the need to monitor project status. At Rotary Southwest PETS, a class in project management - created and taught by a member of the RAGCED board of directors - was made available to four hundred presidents-elect from seven districts.
- RAGCED members have been invited to make presentations on microfinance to Rotary club, district, and zone meetings. RAGCED hosted the breakout session "Sowing the Seeds of Sustainable Development" at the 2021 Virtual Convention. The group also had a booth at the 2021 Virtual Convention highlighting activities and capabilities that support clubs and districts around the world.
- As communities have become more aware of the need for rebuilding economies impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, RAGCED members have been invited to present on community economic development at conferences hosted by Districts 6350, 5360 and 5240 and the Peace Conference in Argentina. RAGCED members have spoken to Rotary clubs in multiple countries. A RAGCED presentation on Launch My City was the initial presentation to the In-Focus series sponsored by RIBI.

## **Partnerships**

- Globally, RAGCED has established partnerships with Uniendo America, World Vision/Vision Fund, Opportunity International Canada and the Grameen Foundation to support Rotary projects.

## **Rotary Action Groups**

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- RAGCED assists Rotary clubs in identifying and establishing partnerships with cooperating organizations that support their specific projects. These include educational resources, microfinance institutions, and community resources. RAGCED has led discussions with international organizations such as Global Brigades, Food Enterprise Solutions, TCP Global, Five Talents and Kiva and introduced these organization to Rotary clubs engaged in community economic development projects.

### **Programs of Scale Participation**

RAGCED partnered, reviewed, and provided feedback on multiple Programs of Scale applications. They were supported as they were consistent with the RAGCED mission to be a source of knowledge and expertise that helps Rotary members plan, implement, and manage impactful and sustainable economic development projects that create lasting change in poor and underserved communities. The applications included the:

1. The Rotary Club of Detroit's Programs of Scale Application - BIZ HUB to provide retail and training space, and 2 industrial kitchens for Launch Detroit entrepreneurs in Metro Detroit, MI, submitted in 2020.
2. The Rotary Club of Traverse City Programs of Scale Application to support microfinance in support of Namaste Direct, Guatemala
3. The Rotary Club of Calgary West and Opportunity International Canada on an economic development proposal for Ghana
4. The Rotary Club of Hollis-Brookline and Krishna Mangipudi for a Program of Scale community development project in New Hampshire

### ***Notable Collaborations***

#### **Formal Collaborations:**

World Vision/Vision Fund, Grameen Foundation, Opportunities International Canada, Uniendo America

#### **Informal Collaborations:**

Five Talents, Global Brigades, Food Enterprise Solutions

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## **Disaster Network of Assistance Rotary Action Group (DNA-RAG)**

**Topic:** develop an interactive network to assist with disaster preparedness, communication, and recovery worldwide

### ***Membership***

In 2020-21, DNA-RAG reported 117 members in 27 countries. Among those, 115 are Rotarians and two are Rotaractors. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, the UK, Canada, Bahamas, and the Philippines. The group is administered by 17 board members who are from USA, Brazil, Taiwan, Australia, and Malaysia. Among those, 15 are Rotarians and two are Rotaractors.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$25

**Other Membership Dues:** US\$100 (5 years)

### ***Projects and Activities***

The group supported 26 projects in 2020-21: two multi-district projects, four district projects and 20 club projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

#### **Technical Support**

- DNA-RAG coached clubs and Rotarians on developing a TRF global grant application by identifying an international partner and incorporating sustainability into a project.
- The group provided technical assistance on many recovery projects in Abaco and Grand Bahama Island after Hurricane Dorian as well as in Saint Vincent after a volcano eruption.
- DNA-RAG uses a proprietary project management application and asks cooperating districts to use it to follow progress of various recovery projects.

#### **Fundraising**

- DNA-RAG raised funds from the Action Group members, the broader Rotary network, donors outside of Rotary, and external organizations / corporations.

#### **Training and Advocacy**

- Guidelines and training manuals are posted on the group's website.
- To publicize the success of projects and initiatives, DNA-RAG uses Facebook and newsletters.
- DNA-RAG did webinars in Districts 7020, 7030, 7000, and 6930 on disaster preparedness. They also did 31 district exploratory sessions with all the districts in Brazil to work on a collaborative disaster approach.
- The group has spoken to business groups like the National Business Continuity Group on disaster preparedness. They also spoke to multi district DISC groups in Canada.

#### **Partnerships**

- DNA-RAG has facilitated partnerships with the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and the Mandarin Hotel.
- The group has worked with Caribbean Partnership to identify clubs and districts wishing to partner in service projects outside disaster related issues.
- With Australians for Women's Health (A4WH), DNA-RAG led initiatives to build a hospital in rural Nepal for women and babies.

## ***Notable Collaborations***

**Informal Collaborations:** Caribbean Partnership, Australians for Women's Health (A4WH)

## ***Contact Information***

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# Rotary Action Group for Diabetes (RAGD)

**Topic:** providing service through a strong commitment to education, identification, and treatment of diabetes, especially among children in developing countries

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, RAGD reported 125 Rotarians in seven countries. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Belgium, Holland, the UK, and the Philippines. The group is administered by 17 board members who are from USA, Belgium, the UK, Holland, and the Philippines. Among those, 15 are Rotarians and two are Peace Fellows.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$25

**Other Membership Dues:** US\$69 (3 years) / US\$100 (5 years)

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported four projects in 2020-21: one multi-district project, one district projects, one club project, and one other project. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- RAGD coached clubs and Rotarians on developing a TRF global grant application by providing a community assessment, guiding project design, and incorporating sustainability into a project.
- The Rotary Club of Pecham, Dulwich & Crystal Palace (UK), and RAGD collaborated on planning a global grant in Nigeria. RAGD have been part of many meetings to inspire the project design and guided for community assessments to be performed in cooperation with local Rotary clubs.
- RAGD is currently working with Rotarians in Batangas Province of the Philippines in small rural setting. Because the Philippines is considered one of the diabetes hotspots in Southeast Asia, the group gathered data through using type-2 diabetes risk assessment strategies which identified the needs of the communities. There was also the use of Finnish Diabetes Risk Assessment in the field of lower economic level regions.

### **Training and Advocacy**

- Due to the difficulties of communication and Rotarian engagement in 2020, RAGD publicized their work in their website and newsletter. The group also published an article in various Rotary channels about a campaign for Rotarians to take the Diabetes Risk Assessment Test.
- EPiC Journey Against Diabetes have proven to be successful in creating awareness of diabetes, its perils, and the Global Diabetes Epidemic. With this knowledge, RAGD has engaged Rotarians, Rotary clubs and districts in North America (Midwest US, Southern US, Ontario Canada), Asia, Northern Europe, and United Kingdom.
- RAGD created their Publicity Campaign for World Diabetes Day as it's an annual project. RAGD Chair Edwin Velarde have been actively speaking about diabetes at Rotary club meetings, most recently in Battle Creek MI and Lund, Sweden.

## **Contact Information**

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## **Rotary Action Group for Endangered Species (RAGES)**

**Topic:** to provide global awareness and focused action to preserve and protect endangered species

### ***Membership***

In 2020-21, RAGES reported 939 members in 70 countries. Among those, 939 are Rotarians. 212 districts are also a member of the group. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Australia, South Africa, Canada, and the UK. The group is administered by nine Rotarian board members who are from South Africa, USA, Canada, the UK, and Kenya.

**Annual Membership Dues:** None

### ***Projects and Activities***

The group supported five projects in 2020-21. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

#### **Technical Support**

- RAGES coached clubs and Rotarians on developing a TRF global grant application by providing advice for proposal writing. They aided in the writing of a Global Grant scholarship application led by the Rotary Club of Edmonton Riverview.

#### **Training and Advocacy**

- RAGES conducted presentations at numerous club meetings and one zone conference.
- RAGES co-sponsored a symposium with the Rotary Club of Carpinteria Morning, Guatemala on pollinators in Central America.

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# Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG)

**Topic:** help clubs and districts plan, implement, and evaluate projects related to environmental sustainability, mitigation of climate disruption and awareness about climate change.

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, ESRAG reported 1,414 members in 83 countries. Among those, 1,318 are Rotarians, 61 are Rotaractors, and 35 are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Australia, India, the UK, and Canada. The group is administered by 14 board members who are from USA, the UK, Australia, India, and Turkey. Among those, 13 are Rotarians and one is a Rotaractor.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$30

**Other Membership Dues:** Rotarian: US\$125 (5 years) / Rotaract: US\$15 (1 year)

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 41 projects in 2020-21: two TRF-funded projects, five multi-district project, 10 district projects, 20 club projects, and four other projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- ESRAG coached clubs on developing TRF global grant applications by providing a community assessment, securing funding, identifying an international partner, guiding project design, advising on proposal writing, and incorporating sustainability into a project.
- ESRAG has at least ten members of the TRF Cadre of Technical Advisers, that were waiting in other areas for the Environment area of focus to be opened. The group has been assisting in the development of projects in soil rehabilitation, aquaponics, river and beach cleanups, endangered species removal, solar installations, electric vehicles charging stations, collection of legacy greenhouse gasses, biogas collectors, removal of invasive species, tree planting and reforestation, and gardening for pollinators, to name a few.
- In 2018-19 ESRAG developed a database system for collecting project data called Project Impact Reporting (PIR). Its full implementation has been waiting for ESRAG's membership data system to become fully operational. Some project data was contributed to the PIR database in 2020-21. The group is now working on the development of a mobile app called iRoTree as a pilot to collect Tree planting data across India (and beyond).
- ESRAG is actively developing a mobile phone app (iRotree) for collecting project impact reports. The pilot project commenced in May 2021 and is on track to be finished in several months. The group is also beginning to collect granular data for producing the data analytics required for informing projects across environmental sustainability.

### **Fundraising**

- ESRAG raised funds from Action Group members, the broader Rotary network, donors outside of Rotary, and external organizations / corporations. They raised funds through Carbon Offsets for members to travel, a donation button on various pages of their website which currently go into the general fund, and membership dues.

### **Training and Advocacy**

- ESRAG conducted many (at least 50) presentations in and around global grant projects. The purpose of these presentations is to make connections between clubs with projects and looking for collaborations. At least five clubs have connected with other clubs building their involvement into global grants in India and Africa.
- ESRAG publishes their successes through their monthly newsletters, on their website, and on the regional chapter's websites. For example, they publicized the IFixThePlanet program at ESRAG's annual pre-convention event, celebrating the best nine entries and throughout the House of Friendship "Frame: Virtual reality platform."

- ESRAG held six webinars and workshop training during the year, such as the Monarch webinar in November 2020 for all North America, the New Area of Focus Workshop in January 2021 for District 7620, the ESRAG Rotaract-led World Water Day webinar in March 2021, and the 19-hour Rotary International Convention Pre-Conference Webinar in June 2021.
- ESRAG has been conducting several awareness campaigns. Five of these are for: 1. Reducing carbon footprint by getting their members to estimate their ecological footprint using one of several footprint calculators. This is a program leading towards New Zero Rotary, 2. The understanding and removal of legacy freon that contribute up to 1000x CO<sub>2</sub>e gases through their leakage, 3. To change behavior towards eating less meat, thereby reducing the production of methane, 4. Operation pollination to have Rotary members join in on a pollinator pledge to plant gardens with host plants for caterpillars and nectar producing plants for animals, and 5. Rotary members to showcase their projects with the IFixThePlanet.
- ESRAG hosted several conferences during 2020-21. The session “The New Environment” conference, which was hosted right before the 2021 Rotary Convention, was the most substantial one. This conference had ten prerecorded internationally renowned speakers and three other programs, running over a continuous seven-hour period. This was followed by five hours of prerecorded ESRAG Biodiversity programs. The programs were then put into the House of Friendship ESRAG “Frame.” This was the second learning event where ESRAG had a virtual convention hall attached to the ESRAG Booth at the House of Friendship. The group had around 20 booths in the “Frame” virtual convention hall, covering most of the action working groups within ESRAG.
- Many of the senior management of ESRAG were on the meeting circuit several times or more per month. ESRAG ran 24 Biodiversity+ (Planetary pollution, Biodiversity Loss, Ecosystem Services, Food Production, Circular Economy, and Sustainable Living) meeting seminars and 15 webinar seminars. Most of the group’s twelve regional chapters had monthly meeting, often with Keynote speakers. In all, ESRAG served Environmental subject matter speaker at nearly 100 meetings in 2020-21.

## Partnerships

- ESRAG formed informal relationships with several organizations as well as MOUs with RCAT (Rotary Climate Action Team) and USGS (United States Geological Survey), bringing their current MOUs to four.
- With iRotree RC Coimbarore India being a relatively new partner, it acts as s an MOA for the transfer of funds in our pilot project, supporting the work of the Rotaract club, with members working on the development and initial collection of data in the iRotree pilot project.
- ESRAG is partnered with Tradewater which is an organization which receives Feral Freon collected in the Refrigerants Pilot Project, and then incinerates them, destroying their CO<sub>2</sub>e. With Project Drawdown, this organization provides description tools for the recognition of potential activities in drawing down carbon dioxide from the Earth’s atmosphere, thereby acting towards reducing the greenhouse effect and global warming.
- The group continued cooperation with Tradewater for the Freon-refrigerants pilot and work with Project Drawdown.

## *Signature Initiatives*

**IFixThePlanet** – Partnering with ESRAG’s Western Europe Regional Chapter as well as the organization Ansvar (specifically, the Climate Task Force), ESRAG challenged its members to create a short video, (ideally 70 seconds long), where the members of the Rotary family showed an environmental project they are working with, have worked with, or are planning to work with. ESRAG informed and stimulated their local, regional, national and international members to join by voting and/or uploading their videos. There were 6,000 beneficiaries with a project budget of US\$3,475. Through this initiative, the group was able to obtain [94 presentations](#). The pilot was completed on 31 May 2021 and they are planning to create a new project for 2021-22.



**Refrigerants Pilot Project** –This project was established because Project Drawdown rated the effective management of refrigerants as the #4 issue to tackle to reach the point at which CO2 going into the atmosphere stabilizes. Reaching this point is critical if global warming is to decrease to 1.5 degrees Celsius or less. Therefore, ESRAG initiated a pilot program to demonstrate how Rotarians could be helpful in this work. The group coordinated with over 40 Rotary and Rotaract clubs across the United States to collect small cylinders and canisters of ozone-depleting and high global-warming potential Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). ESRAG connected with almost 60 clubs and districts that were close to known stockpiles of CFCs, this information was ascertained by Tradewater. Champions from 26 of those clubs attended ESRAG training. An educational video and educational materials were created. They also held a panel discussion with experts from industry, education, and research to help with understanding the size and impact of the problems caused by CFCs during the 2021 Rotary Convention. There were 2,600 beneficiaries and due to this project, Rotarians from eleven clubs collected 645 pounds of CFCs (2,775 tons of CO2e) which were then delivered to Tradewater to be incinerated. The pilot collection program was implemented in 20 cities in the United States and was completed in January 2021.

A new program is planned for 2021-22. The small cylinder and canister collection programs will be streamlined to avoid the logistics issues experienced in the pilot. For the new project, again working with the San Jose Rotaract club partnering with Second Nature (an organization committed to accelerating climate action through higher education), ESRAG is now targeting universities and colleges, and other commercial and grocery companies to decommission their old chillers that use older CFCs, replace with less potent greenhouse gases, and send the liberated CFCs for incineration

### ***Notable Collaborations***

**Formal Collaborations:** Tradewater, Project Drawdown, United States Geological Survey (USGS), iRotree RC Coimbarore India, Rotary Climate Action Team (RCAT)

**Informal Collaborations:** Operation Pollination, Natural Partners: Monarch Sister School Project

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# Rotary Action Group for Family Health and AIDS Prevention (RFHA)

**Topic:** helping clubs and districts plan and implement large scale disease prevention and treatment projects

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, RFHA reported 2,948 members in 35 countries. Among those, 1,478 are Rotarians, 50 are Rotaractors, and 1,420 are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, India, Nigeria, the UK, and South Africa. The group is administered by 13 Rotarian board members who are from USA, UK, Turkey, Nigeria, South Africa, Canada, and India.

**Annual Membership Dues:** None

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 123 projects in 2020-21: one TRF-funded project, two multi-district projects, and 120 club projects.

## **Technical Support**

- RFHA is the convenor of the Rotary Family Health Days (RFHD) program and responsible for reporting, consistent quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation, funding assistance, and partnership development. Through their partnerships in country, RFHA provides technical medical expertise to execute the Rotary Family Health Day sites working with Ministries of Health, NGOs in the medical field, and other implementing partners.
- RFHA program managers aid in large scale program management, partnership procurement and execution of the RFHD program.
- The action group has set up RFHA Program teams in countries of execution who provide ongoing progress reports and a final report at the completion of the program. The Steering Committee reports to a RFHA Director in each country. They manage the entire process of planning and implementing this program. Planning begins at least twelve months in advance, with multiple partner meetings and training of the local Rotarians from clubs surrounding each site location. Each site has a "Rotary Site Champion" who works with the local partner organizations and local government leaders. They plan the needs of the site, the location, and then the Rotary clubs build, manage, and work the site during the program rollout. All Directors of each country report to RFHA, Inc. at the U.S. headquarters.
- The program development and standard operating procedures are proprietary to RFHA Inc. and includes a sophisticated monitoring and evaluation system developed in collaboration with the CDC, Dr Phil Silvers (Past Rotary International Director), and the South African Department of Health. RFHA's monitoring and evaluation tools are used as a critical benchmark for tracking the services delivered and the demographics of the beneficiaries. The two-prong monitoring and evaluation system also includes a 90-day impact study which is a survey that reports to the referrals provided and most importantly their link to care. Final tabulated results are given at the conclusion of the campaign and after the impact study.
- RFHA's monitoring and evaluation system includes on-site data collection form design and processes; data submission and aggregation tools; training methodologies, content, and delivery mechanisms; reporting templates; and impact study questionnaires. The system has evolved from paper-based capturing and simple decentralized unstructured Excel reporting, through to more structured and controlled multi-tiered decentralized Excel template reporting, and eventually to a centrally-controlled and monitored web-based Google Sheet system, which controls site-level data capturing and enables real-time automated aggregation and real-time monitoring of capturing progress at district and program level.
- RFHA developed in conjunction with PRID Dr. Phil Silvers and Emile Mouton our M and E Consultant a 3-month impact consent form and follow-on questionnaire for beneficiaries attending the health days. The purpose is to provide feedback on link to care and the benefits of having attended a Rotary Family Health Day site. The consent

forms are collected at the Health Days and the assessment is conducted three months post the event either by trained Rotarians or implementing partners. A final report is submitted off these findings to all stakeholders.

## **Fundraising**

- RFHA raised funding over the past year from the broader Rotary network and external organizations / corporations. In South Africa, external funds and resources were raised in support of the commemorative webinar held with the Minister of Health.
- RFHA researches, approaches, and writes grants to secure external funding. The group also secures resource partners who often donate goods or services to support initiatives. An example of this in 2020 is hepatitis kits from the Action Group for Hepatitis, malaria nets from RAM, PPE from Dischem Foundation. In addition, funding was secured (for the late 2021 Zambia program) through the AIDS Health Care Foundation.

## **Training and Advocacy**

- In each country of operation, RFHA partners with local media houses to secure pro bono media exposure to not only advertise the public private partnership but to mobilize people to attend the sites. These platforms include television interviews and advertisements, radio advertisements and interviews, print media, on site standardized branding, social media (Instagram, twitter, Facebook). In addition all stakeholders augment media exposure through their own platforms.
- RFHA hosted a webinar with the Ministry of Health in South Africa and other stakeholders in commemoration of the Rotary Family Health Days in October 2020. Over 22,000 people were reached directly through the webinar that celebrated the 9-year partnership between the two entities.
- RFHA hosted a breakout session at the 2021 Rotary International Convention entitled "How to build community health, effectively". Speakers included RID Peter Kyle, Sandra Thurman (PEPFAR), Dr. John Nkengasong (Africa CDC) and PDG Lucie Kasanga from Zambia. The action group was also invited to speak by PE Shekhar Mehta at the 2021 Rotary Assembly on the Rotary Family Health Days Program. In addition, RFHA has been asked by numerous clubs around the world to speak at club meetings on the Rotary Family Health Days.
- The South African Broadcasting Corporation Foundation, as the national broadcaster in South Africa through the SABC Foundation, has signed a third three-year MOU with RFHA to broadcast the Public Service Announcements (PSAs) across their various TV and radio platforms, as well as conduct interviews with key players in the rollout of the RFHDs. The SABC has a radio listenership of 13 million people per day and addresses all eleven official languages in South Africa. The RFHD's have a dedicated media team who focus on these relationships including development of social media platforms, websites, Rotary International media and more.
- Training is done with the community members on the facilitation of the RFHDs and relationships are established as informal community action boards to work with any NGO or available entity on future program implementation and integration at grass roots level through the leaders and influencers.

## **Partnerships**

- RFHA Inc has facilitated the funding of two new Rotary Family Health Day Programs in the countries of Zambia and Eswatini. External funding has been approved by the AIDS Healthcare Foundation in Los Angeles. The relationship with AHF is being nurtured by RFHA Inc since a meeting at the International AIDS Convention in Amsterdam in 2018. The goal is to extend funding into a partnership that cover smaller countries in the SADC region and beyond.
- Even though the Rotary Family Health Day program did not take place in most countries in 2020 due to the pandemic, RFHA Inc. has worked with the countries of Lesotho, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, South Africa, Nigeria and India to continue discussions on holding Rotary Family Health Days when restrictions and funding allow. RFHA has worked with in-country Rotary leadership to augment government relationships and keep discussions open.

The countries of Zambia, Zimbabwe and Eswatini will be new RFHD countries in 2021-22 and have signed letters of intent from their Ministries.

- Since inception, RFHA Inc has facilitated external partnerships with foundations, corporates, and resource partners in support of Rotary Family Health Days in each country.
- Both the Nigerian Ministry of Health and the South Africa Department of Health have partnered with RFHA and in-country Rotary leadership since inception of the program in each country. Nigeria since 2012 and South Africa since 2013. The national Ministry of Health office drives the message out to the local levels that their services will be provided for this program. The government and the RFHA Country Director work together to determine sites and service offerings.
- The AIDS Healthcare Foundation has supported several Rotary Family Health Days initiatives in Nigeria, Lesotho and now in Zambia. Not only do they fund the RFHD's, but they also lend expertise and provide all screenings, tests and referral for care at RFHD sites in these countries.
- The Dischem Foundation in South Africa has supported the RFHA and the Rotary Family Health Day Initiative over the last three years. Pre COVID 19, they provided monetary support for the Launch Site and subsequently have provided funding for PPE for the Launch site initiatives and Rotary Clubs in South Africa who support the Program.

### ***Signature Initiatives***

**Rotary Family Health Days Nigeria** – Partnering with Districts 9110, 9125, 9140, 91, 9400, 9370, and 9350 as well obtaining extra funding from other organizations, RFHA was able to successfully hold a Rotary Family Health Day program in Nigeria. With a US\$290,000 budget over 543,412 free health care services were provided to 154,375 beneficiaries in Nigeria. RFHA also aided with management, planning, fundraising, media support and implementation.

RFHA has been a convener of the Rotary Family Health Days program since inception in 2011. They initiate the program in each country, and they bring the partnership with the U.S. Mission (CDC and USAID) to each country to form and coordinate this public/private partnership. Support of this program was obtained at the U.S. Department of State through the PEPFAR agency. The CDC and USAID mobilize their implementing partners (hundreds of NGOs and CBOs are mobilized into action to donate their medical services at this health campaign). RFHA has board members and or program managers in each country that coordinate the work between the U.S. Mission and the in-country Ministries of Health. They oversee the development of the Family Health Days Steering Committee comprised of RFHA and Rotary leaders (who, in turn, mobilize all the country's Rotary clubs into action); and RFHA helps obtain the partnership of major media houses in each country.

Two critical quality process systems have been developed by RFHA to measure impact and sustainability: 1) the data collection system and 2) the 90-day Impact Analysis system (available reports for each country attached). The two systems together constitute the Monitoring and Evaluation process. RFHA leads in finding funds for the program, whether it is obtained through TRF Global Grants and/or private sector corporations. If it is a TRF Global Grant, RFHA will help the Host and International clubs with writing the grant, help find the DDF funds to support the grant, provide financial oversight and confirm that the final reports (including final financial statements) and the 90 Impact Analysis are completed at the end of the program. RFHA also provides the branding of the program, including the Family Health Days logo.

**Rotary Family Health Days Commemorative Webinar in South Africa:** Due to COVID-19 restrictions, RFHD were unable to execute in South Africa. A high-level commemorative webinar was held in October 2020 at the request of the Minister of Health acknowledging the RFHA Partnership with Government and other stakeholders. This platform is used by National Government to announce the theme of World AIDS Day each year. A two-hour virtual program included presentations from Minister of Health, Rotary International President-elect, RFHA Inc CEO, CEO Clinton Health Access Initiative, CDC in country Director, Government Ministers, CEO of South Africa National AIDS Council, CEO of the South Africa Broadcasting Corporation, and other stakeholders. A multistakeholder social media initiative proved highly successful where over 22 000 people were directly reached at the webinar

## **Programs of Scale Participation**

RFHA partnered on a Programs of Scale grant application, “the Rotary Family Health Days in South Africa”. The objectives of the application were to grow the successful public private partnership model in South Africa to scale for real and significant impact of our program. This partnership was established because RFHA Inc. wanted to:

1. Strengthen existing proven RFHA/RFHD implementing structures in countries
2. Strengthen in-country health infrastructures and capacity building
3. Strengthen offering a solution to a systematic problem in-country and regionally to address communicable and non-communicable diseases
4. Strengthen RFHA’s existing high-level invested partnerships developed over the last eight years
5. Explore opportunities to strengthen adherence to medication
6. Reach additional people where the need is greatest
7. Garner additional resource and implementing partners
8. Increase Rotary membership through positive publicity and interaction with and exposure across all societal sectors
9. Empower and train communities to sustain the infrastructure development and to take ownership of their issues
10. Improve and develop the already robust monitoring and evaluation aspect of the program and strengthen link to care and adherence to treatment
11. Further improve robust and credible reporting

## **Notable Collaborations**

**Formal Collaborations:** National Department of Health South Africa (government sector), Ministry of Health Nigeria (government sector), The South African Broadcasting Corporation, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Dischem Foundation, Rotary Foundation, Emile Mouton – M and E Consultant

**Informal Collaborations:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, South Africa National AIDS Council

## **Contact Information**

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## **Rotary Action Group for Family Safety (RAGFAMSAFE)**

**Topic:** providing support and resources for victims of family violence

### ***Membership***

In 2020-21, RAGFAMSAFE reported 615 members in 51 countries. Among those, 394 are Rotarians, three are Rotaractors, and 218 are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Australia, the Philippines, Nigeria, and India. The group is administered by eight Rotarian board members who are from Australia, USA, and Canada.

**Other Membership Dues:** US\$25 (5 years)

### ***Projects and Activities***

The group supported 24 projects in 2020-21: four TRF-funded projects, two multi-district projects, five district projects, 11 club projects, and two other projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### ***Signature Initiatives***

**Healing the Hurt Training (incl. Trauma Recovery Network)** – Partnered with Rotary club and districts in Melbourne, Australia, the Australian Psychological Society, EMDR Association of Australia, Regional Health Networks, State Emergency Services, and Australian Bravery Association, the project aims to treat Trauma in remote communities. Training up local resources in communities was an important aspect of the project so that they are better able to respond to new disasters and to treat the ongoing Trauma in their community. With the help of club and district grants and collaboration with nine Rotary clubs, the Action Group has created and now manage a Trauma Recovery Network of experienced humanitarian-minded therapists. In addition, RAGFAMSAFE subsidize training in disaster-related EMDR protocols to upskill public sector mental specialists, so that they can respond to disasters with evidence-based appropriate therapies. With 175,000 beneficiaries and a budget of US\$75,000, the project is focused on treating the primary cause of most serious mental health problems to reduce the incidence of family violence, homelessness, substance abuse and crime resulting from PTSD. This project is still ongoing.

### **Technical Support**

- RAGFAMSAFE's second signature project of Group Healing Therapy is being conducted by specialist therapists to relieve primary and secondary Trauma experienced by first responders, such as emergency workers, frontline medical staff, community leaders, police etc. The Action Group supplies the Therapists from its network and members coordinate the sessions in cooperation with local Rotary clubs. The budget for this work comes in its first year from a grant by Direct Relief of US\$56,000.
- The Action Group is monitoring two signature projects with the help of specialist psychological reporting tools funded by the grants received. Novopsych and Psychology Outcomes have provided the tools and will manage the analysis.

### **Fundraising**

- RAGFAMSAFE raised funds over the past year from the broader Rotary network and donors outside of Rotary. They also received funds from clubs supported by district grants and from Direct Relief.

### **Training and Advocacy**

- RAGFAMSAFE spoke to several Rotary club meetings to publicize their signature initiatives, as well as virtual district meetings and online events of non-Rotary partners.
- The Action Group created a LinkedIn channel and a Facebook page for the Trauma Recovery Network as well as added videos to their YouTube channel. RAGFAMSAFE provided content for the Gathering of Kindness, a global

annual week-long event by which people from inside and outside healthcare sector get together to look for creative ways to a more compassionate model of healthcare.

- RAGFAMSAFE was interviewed on an anti-violence online channel owned by a Canadian Rotarian. They started a dialogue with the ASEAN Youth Organization around domestic violence. The group also participated in an online Structured Dialogue arranged by MBBI and the Peace Fellows Alumni.
- Action Group members in the Rotary Club of Brisbane, Australia together with sister club the Rotary Club of Colombo Reconnections, Sri Lanka conducted an Early Intervention Training Program for children with Autism & Development disabilities for 38 Professional resource personnel of the Lady Ridgeway Hospital for children at Colombo, Sri Lanka. The program will create 38 Master trainers to spread this knowledge more widely. The program extends to the educating of parents, which will help them to manage the stresses of having a special needs child in the family, which often leads to abuse.
- EMDR Association of Australia, with whom RAGFAMSAFE is partnered with, had their common board members join training initiatives hosted by the Action Group to upskill their rural, remote, and regional members in Trauma-focused protocols.

### **Partnerships**

- New partnership between the Action Group and Direct Relief arose from connections formed at the Ontario Peace Conference in 2020 and previously through the distribution of masks donated by Direct Relief for people in Australia affected with bushfire smoke and haze in 2019.
- RAGFAMSAFE started a partnership with the Australian Bravery Association to help heal the trauma of brave youth. The project is being started in the current year with club funding of A\$2,000 for each of the first two years.
- The Action Group has supplied speakers/trainers for the Australian Psychological Society (APS) and they have publicized RAGFAMSAFE's Trauma Recovery Network to their members. One of APS's board members sits on the Managing Committee of the Network.

### ***Notable Collaborations***

**Formal Collaborations:** Australian Bravery Association

**Informal Collaborations:** Australian Psychological Society, EMDR Association of Australia, ASEAN Youth Organization, Everywoman Treaty, MBBI, Peace Fellow Alumni, Australian Tennis Foundation, Fellowship of Educators

### ***Contact Information***

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## **Food Plant Solutions Rotary Action Group (FPS)**

**Topic:** helping people, particularly in developing countries, learn about and grow the best local foods to match their nutritional needs as a sustainable solution for hunger and malnutrition

### ***Membership***

In 2020-21, FPS reported 391 members in 49 countries. Among those, 385 are Rotarians, two are Rotaractors, and four are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. The group's membership is concentrated in Australia, USA, the Philippines, Canada, and India. The group is administered by 10 Rotarian board members who are from Australia and the Philippines.

**Lifetime Membership Dues:** US\$14.66

### ***Projects and Activities***

The group supported 19 projects in 2020-21: five club projects, five district projects, and nine other projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

#### **Technical Support**

- FPS created over 30 educational publications in the past year.

#### **Fundraising**

- FPS raised funds from the broader Rotary network and from donors outside of Rotary. The group did this through presentations and awareness raising programs.

#### **Training and Advocacy**

- FPS undertook Fresh Foods for Families workshops.
- FPS was able to conduct awareness campaigns using television news and segments on national shows, radio interviews, Facebook, Twitter, their website, and articles in magazines (both Rotary and non-Rotary based).
- FPS presented to approximately 30 individual Rotary clubs and various districts from around the world. The group also spoke at district changeovers, Groups 1 Forum, and ESRAG Symposium.

#### **Partnerships**

- Rotary Club of Jinja is currently translating the FPS Picture Guides, which includes 4 booklets, into Lugandan (the local dialect to the region). The club currently supports a women's group of 500 grandmothers / AIDS orphan caregivers. This group is being taught agricultural techniques through the information in the FPS guides which promotes local produce with high nutritional value.
- Rotary Club of Deloraine has helped FPS by providing funding to create Brief Guides for Solomon Islands. Over 3,000 of these were printed and given to the Kastom Gaden Association, a major NGO in Solomon Islands.
- Rotary District 3070 requested that FPS create a brief guide for their district. FPS Technical Team recognized that there are two diverse bioregions in that district and suggested that two brief guides be created; one for each bioregion. These were created and sent to the district where they were distributed.

### ***Contact Information***

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# Health Education and Wellness Rotary Action Group (HEWRAG)

**Topic:** improving world health thorough health promotion, education, and disease prevention

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, HEWRAG reported 694 Rotarians in 35 countries. Among those, 680 are Rotarians and 14 are Rotaracters. One district is also a member of the group. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, India, and several countries in Africa, , and Europe. The group is administered by 13 Rotarian board members who are from USA, India, Australia, South Africa, and Argentina.

**Annual Membership Dues:** None

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 10 club projects in 2020-21. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- HEWRAG's communications and relationship-building for cervical cancer prevention programs started in 2018, when the group was contacted by Rotarian Dickson David Ntwiga from the Rotary Club of Meru, Kenya about how HEWRAG could help him with a cervical cancer prevention project. When HEWRAG leaders investigated the possibilities in Kenya, their purpose was to provide guidance about how to move forward with a multi-county cervical cancer prevention project. Even though the Meru project has not reached to the funding stage today, a prevention project designed in Karen, Kenya was able to receive funding for TRF and started as a pilot by examining 730 women. HEWRAG, then, was contacted by Dr. Daniel Kimani from Thika, Kenya who is working on developing a cancer prevention program built around cervical cancer protection. HEWRAG's goal is to bring these three parties together so they can create a model program for administering HPV vaccines that is sustainable and replicable in 14 to 17 of Kenya's 47 counties.
- HEWRAG supported the Karen project which conducted its first actual project activity as a pilot in Meru where they examined over 730 women. Because of its success, they plan to solidify this project in the near future.

### **Training and Advocacy**

- HEWRAG Director Karl Diekman delivered a presentation at the 2021 International Festival of Public Health which was hosted by the University of Manchester, UK. The general theme of Karl's presentation was built on his experience with HEWRAG's involvement with projects about cervical cancer prevention.
- The Action Group has increased their communication efforts to its members. They have updated their website, communicated with all the new district governors, and welcomed several partnerships with other organizations like WHO, UNESCO, The Cancer Association of India, and PAHO.

### **Partnerships**

- HEWRAG partners with the Tarang Health Alliance (NGO) and has a mission to develop innovative educational materials and train teachers to implement a Comprehensive School Health Program in schools. Dr Mehra is working with HEWRAG's board members in India to establish this program.
- HEWRAG Board member Karl Diekman is a board member of the Cervical Action Canada Society (CACS) which has been working toward hosting a series of conferences from 2013 until 2027. The purposes of these conferences are to help member states of PAHO design and implement strategies outlined in the new WHO Cervical Cancer Prevention Strategies.

### **Programs of Scale Participation**

HEWRAG partnered, reviewed, and provided feedback on the Programs of Scale grant application for District 3080 “Project Aastha”. This project aims to incorporate cervical cancer vaccination in Universal Immunization Program of India so the Action Group will continue to support it until they eliminate cervical cancer from their district and country.

### ***Notable Collaborations***

**Informal Collaborations:** Rotacare Free Clinics, Tarang Health Alliance, Dr. Rahul Mehra, UNESCO Chair for Global Health and Education, Cervical Action Canada Society (CACS)

### ***Contact Information***

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## Hearing Rotary Action Group

**Topic:** helping children and adults with hearing loss

### **Membership**

In 2020-21, Hearing Rotary Action Group reported 65 members in 11 countries. Among those, 64 are Rotarians and one is a Rotaractor. Five Rotary clubs and five districts are also members of the group. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Canada, Australia, Brazil, and Guatemala. The group is administered by five Rotarian board members who are from USA, Australia, and Guatemala.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$10

**Lifetime Membership Dues:** US\$100 (free if the applicant is actively involved with hearing health projects)

### **Projects and Activities**

The group supported seven projects in 2020-21: three TRF-funded project, two district projects and two club projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

#### **Technical Support**

- Hearing RAG coached clubs and Rotarians on developing a TRF global grant application by providing a community assessment, securing funding, guiding project design, advising on proposal writing, and incorporating sustainability into a project.
- Hearing RAG has done several TRF global grants and knowing the rules and processes, members of the Hearing RAG can help guide Rotary club and district officers in the process for more sustainable global grants.

#### **Training and Advocacy**

- Hearing RAG Audiologists and those passionate about the importance of identifying and treating hearing loss spread the word about the importance of treatment and the options for treatment.

#### **Partnerships**

### **Notable Collaborations**

**Formal Collaborations:** Fundación Sonrisas que Escuchan - Smiles That Listen

### **Contact Information**

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# Rotary Action Group for Hepatitis Eradication

**Topic:** works to eradicate Hepatitis C globally

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, the Rotary Action Group for Hepatitis Eradication reported 50 members in 12 countries. Among those, 40 are Rotarians. The group's membership is concentrated in Nigeria, Brazil, Mali, Kenya, and Portugal. The group is administered by five Rotarian board members who are from Brazil, Nigeria, and USA.

**Annual Membership Dues:** None

**Lifetime Membership Dues:** None

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 1,341 projects in 2020-21: 70 multi-district projects, 70 district projects, one TRF-funded project, and 1,200 club projects.

## **Signature Initiatives**

**Hepatitis Zero Brazil**– Partnered with the Ministry of Health in Brazil, the Rotary Action Group for Hepatitis Eradication work to increase awareness about Hepatitis C. The group organized partnerships between the Ministries of Health and the Rotary clubs in 340 Brazilian cities to carry out rapid tests for Hepatitis B and C and provided immediate care to those who tested positive as it was covered by the Brazilian government. With 2,000,000 beneficiaries and a budget of US\$5,000,000, the group was able to increase Hepatitis treatment from 5,000 a year to 50,000 a year.

**Corona Zero** - Partnered with 35 districts and the Brazil Ministry of Health and Banco Itau, the Rotary Action Group for Hepatitis Eradication conducted PCR tests for Covid-19 at the 1,100 nursing care homes. The group was a mentor, organizer, initial funder, and facilitator between the health authorities and local Rotary clubs.]. With 500,000 beneficiaries and a budget of US\$1,000,000, the project was able to detect 55,000 infected elderly residents and also many workers which then were guided to isolate themselves.

**Hepatitis Zero in Portuguese Speaking Countries** – The Rotary Action Group for Hepatitis Eradication gathered ministries of health and Rotary clubs in Brazil, Portugal, Angola, Sao Tome and Principe, Cabo Verde, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Equatorial, Mozambique, and East Timor to march towards the elimination of Hepatitis, as per the World Health Organization (WHO) 2030 Hepatitis Elimination Agreement. With 2,000,000 beneficiaries and a budget of US\$2,000,000, the project allowed for detection and treatment of 2,000 hepatitis sufferers.

## **Partnerships**

- RAGHE is helping the WHO and several of its member states (through the Ministries of Health) to develop detection and treatment campaigns against Hepatitis B and C, so that the 2030 Elimination Plan can be achieved.

## **Notable Collaborations**

**Formal Collaborations:** Brazil Ministry of Health, Sao Tome and Principe Ministry of Health, Portugal Ministry of Health

**Informal Collaborations:** Mozambique Ministry of Health, Guinea Bissau Ministry of Health, East Timor Ministry of Health, Guinea Equatorial Ministry of Health, Nigeria Ministry of Health, Gilead Pharmaceuticals

**Contact Information**

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# Rotarians Against Malaria - Global Rotary Action Group (RAMGlobal)

**Topic:** coordinating efforts to control malaria

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, RAMGlobal reported 395 members in 16 countries. Among those, 475 are Rotarians, 15 are Rotaractors, and 5 are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. 5 Rotary clubs are also members of the group. The group's membership is concentrated in U.S., Australia, Canada, Tanzania, and Gambia. The group is administered by 17 Rotarian and 1 Rotaractor board members who are from U.S., Australia, Tanzania, Gambia, and Germany.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$20

**Other Membership Dues:** Rotaractors, Club

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 59 projects in 2020-21: five TRF-funded project, 15 multi-district projects, 12 district project, 15 club projects, and twelve other projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- In Partnership with the Ministry of Health, Rotary clubs and local organizations in Colombia, RAM-Global worked on a global grant to prevent and reduce malaria in Colombia. Project focused on educating the community on the causes, symptoms, prevention, and treatment of malaria. The group also facilitated connections with the industry and raised funds from multiple districts. Serving as the cooperating organization on this global grant, the group raised awareness, added resources, and engaged individuals, clubs and districts in many countries. The project has 12,000 beneficiaries and a budget of US\$142,000.
- Global grant participation is largest and most diverse by RAM-Australia which has grants in each of its five associated countries. RAM-Australia works to prove key innovations and methods to slow/stop/certify zero Malaria. RAM-PNG runs the PNG National Program funded mostly by the Global Fund Aids TB & Malaria. Grant partners together develop protocols needed to show how to take Malaria to zero and how to address critical issues such as Cross-order malaria (Timor Leste-West Timor). Malaria Partners International (MPI) supported the Federal Way Rotary Club to seek and win the Program of Scale to train and equip CHW's in Zambia. MPI supports multiple global grants in Zambia and the new one in Uganda led by Okla City Club. As partners, the RAMGlobal Board seeks donations and matched all DDF with the extra 20% to get all DDF100% match along with helping raise tens of thousands of other funds, including from every club in one district.
- Dr. Jenny Kerrison Chair of RAM-Australia arranged several global grants in Timor Leste, Papua New Guinea, West Timor (Indonesia), Vanuatu and Solomon Islands as well as helped with grants in Africa and Americas. She also works with countries' local malaria control programs, officers, and international consultants to do the gamut from community assessments through following up on post campaigns and posting Community Health Worker trainings in Timor Leste, West Timor, Vanuatu, and PNG. Rotarian Faye Cran from Tanzania helped initiate and execute several community projects on malaria including obtaining and distributing nets, educating the community, and integrating malaria control into Community Clinics while shipping nets.

### **Training and Advocacy**

- RAMGlobal compiles a list of successful grants for a library that will be incorporated into their website. The group has several awareness campaigns where the footage / reports about them can be found here.
- The group ran several virtual meetings to train many individuals and to connect Rotaractors. The Tanzania Rotaractor-Led Small Grant trains up Rotaractors in advance of their being able to apply for global grants. RAM-Global's partner MPI also has many of the related trainings on their YouTube Channel and website.
- RAM-Global educated communities on how to install preventions to malaria and how to connect with industry.

- RAM-Global members and board gave many presentations in North America, Latin America, Europe, (attended by members from Africa and Asia Pacific countries) and supported the development of the RAM-Australia efforts for both Finish the Fight - RAWCS- Global Fund effort and other efforts. RAM-Global spoke at district conferences, district assemblies, leadership trainings, as did MPI and RAM-Australia. The biggest compilation of presentations comes from the paid staff and many interns and volunteers of MPI which can be seen here.

## Partnerships

- RAM-Global donors provided organizational and financial support to set up the US-based 501c3 charity account for Finish the Fight. The United Nations Foundation (UNF) helped deliver US\$50,000 funds of RAM-G Donor with US\$25,000 match from MPI/Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to AMP. That key funding supported COVID education about malaria Continent-wide The partnership also helped keep Net Distribution campaigns going as Covid shut down vaccination campaigns.
- MPI has joint board members with RAM-Global. MPI does massive work in focus countries of Zambia and Uganda, especially, for which RAM-Global helps to raise funds and awareness across Rotary and beyond. With a grant of US\$75,000, RAM-Global Chair and MPI worked with The Alliance for Malaria Prevention (AMP) to do a mass education on Covid prevention for 30+ countries in 2020-21. RAM-Global leaders introduced MPI to the many partners of AMP, such as CDC-PMI, the Global Fund for Aids, TB and Malaria, Roll Back Malaria (AMP is formally under WHO's RBM Initiative), The UN Foundation, many manufacturers and many other groups. MPI develops local in country Networks like RAM-Australia and the other groups RAM-Australia via RAWCS set up an MOU with The Global Fund for Aids, TB and Malaria to raise US\$15,000,000, which RAM-Global Members helped individually and in capacity as board members to facilitate and donate to.
- Gambia had national campaigns on nets that RAM-Global partnered with MPI to fund and facilitate both in Gambia and by developing club support. The Vice President of The Gambia was part of the march and the RAM-Global Board gave her a PHFellow.
- German Treated Mosquito net manufacturer BASF sold RAM-Global grants treated nets at highly discounted prices. RAMGlobal helped with the delivery of these and similar goods, from finding, buying, and getting delivery to getting through ports, to storage, and organizing country committees in Zambia, Uganda, West Africa.

## *Notable Collaborations*

**Informal Collaborations:** The Alliance for Malaria Prevention (AMP), Malaria Partners International, RAM-Australia (organized under Rotarians Australia World Community Service (RAWCS))

## *Contact Information*

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## **Rotary Action Group on Mental Health Initiatives (RAGMHI)**

**Topic:** advising Rotarians on mental health programs

### ***Membership***

In 2020-21, RAGMHI reported 180 members in 25 countries. Among those, 178 are Rotarians and two are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Canada, Australia, India, and Nigeria. The group is administered by eight Rotarian board members who are from USA, India, UK, and Nigeria.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$25

### ***Projects and Activities***

The group supported eleven projects in 2020-21: two TRF-funded projects, seven district projects, and two club projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

#### **Technical Support**

- RAGMHI coached clubs and Rotarians on developing TRF global grant applications by providing community assessments, advising on proposal writing, and incorporating sustainability into a project. RAGMHI members served as advisors on replication of previously funded successful projects. They advised on budgeting and data collection and usage assuring that the data was veritable. The group also provided promotional information about the viability of the project.

#### **Training and Advocacy**

- RAGMHI used website, newsletters, social media, and Rotary Showcase to publicize success stories of projects.
- RAGMHI Speakers' Bureau conducted training for multiple clubs and districts globally. The group initiated the Adolescent Wellness in a Box training which was implemented in multiple districts by Rotary and Rotaractor clubs.
- The group conducted an awareness campaign called "Don't Bottle It Up" which is in multiple countries promoted by clubs, Rotarians, and local celebrities. They also hosted district events and panel discussions about mental health issues.
- The group received multiple requests to serve on panels at zone Institutes and district conferences addressing mental health, especially the impact of the pandemic on mental health.

#### **Programs of Scale Participation**

RAGMHI partnered on a Programs of Scale grant application under District 3030 for the 'Wellness in a Box Peer Wellness' project. The project aimed to reach 87,000 students over two years in 300 schools in India.

#### **Contact Information**

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## **Rotary Action Group Against Multiple Sclerosis (RAGAMS)**

**Topic:** improving the lives of People with MS (PwMS)

### ***Membership***

In 2020-21, RAGAMS reported 479 members in 23 countries. Among those, 429 are Rotarians, one is a Rotaractor, and 49 are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. Eight Rotary clubs, one Rotaract club, and eight districts are also members of the group. The group's membership is concentrated in Australia, USA, India, UK, and New Zealand. The group is administered by eight Rotarian board members who are from Australia, USA, New Zealand, India, and UK.

**Annual Membership Dues:** None

**Lifetime Membership Dues:** US\$20

### ***Projects and Activities***

The group supported three projects in 2020-21: one district project, one club project, and one other project.

### ***Signature Initiatives***

**Jacob Taurins Memorial MS Research Scholarship** – Partnered with Gisborne, Essendon North, Keilor East, District 9800, and the Australian Rotary Health Florey Institute, the RAGAMS serves as the champion for the Jacob Taurins Memorial MS Research Scholarship which is focused on progressive multiple sclerosis. With US\$15,000 annual budget, the project aims to find treatment and/or prevention for MS.

#### **Partnerships**

- RAGAMS partnered with Multiple Sclerosis International Federation (MSIF) in linking the National MS Societies around the world. The federation seeks to work in a worldwide partnership with Member Societies and the Scientific community to eliminate MS. RAGAMS also partners with MS Australia, a national not-for-profit organization centering on research and advocacy for people living with MS. RAGAMS volunteers and participates in fundraisers.

### ***Notable Collaborations***

**Formal Collaborations:** Australian Rotary Health, Melbourne University

**Informal Collaborations:** Multiple Sclerosis International Federation, MS Australia, MS Views and News, Australian MS Longitudinal Study (AMSLS), Monash University, Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health

### ***Contact Information***

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# Rotary Action Group for Peace (RAGFP)

**Topic:** advancing world peace and preventing conflict

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, RAGFP reported 4,067 members in 124 countries. Among those, 2,000 are Rotarians, 131 are Rotaractors, and 1,936 are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. 224 Rotary clubs and 10 Rotaract clubs are also members of the group. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Canada, Hong Kong, India, and UK. The group is administered by eleven Rotarian board members who are from USA, UK, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Switzerland.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$50

**Other Membership Dues:** Rotaract: US\$15 (1 year) / Peace Fellow and Rotary Alumni: US\$15 (1 year)

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 32 projects in 2020-21: 15 TRF-funded projects, two multi-district projects, five district projects, and ten club projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- RAGFP coached clubs and Rotarians on developing TRF global grant applications by providing community assessments, securing funding, identifying international partners, helping with project design, advising on proposal writing, and incorporating sustainability into projects.
- Despite the challenges created by the Covid pandemic, the Action Group was still able to support two global grants coming out of the Geneva Project Incubator. The first one was the War Child project which aimed to empower youth in northern Uganda (a conflict area) to research common problems experienced by the youth and to give the tools for dialogue and possible resolutions. The project was championed by Peace Fellow Amardeep Kainth from the UK. Alison Sutherland, Immediate Past RAGFP Chair, also partnered in this project to make contact with a Rotary club in Uganda and set up meetings to establish their involvement as the host club. She, through this club and a member being on the Board of the new Makerere Peace Centre, facilitated conversations with Makerere Peace Centre and received a commitment from them to provide the monitoring and evaluation for the project. Alison also approached her district in Southern Wales to secure the funding for this global grant.
- There was a second project from the Geneva Project Incubator, which was presented by Sparsh Ahuja and, again, championed by Peace Fellow Amardeep Kainth with collaboration from Alison Sutherland. A third project came out of the Geneva Incubator Education theme from Peace Fellow Phil Gittins of World Beyond War. RAGFP leadership is in collaboration with Phil in establishing this project as well.
- RAGFP organizes weekly virtual calls called the Thursday's Chat, where Rotary members from around the world are invited to join to raise their questions about projects or other peace initiatives. Two global peace conferences held in Turkey in 2020-21 flourished through these weekly meetings, from planning to implementation.
- RAGFP continued to monitor The Peacebuilder Club Program in 2020-21. All Peacebuilder Clubs assemble peace committees who meet regularly to discuss how their Rotary club can engage in peace projects that build and sustain positive peace. The global network of Peacebuilder Clubs has grown to over 300 clubs during the 2020-2021 Rotary Year. The RAGFP monitors the growth of the program through the Peacebuilder Club map. The Peacebuilder Club map creates a datapoint on a world map for each registered Peacebuilder Club, demonstrating the program's growth and impact around the globe.
- RAGFP advise their RAG members to utilize the Global Peace Index and the Positive Peace Academy to better understand the needs and the solutions for peace in their communities.

## **Fundraising**

- RAGFP raised funds over the past year from the action group members, the broader Rotary network, donors outside of Rotary, and external organizations/corporations.
- There was a US\$50,000 grant from the Jubitz Foundation which was utilized in contracting a development officer who worked with the executive director on a Legacy of Peace event. This event raised a further \$15,000 for the Action Group operations. The development officer, ED, and two directors are planning a further Fundraiser entitled The Peace Dove event. This will award Peace Dove Certificates to several Peacebuilders, both within and outside Rotary.

## **Training and Advocacy**

- World Beyond War has devised a special education program entitled Peace Education for Impact. This takes ten youth from ten countries, with a country coordinator, and two Rotarian mentors. It is a six-week online course with eight weeks of the identification of an issue, research, planning for addressing the issue. The Rotarian mentors assist in all of this. Further training is planned for participants, country coordinators, and the Rotarian mentors. A workshop was given on how to set up a Peacebuilder Club, a district peace committee, and how to begin with peace projects. This was carried out by Alison Sutherland with assistance from other participants in the Wednesday Peacebuilding Chat group.
- 2020-21 RAGFP Chair Alison Sutherland has been involved in the formation of Interactive Quarantine and has attended and assisted at their Monthly Meetings. These daily Chats have also resulted in a growth of Peacebuilder Clubs, appointment of Peace Chairs/Directors, growth of District Peace Conferences. From the above there have been many training opportunities offered by the participants, each an expert in his field. i.e. Every Rotarian/Rotaractor is a Peacebuilder, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Anger Management, Non-Violent Communication, The Inner Outward Mindset, How to set up a Peacebuilder Club and what to do next, Difficult Conversations. The Together for Peace Talks have continued from the onset of Covid, hosted by Peace Fellow and Executive Director, Reem Ghunaim.
- RAGFP promotes its initiatives and membership benefits through newsletter, additional notifications, social media, their website, and the Together for Peace Talks and Chat with the Chair. The Chats with the Chair conferences are advertised on the RAGFP website but has grown due to word of mouth and has led to many Peacebuilder clubs being set up. The Hong Kong Chapter of RAGFP put on a multi-district event, partnering with District 3450, Ohio, USA. Turkey also hosted a virtual global conference with 1000 registrants.
- In 2020-21, a conference was put together by Director Chehab Elawar and Alison Sutherland for Rotaractors. It had over 300 participants from over 20 countries. It has resulted in the setting up of Rotaractors for Peace. It too was instrumental in Chehab and Alison requesting the Board to reduce the subscription for Rotaractors to US\$5. After which, they sponsored and obtained further sponsors, bringing in 200 Rotaractors into the RAGFP.
- In 2020-21, RAGFP had four articles published in four Rotary Magazines. Reem Ghunaim, Executive Director of the RAGFP was featured in The Rotarian speaking on the work of the Action Group and its peacebuilder program. Alison Sutherland, Chair of the RAGFP, was featured in The Wave (Africa) Down Under (Australia) and Rotary Magazine (Great Britain and Ireland). The Executive Director, Reem Ghunaim, spoke at two District Conferences in the USA on sustainable peace. Alison Sutherland has spoken on Negative and Positive Peace, the Work of the RAG, Peacebuilder Clubs to eleven Conferences. She has also presented at the Chartering of ICCs in Portugal and the Philippines. She has collaborated twice with Mediators Beyond Borders presenting on the work of the RAGFP.

## **Partnerships**

- There were many webinars hosted to teach Peace Fellows and organizers of War Child and World Beyond War which increased from two to five days a week. The Monday chat brought in interested Rotary members and others in the World Beyond War Peace Education for Impact Program. It has linked Rotarians and Rotaractors from USA, Canada, Hong Kong, Turkey, Serbia, Ukraine, Russia, Wales, Virgin Islands, Cameroon, South Sudan, Kenya,

Nigeria, Venezuela, Colombia, Syria. The Tuesday Chat has brought Rotarians together from the USA, Canada, Australia, Hong Kong, Turkey, and Wales. They have produced a video entitled Shaping Peace Through Music which was put up on You Tube on. Wednesdays Chat brings together Peacebuilders. Thursday's Chat is with Turkey. This has resulted in them growing from two members coming on the Chat to the formation of a District Peace Committee with the Chair being a PDG and Foundation Chair. Friday's Chat is with Hong Kong. It started in March with Covid and has developed into the formation of a Hong Kong Chapter of the Rotary Action Group for Peace. It has resulted in a global Multi District Conference, training events, and the promotion and growth of Peacebuilder Clubs together with encouraging Rotarians to take the training on the Peace Academy.

- Reem Ghunaim, Executive Director, has attended meetings with New Gen Peacebuilders with a view to understanding the synergy with the RAGFP and how the RAGFP might promote this program. Alison Sutherland, through the RAGFP has arranged three Memorandum of Understanding with: 1. World Beyond War, 2. Carlisi Associates (Every Rotarian/Rotaractor is a Peacebuilder), and 3. Foundation for Peace Through Art (Karim Wasfi). Three Chapters of the RAGFP have been formed during this Rotary year. Hong Kong, Germany and Serbia. Agreements have been entered into by the RAGFP and the Foundation Members of these Chapters. The RAGFP continues its partnership with IEP and the release of its Future Trends to members.
- The MOU with Portland State University provides RAGFP with access to Portland State University students as interns and Portland Professors as experts.

### ***Notable Collaborations***

**Formal Collaborations:** Portland State University

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## **Polio Survivors Rotary Action Group (PS-RAG)**

**Topic:** improving the health and well-being of polio survivors

### ***Membership***

In 2020-21, Polio Survivors Rotary Action Group reported 88 members in 15 countries. Among those, 59 are Rotarians, 13 are Rotaractors, and 16 are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. 34 Rotary clubs and 33 districts are also members of the group. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Nigeria, India, UK, and the Philippines. The group is administered by eight Rotarian board members who are from USA, Canada, and Nigeria.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$25

### ***Projects and Activities***

The group supported one project in 2020-2021: one multi-district project. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

#### **Technical Support**

- The Rotary Action Group for Polio Survivors is monitoring and participating in a global grant with Wheels of Hope for wheelchairs being made in Nigeria

#### **Training and Advocacy**

- The group has continued to update a publication about what Rotarians need to know about Polio Eradication and Polio Survivor Support.
- Polio Survivors are the best advocates for demonstrating and explaining why immunization and supporting Rotary's eradication of polio is important to everyone. Polio Survivors are able to explain better what happens to people what Post Polio Syndrome is.

#### **Partnerships**

- Wheels of Hope continues to be a strong supporter of PS-RAG.

### ***Notable Collaborations***

**Formal Collaborations:** Wheels of Hope,

**Informal Collaborations:** Crutches for Africa, Post-Polio Health

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# Rotary Action Group for Refugees, Forced Displacement, and Migration

**Topic:** support Rotary clubs and districts, and other organizations, in the design, implementation, and evaluation of projects related to refugees, forced displacement, and migration.

## ***Membership***

In 2020-21, the Rotary Action Group for Refugees, Forced Displacement, and Migration reported 155 members in 25 countries. Among those, 130 are Rotarians, five are Rotaractors, and 20 are non-Rotarians/non-Rotaractors. The group is administered by seven board members who are from USA, Uganda, Colombia, and Switzerland. Among those, six are Rotarians and one is a Rotaractor.

**Annual Membership Dues:** None

## ***Projects and Activities***

This group supported ten projects in 2020-21: five club projects and five other projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- The Rotary Action Group for Refugees provided comments on a grant for the Navikale refugee settlement in Uganda. They also collected detailed data on the project for Venezuelan refugees in Colombia in order to demonstrate cost effectiveness.

### **Fundraising**

- The group raised funds over the past year from the Action Group members. They raised funds for a project to provide food assistance for Venezuelan refugees travelling to Colombia.

### **Training and Advocacy**

- The Action Group worked on a report on projects to empower girls and women through education with examples of Rotary-supported projects, some of which targeted refugees, IDPs, or migrants.
- 
- The group organized six well-attended webinars on a range of topics. They also participated in a range of other events, mostly organized by Rotary members, to make the newly formed Action Group better known.

## ***Notable Collaborations***

**Informal Collaborations:** Rotary Fellowship for Global Development, Rotary Action Group for Basic Education and Literacy, Rotary Action Group for Maternal and Child Health, Rotary Peace Fellows Association, World Bank and UN for speakers at online webinars

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# Rotary Action Group for Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health (RMCH)

**Topic:** improving maternal and child health

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, RMCH reported nearly 12,833 members in twelve countries. Among those, 11,654 are Rotarians, 174 are Rotaractors, and 1,005 are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. 396 Rotary clubs and four Rotaract clubs are also members of the group. The group's membership is concentrated in Germany, Nigeria, India, Korea, and USA. The group is administered by 15 Rotarian board members who are from USA, Germany, Austria, India, and UK.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$25

**Lifetime Membership Dues:** US\$100

**Other Membership Dues:** Germany: US\$200 (lifetime), but US\$100 if the club is a member

## **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 26 projects in 2020-21: six TRF-funded projects, one multi-district project, five district projects, and 14 club projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- RMCH coached clubs and Rotarians on developing TRF global grant applications by providing community assessments, securing funding, identifying international partners, helping with project design, advising on proposal writing, and incorporating sustainability into projects. The group also carry out follow-up evaluations of impact. Several members of our RMCH Board are also TRF Cadre members, who the group calls upon to discuss project ideas with clubs seeking support. The group cooperates with many projects around the world, on some of which they lead and others on which they serve as a cooperating organization. The group has five workstreams: 1. Improving reproductive, maternal and child health in Nigeria, 2. Skill building for medical personnel, 3. Women's empowerment and health, 4. Skills training for women and girls through Saheli Centers, and 5. Support for indirect causes of improved outcomes for women and girls.
- The best example of how RMCH monitors a project is their signature project in Nigeria in which RMCH monitors maternal deaths, contraceptive use, related trainings, and reporting coverage. The data is reviewed monthly with local and state stakeholders to identify where additional efforts are required to improve the quality of care and/or quality of data coverage. The skill building projects often include the collection of data on skill levels of various levels of health providers from medical staff to community health workers. Planning new training strategies required periodic review of skill levels to improve health indicators and use our resources efficiently.
- The most significant tool RMCH developed around impact recording is the Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response (MPDSR) data base, which will become a mandatory reporting tool across all 36 states and the Federal Capitol Territory (FCT) of Nigeria. When combined with national or state level surveys, RMCH will have a good understanding about trends and levels of critical indicators for maternal and child health in Nigeria

### **Fundraising**

- RMCH raised funds over the past year from action group members, the broader Rotary network, donors outside of Rotary, and external organizations / corporations. The RMCH is well positioned with a variety of partners to support projects. While not all projects are large, requiring major funding, nor do all partners want to cooperate with funding (would prefer to collaborate on service efforts), RMCH has been able to generate over time the capacity to approach members and donors for funding for service projects in their area of specialty.

### **Training and Advocacy**

- RMCH medical training teams adapt material from global sources such as WHO, JHPIEGO, FIGO and others, and they share these materials in most trainings. RMCH's focus is not to develop new materials, but rather ensure that

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the evidence-based materials created by global partners are available to leaders, providers and the local community where appropriate.

- The RMCH CALMED team and the RMCH Nigeria team have been working on health care training, and the project Big Pink has focused on the education of Rotary women on how to preserve and protect their health.
- RMCH hosts several webinars a year as RMCH. In addition, members participated in the past year in a webinar with WHO and Rotary, with the International Federation of OB-GYNs (FIGO), SOGON and UK FIGO section, and other meetings related to in their area of specialty.
- RMCH has presented results of their work in international webinars, national seminars, and local meetings so that everyone can learn about opportunities for learning, replication and scale up.
- Reproductive maternal child health awareness campaigns have largely been the work of Population Media Center in Nigeria, where they produce and distribute made for television material and soap operas about changing social norms and the opportunities for choice in health care.

## **Partnerships**

- In every country where RMCH works with a focus on scaling up, the group has long term relationships with government ministries, usually the state and national Ministries of Health. RMCH may also seek cooperation with social security systems in the future as another mechanism for gaining universal health coverage and insights into the role of health insurance in achieving long term program goals.
- The RMCH Germany Chapter has received funding from BMZ, Germany for support of the maternal health work in Nigeria. In addition, RMCH cooperates with a range of private donors for leveraged support in areas such as supplies (e.g. contraceptives), communication, and advocacy. In India, the group cooperates with the Apollo Hospital network for support for health and well-being maintenance. Members of the Big Pink effort for women's wellness receive discounts for basic health maintenance services from the hospitals if they show their Big Pink card.
- The group also leverages a partnership with Population Council which offers them additional expertise in reproductive and maternal health, new contraceptive technologies in particular.
- Partnerships with Ob-Gyn Societies and midwifery societies (ICM) both in Nigeria and around the world allow RMCH to gain cooperation as well as access to the best practices and gain insights into how to best scale up successful intervention.

## ***Signature Initiatives***

### **National Maternal Health and Family Planning Campaign in Nigeria:**

RMCH leads this signature program in partnership with governmental and non-governmental agencies in Nigeria and around the globe such as the Federal Ministry of Health and State Ministries of Health of Nigeria, Planned Parenthood of Nigeria (PPFN), Society of Gynecology & Obstetrics of Nigeria (SOGON), UNFPA, Population Council (PC), and Population Media Center). The goal of the program is to improve the access to and quality of family planning and maternal health services. Recently, The Federal Ministry of Health in Nigeria gave a mandate through collaborative efforts with RAG-RMCH to support reduction of maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality through a long-standing commitment to improving the health of its population. This includes family planning, capacity building of health workers and Maternal and Perinatal Deaths Surveillance and Response (MPDSR); as well as community dialogues to improve access to quality essential maternal and newborn health services and medicines. This is demonstrated in the 2021-2022 Reproductive Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent and Elderly health Plus Nutrition (RMNCAEH+N) operational Plan, among others. They were involved in many initiatives:

1. The media campaign for the RMCH Family Planning Campaign was launched being one of their most successful intervention.



2. 60 journalists from the print, radio, television, and social media were trained and instructed on effective reporting of Maternal and Child health issues, especially family planning.
3. Family Planning equipment worth 20,000,000 naira were donated to ten facilities in each of the 36 States as well as the Federal Capital.
4. In support of the Family Health Department of FMOH, RMCH, under its National Family Planning Campaign Project in collaboration with the SOGON, had 125 trainers provide training about Obstetric Quality Assurance (OQA) and Family planning to 40 doctors and nurses across secondary and tertiary facilities in all 36 states.
5. A training guide for Quality Assurance and Quality of Care was created. MPDSR is being developed for maternal and child reproductive health workers.
6. FMOH has commenced the transition of domestication of MPDSR e-platform through ICT department and Federal IT Agency Galaxy backbone with RMCH project in Nigeria. Also, a draft bill to institutionalize MPDSR in Nigeria has been submitted to the National Assembly.

With 46,000,000 beneficiaries and a budget of US\$2,000,000, this ongoing project led to a 40% increase in national CPR contribution, a reduction in unmet need for modern contraceptives by 22%, and a reduction of maternal deaths by 15%. RMCH continues to ensure that the law on the mandatory use of MPDSR and OQA databases is approved by the National Assembly and implemented by the FMOH, State Ministries of Health, and private sector stakeholders.

**Preventable Maternal and Neonatal Mortality Reduction Program in a Tribal Areas of North-East India** - Leveraging partnerships with Districts 1120 (England), 1145 (England), 3240 (India), and 2760 (Japan) – and organizations such as GLOWM (Global Library of Women’s Medicine), MAF (Medical Aid Films), Laerdal Corporation, RMCH Rotary Action Group, International Rotary Fellowship of Healthcare Professionals, NEIGRIHMS (Northeast Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences), and National Health Mission (Government of Meghalaya), this TRF Global Grant project was implemented in five districts in Meghalaya, India and is planned to be replicated in Uganda. In this project, there is upskilling and capacity development of the healthcare professionals (doctors and nurses) through a structured train the trainer model delivered by vocational training team visits (VTT). Modern training methods including high fidelity simulators, videos, and role playing are used. RMCH is also working to improve health seeking behavior in the communities mediated by training supported by healthcare assistants known as ASHAs. Covid related travel restrictions since March of 2020 have encouraged the development of remote learning and related e-learning portals, additional to the three planned VTT visits.

Led by Rotarian Dr. Himansu Basu, RMCH developed the CALMED based VTT program which created a training advisory network with access to experienced volunteer trainers, advisers, and a tool kit of training materials (e.g. films, apps, training simulation materials, good practice guide, etc.). This is available for Rotary clubs and districts and can be seen here. Covid led to the creation of a distanced learning VTT program supported by an e-Learning platform, introduction of peer-to-peer training, in-site simulation training, and a digital mentoring network. There have been digital technology enhancements with the creation of a cellphone-based apps, as seen here, and a Referral Management System to fast track the transferring of mothers and babies from remote communities who require emergency skilled care. RMCH’s skilled doctors, nurses, and advocates equipped with relevant training materials (Tool Kit) are now available to provide expert advice on quality of care throughout the project cycle on relevant MCH projects. Their partners also help in providing additional technical guidance. With 1,860,000 beneficiaries and a budget of US\$83,000, this ongoing project continues to improve the capacity of health care providers of maternal health services and the quality of care provided to pregnant women.

**The Big Pink Program:** Partnered with Rotary districts in Chennai, Bhubaneshwar, Indore, Bangalore, Mumbai, Madurai, Nasik, and Apollo Hospitals, this project focuses on five areas of women's health: 1. Life education and Menstrual Health, 2. Well Women Check-ups and Vaccinations, 3. Perfect Health, Diet and Exercise, 4. Maternal and Reproductive Health, and 5. Mental Health. PDG Rekha Shetty from the RMCH Board has been able to mobilize Rotary clubs in south India to sponsor health and wellness days and provide the interface with private health services for health check-ups. With 25,000 beneficiaries, this locally funded project remains ongoing in India. The project has also been replicated in Sri Lanka and Malaysia, and soon will expanded into selected countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

### **Programs of Scale Participation**

The objective of the RMCH's proposal, "Sustainable Improvement of Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health in Nigeria", was to enhance reproductive and maternal health and family planning systems in Nigeria. While building capacity and accountability, RMCH wants to increase the demand for professional maternal health and family planning services and increasing the supply of quality maternal health and family planning services. The goals of this project align with RMCH's goal of making a difference at scale in support of the Sustainable Development goals SDG 3 ("ensure healthy lives and well-being for those of all ages") and 5 ("achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls"). RMCH initiatives require interventions at scale to make a difference in public health indicators, and the wellbeing of communities and countries.

### ***Notable Collaborations***

**Formal Collaborations:** Apollo Hospitals, Population Council, Population Media Center, SOGON in Nigeria (society associated with FIGO)

**Informal Collaborations:** Planned Parenthood Federation Affiliates

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## Rotary Action Group Against Slavery (RAGAS)

**Topic:** raising awareness and supporting programs, campaigns and projects to address slavery

### **Membership**

In 2020-21, RAGAS reported 569 members in 38 countries. Among those, 515 are Rotarians, twelve are Rotaractors, and 42 are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. 320 Rotary clubs, three Rotaract Clubs, and 52 districts are also members of the group. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, UK, Australia, Thailand, and South America. The group is administered by 15 Rotarian board members who are from USA, UK, Asia, South America, and Australia.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$30

**Other Membership Dues:** US\$75 (5 years) / Rotaract: US\$15 / Club Membership: US\$1 (per member)

### **Projects and Activities**

The group supported 99 projects in 2020-21: six multi-district projects, 18 district projects, 61 club projects, and 14 other projects. The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

#### **Technical Support**

- RAGAS coached clubs and Rotarians on developing a TRF global grant application by providing a community assessment, securing funding, identifying an international partner, helping with project design, advising on proposal writing, and incorporating sustainability into a project. RAGAS has a TRF Cadre member on their board (Debbie Hodge) who advises clubs/districts on all aspects of global grants.
- The group advised over 35 clubs and multiple districts with the help of their members who serve in expert capacity while connecting key organizations to clubs and Rotary members for help in implementing their projects. The group also served as a subject-matter expert in "modern slavery" for Rotary members who reached out to the group with inquiries.
- RAGAS created a best practices/toolkit on education/prevention. The Toolkit for lawyers can be used for pro bono work to represent survivors of human trafficking. It's online and free to Rotary members.

#### **Fundraising**

- RAGAS has raised funds over the past year from Action Group members, the broader Rotary network, donors outside of Rotary, and external organizations / corporations. The group was able to raise funds, specifically, through increased membership, virtual seminars, social media promotions, and district conferences. RAGAS also raised funds through a bike ride event across Europe and through Freedom Fighter IPA beer as they were able to get Delta Airlines to carry the beer on their planes.

#### **Training and Advocacy**

- The group publicizes the successes of their projects or initiatives through Rotary's communication channels, the group's social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube), Zoom webinars, TV stories, CNN Freedom Project, newspaper articles, and club / district / zone newsletters. RAGAS's own newsletter has over 2,800 subscribers. Having over 500 stories with over 1 million impressions, RAGAS was the [featured story](#) on CNN on Freedom Day.
- RAGAS helped with over 250 training sessions which were in-person and virtual in six continents, a virtual to summit with over 600 attendees and presented at three peace conferences in Latin America. It can be found here. RAGAS board presented virtually and live to over 300 conferences, districts, clubs, schools, governments, law enforcement, and corporations such as AbbVie Inc., Accenture plc, BNP Paribas S.A., Chevron Corporation, Cushman & Wakefield plc, Goldman Sachs, Jones Day, JPMorgan Chase & Co., PayPal, Wells Fargo & Company, Jones Day, Delta, Coke Cola, UPS, etc.

## Partnerships

- RAGAS partners with The Knoble, a non-profit global network of experts with a passion for preventing financial crime that harms the vulnerable. The group works with them on collecting data on how financial institutes are used to facilitate human trafficking. RAGAS also partnered with Jones Day to work on The Global Compendium Human Trafficking Laws project, which seeks to create the first single standardized summaries of human trafficking and modern slavery laws of each country and all U.S. states and territories.
- The group worked with government ministries to improve legislation, to receive grant funding for their partners. One example is that for their partner in Wellspring Living, Atlanta (USA), RAGAS partnered with the U.S. government to secure US\$500,000 for an entrepreneur program for survivors.

## *Signature Initiatives*

**Community Awareness & Prevention Education (CAPE)** – Partnered with seven Rotary districts (6900, 5950, 6000, 9800, 5280, 6960, 4400), 23 clubs, 3StrandsGlobal, and A2. RAGAS's Community Awareness & Prevention Education (CAPE) committee gathered virtually in a series of planning sessions to define the strategic action plan and CAPE model for RAGAS since this program will be used as a model for Rotary clubs and districts around the world. The strategic plan will be based on live and virtual training depending on Covid restrictions.

With 25,000 beneficiaries and a budget of US\$10,000, this ongoing project will provide a complete road map on human trafficking education/prevention. RAGAS will create and distribute a brief RFP for human trafficking/modern slavery prevention education projects to all Rotary districts in 2021-22. At least ten districts from around the globe who will beta-test the RAGAS CAPE toolbox and playbook plan over six months. Top ten districts will be matched up with US\$1,000 by RAGAS to fund their prevention education project. All participating districts will receive a free one-year trial RAGAS membership for all Rotarians in each participating district. This will provide access to the online Toolbox to create and execute a CAPE project. These districts will also receive mentoring by a designated RAGAS Coordinator or Ambassador to consult on their project and provide support on how to collaborate with partner stakeholders including local schools, local government, NGO's, and other community members. All participating districts will adopt the provided draft resolution at a district level as well as encourage the RI Board to officially take a stand against Human Trafficking. They will also commit to appointing a "Human Trafficking Liaison" at the district and club level who will help coordinate efforts throughout the grant period and ideally beyond.

**Global Compendium—Human Trafficking Laws** – Leveraging partnerships among four districts (6900, 4400, 5950, 5280), 12 clubs, Jones Day, Accenture plc, BNP Paribas S.A., Chevron Corporation, Cushman & Wakefield plc, Goldman Sachs, Jones Day, JPMorgan Chase & Co., PayPal, and Wells Fargo & Company, this project is implemented in 129 countries and in all United States. While diverse collections of human trafficking laws on specialized issues or for jurisdictions, The Global Compendium—Human Trafficking Laws project seeks to create a global compendium that would make available the first single standardized summaries of human trafficking and modern slavery laws of each country and all U.S. states and territories. The law firm of Jones Day helped produce this collective law with the intended users being governments, legislators, NGOs, companies, victims, victim advocates, academics, attorneys, and others. The initial installment of the compendium contains about 90 separate pdfs of the human trafficking laws in various countries / states / territories. The information in the Compendium not only summarizes laws and identifies resources but also provides that information in a standardized format. This standardization should facilitate use of compendium information and permit users to easily compare the laws of different countries on the same topic. Given that summarizing each country's human trafficking laws is a substantial undertaking and will take time especially as laws change time to time, it was decided to release portions of the Compendium in installments. In the future, additional country chapters will be added and existing chapters will be updated.

**Prevention / Education Projects Focusing on Child Rights and Child Protection in Myanmar and Nepal** –A21's Primary Prevention Program (PPP) is aimed at helping to raise awareness and protect young children from becoming victims. It also helps stop exploitation that results from sexual exploitation, labor trafficking, and online cyber exploitation in three states in Australia (Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria). The PPP is a three-session program contextualized for the Australian Primary School Standards, that aims to teach children ages six to twelve about how they can protect themselves and others through play-based activities. The content focuses on value and child rights, safe and unsafe migration, and human trafficking. The aim of this part of the project is to support the development, promotion and distribution of the newly developed program and its accompanying resources to educators across Australia and provide training on the program.

RAGAS members collaborated with A21 to facilitate the development of the project, applied for and obtained the Rotary Foundation district grant, assisted with promotion and recruiting participants for, attended the Melbourne training, and proposed to host the Melbourne event. With 1,400 beneficiaries and a budget of US\$4,500, this ongoing project has already led to many outcomes. Promotional flyers and training materials were developed, 45 facilitators were trained, and a new version of the PPP was made available online for free distribution where accompanying resources were also created to go with the PPP.

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# Water Sanitation & Hygiene Rotary Action Group (WASHRAG)

**Topic:** providing safe water and sanitation to communities

## **Membership**

In 2020-21, WASHRAG reported 1,466 members in 91 countries. Among those, 1,456 are Rotarians, two are Rotaractors, and five are non-Rotarian/non-Rotaractors. The group's membership is concentrated in USA, Canada, India, Nigeria, and Australia. The group is administered by 11 Rotarian board members who are from UK, USA, India, Uganda, and Haiti.

**Annual Membership Dues:** US\$25

**Other Membership Dues:** Charter Membership: US\$100 (5 years)

## **Projects and Activities**

The type of assistance provided to clubs and districts is as follows:

### **Technical Support**

- WASHRAG coached clubs and Rotarians on developing TRF global grant applications by providing community assessments, securing funding, identifying international partners, working on project design, advising on proposal writing, and incorporating sustainability into projects.
- Before submitting global grant application to TRF, clubs are asked to submit their completed application to WASHRAG for review. Once the suggestions are considered for the final application, WASHRAG will contribute US\$2,000 towards the project. These funds are donated directly to TRF and earmarked to the specific project once the project has been approved by TRF.
- WASHRAG fielded approximately 80+ requests in the past Rotary year, of which about 15 were requests for assistance in preparing global grant applications. The WASHRAG Professional Resources Team currently consists of about 44 members, each of whom is highly qualified in one or more of 20 aspects of WASH. This includes both "hardware" (such as water supply, hydrogeology, sand dams, sanitation and waste management) and "software" (such as behavior change, capacity building, monitoring and evaluation, menstrual hygiene management and preparation of Global Grants).

### **Training and Advocacy**

- WASHRAG has successfully hosted a World Water Summit for the past 14 years. The impact of Covid-19 has prompted a series of supplementary webinars. Therefore, the virtual WWS13 focused on WASH in Healthcare Facilities (WinHCF) an emerging area for RI grants.
- In the Fall of 2020, the group hosted a series of webinars focused on "The Nuts & Bolts of Global Grants. The three events were webinars called: 1. Introduction Global Grants and Conducting a Community Assessment, 2. Sustainability and Life Cycle Costs of Global Grants, and 3. Monitoring and Evaluation of Global Grants. These webinars had 650, 550, and 450 registrants respectively where the actual attendance for the webinars were approximately 40% of total registrations.

### **Partnerships**

- Last year, BREW (Beers Rotarians Enjoy Worldwide) donated US\$6000, which was used to fund US\$2,000 payments from the WASHRAG Fund when the action group reviews Global Grants.
- Wallace Genetic Foundation provides funding for the WASHRAG's administrative support. They have also supported the action group's annual World Water Summits. In the last year, they donated US\$25,000 to support initiatives in the area of WASH in Health Care Facilities (WinHCF).
- The Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG) sponsored joint webinars with WASHRAG.

## ***Notable Collaborations***

### **Formal Collaborations:**

BREW (Beers Rotarians Enjoy Worldwide), ESRAG (Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group)

### **Informal Collaborations:**

Wallace Genetic Foundation

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