

RESOLUTION 23R-08

To request the RI Board to consider directing all districts participating in the Youth Exchange program to adopt a policy of inclusion by accepting inbound students who have been diagnosed with mental health conditions that are successfully managed with medication and/or other supportive care

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Peterborough, District 7010, Canada

1 WHEREAS, RI is strongly committed to its Youth Exchange program, and

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3 WHEREAS, some district and multidistrict Youth Exchange programs will not
4 accept any student who has a history of depression, attention deficit disorder, or
5 any other mental health condition, and

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7 WHEREAS, such conditions are manageable with medical care and support, and

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9 WHEREAS, many countries around the world encourage young people to discuss
10 the topic of mental health and encourage students to seek help to manage these
11 illnesses, and

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13 WHEREAS, students are required to provide a complete medical history in the
14 Youth Exchange application, and

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16 WHEREAS, some Youth Exchange programs automatically reject students with
17 any history of mental health conditions, even when the student is managing the
18 condition with medication and supportive care

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20 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
21 International consider directing all districts participating in the Youth Exchange
22 program to adopt a policy of inclusion by accepting inbound students who have
23 been diagnosed with depression, attention deficit disorder, or any other mental
24 health condition where these conditions are being successfully managed with
25 medication and/or other supportive care.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

26 The purpose of this resolution is to encourage the RI Board to direct that all
27 districts participating in the Rotary Youth Exchange program adopt a policy of
28 inclusion by accepting inbound students who have been diagnosed with
29 depression, attention deficit disorder, or any other mental health conditions that
30 are being successfully managed with medication and/or other supportive care.

- 1 The effect of this action would be to demonstrate RI's very real-world
- 2 commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 3 If implemented, this resolution would have a financial impact on RI which cannot
- 4 be determined at this time. Cost would be dependent on the scope and extent of
- 5 support provided by the RI Board to accomplish this goal.