

Global Grants Update: Helping Rural Schools in India



Rotary District 5230 is the international partner for two new Global grants in India. These grants were initiated by District Foundation Chair PDG Shirley Grace in coordination with the District Governor in 2017/18, Art Gaffrey. Read on for more information on those projects, which were awarded in early 2019.

Clean Water and Toilets

Many rural schools in the Kolhapur area of India do not have enough clean bathrooms with sinks for handwashing. In partnership with our friends in Rotary District 3170, we are providing toilet blocks, with separate facilities for boys and girls, with teacher and student training in proper hygiene, to help reduce disease in their community. The Salinas Steinbeck Rotary is the lead international club for this grant.

Contributors were: Districts 5230 and 3170, and the Rotary Clubs of Carmel Valley, Steinbeck, Pacific Grove, and Ichalkaranji Textile City (India).



Literacy and School Access

Rotary knows that a literate population can better care for itself. This project in the state of Maharashtra, India is building libraries to help students learn to read, and providing sturdy, comfortable desks so that children can concentrate on their studies. To assist neighborhood girls in attending classes, this project is also distributing 50 bicycles to five different schools.

The Rotary Club of Fresno is the lead International Club for this grant. Contributors were: Districts 3170 and 5230, and the Rotary clubs of Fresno, Springfield Sunrise, Santa Lucia, Visalia Breakfast, Lemoore and Ichalkaranji Textile City.



Global Grants Recently Submitted

These three global grants have just been approved, or submitted in final draft for consideration by the Rotary Foundation for funding. If you'd like to develop a global grant, please contact Debbie Hale, District Grants Coordinator: debndora@gmail.com; (831) 596-4542.

Women's Vocational Training

Matau, Zimbabwe is a poor rural community where women often face early marriage due to the lack of family income. But one of their own sisters, Dr. Tenerai Trent, is working with Rotary to create economic opportunities for the mothers and grandmothers with a Women's Artisan Vocational Training Center. Rotary will buy the equipment, and the Tenerai Trent Foundation will provide teachers to train women to create and market their handmade crafts. This project is led by the Rotary Club of Salinas, in partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Fresno and Harare (Zimbabwe).



Health Care in Bulgaria

With 15 deaths per 1,000 people, Bulgaria has held the top spot in the EU's mortality ranking for nearly a decade. The situation in municipal hospitals is particularly challenging. This project will provide life-saving medical equipment to four departments in the Razlog hospital: the Surgical Unit, the Neurological Unit, the Maternity Unit and the Pediatric Unit. This project is led by the Rotary Clubs of Corral de Tierra and Bansko-Razlog (Bulgaria).

Syrian Refugee Education

As a result of the war in Syria, over 3.5M refugees emigrated to Turkey. Some of the refugee families live in rural areas in tent- camps. In the absence of nearby educational centers, their children are without primary education. This project will provide a nearby middle school with equipment, materials and teacher training to help these Syrian children learn the Turkish language and integrate into Turkish society. This project is led by the Rotary Clubs of Monterey Cannery Row and Kusadasi (Turkey).

