

100 EXEMPLARY ROTARY PROJECTS

The following projects, many made possible with the help of grants from The Rotary Foundation, show Rotary's reach and diversity in humanitarian service. Ten spaces remain for you to add projects relevant in your area.

- 1. PolioPlus** — By 2005, Rotary will have contributed more than US\$500 million and countless volunteer hours to the eradication of polio. Working together with WHO, UNICEF, and the CDC, Rotary developed a model for public-private partnerships respected by governments and nongovernmental organizations around the world.
- 2. Medical Teams to Zambia** — A team of 20 Rotarian doctors and four volunteers from India and the United States provided free orthopedic, eye, and dental surgeries to residents of Malawi and Zambia in November 2001.
- 3. Team to Tomsk** — Rotary volunteers journeyed in August 2001 from Alaska, USA, to Tomsk, Russia, to spend four weeks developing educational, vocational, and sport programs for 110 children in the Eagle's Nest Orphanage in Western Siberia. Since the Team to Tomsk program began, Rotarians have provided winter clothing essentials for children in 22 communities.
- 4. Sierra Leone Amputees** — New York area Rotary clubs brought seven children and two adults to the United States to receive prosthetic limbs from having been amputated in the war and medical, spiritual, and emotional care in summer 2001. The victims, unable to return to their families, recounted the horrific details of the Sierra Leone war and atrocities to Congress, the United Nations, and the New York City Council.
- 5. Afghan Refugees Immunized** — Nearly 1,000 Rotary volunteers from 84 Rotary clubs helped vaccinate more than 30 million children under age five against polio during a November 2001 National Immunization Day (NID) in Pakistan. The Pakistan NID was synchronized with Afghanistan to ensure that children among the displaced Afghan population on both sides of the border were protected from the crippling disease.
- 6. Paul's Computer Institute** — The Rotary Club of Beloit, Wisconsin, USA, and friends collected and shipped 400 computers, thousands of books, and office equipment in May 2001 to Cameroon where Paul's Computer Institute (PCI) is one of the most respected and largest computer training centers in western Africa.
- 7. Literacy Training in South Africa** — Rotary clubs in the province of Western Cape, South Africa, expanded a successful literacy project in 2001. A US\$500,000 grant from The Rotary Foundation will help Rotarians, in conjunction with the Western Cape Education Department, reach 240,000 students in 1,200 schools in the province of Western Cape by training 4,800 teachers in Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) methodology, a proven approach which has been successful around the globe.
- 8. Charity Concert in Belgium** — Designed to raise funds to support Rotary's polio eradication and water conservation initiatives, Rotary clubs in Belgium teamed with renowned soprano Barbara Hendricks in a series of charitable concerts held in December 2000. The program included works by Johannes Brahms, Hugo Wolf, Gabriel Fauré, and Richard Strauss.
- 9. Medical Teams to Nigeria** — Rotary volunteers from Los Angeles California, USA, teamed with medical specialists and Rotary volunteers from India for two weeks in November 2000 to perform corrective surgeries on almost 200 children crippled by polio. In addition, the team worked with more than 400 patients with vision problems, performed 200 dental surgeries, and provided ear, nose, and throat care to 100 patients.
- 10. Italian Doctors Help Venezuelan Children** — A team of Rotary-funded surgeons, pediatricians, anesthesiologists, and nurses reconstructed the cleft palates and lips and other facial deformities of indigent children in Venezuela during a two-week medical visit in August 2000. The team from Verona, Italy, saw 250 patients and performed 180 surgeries.
- 11. Computers for the World** — Rotary clubs in Seattle, Washington, USA, worked with local high school students in 2000 to help refurbish, upgrade, and deliver old computers donated by businesses throughout Seattle. Supported by Rotary, teams of teens have traveled to Mexico, Russia, and Mozambique to install computers and provide software and learning technology to children. Refurbished computers also support organizations and schools in Seattle.
- 12. Job Training Center in West Indies** — Concerned about local unemployment, the Rotary Club of Bequia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, established a job training facility and day care center, the first on the Grenadine Island. The Rotary Club of Bequia raised US\$100,000 to cover construction and rehab costs while Rotarians in the community donated materials and skills and Rotary clubs in the United States, Canada, and Sweden provided financial and material support. More than 60 students completed literacy, tourism, business, and entrepreneur leadership classes.
- 13. Turkish Earthquake Relief** — Rotary clubs in southwest Turkey, in collaboration with university and government officials, rebuilt the Kocaeli University Hospital. In addition, Rotary clubs in Italy helped develop a tent city for quake victims left homeless, and clubs around the world sent more than US\$500,000 in medical supplies and equipment to the area.
- 14. Miracle League** — Rotary clubs in Rockdale and Conyers, Georgia, USA, raised US\$700,000 to develop and open in April 2000 a special baseball complex designed exclusively for children with disabilities. The complex, the first of its kind in the United States, inspired more than 50 similar fields around the country.
- 15. Rotary Centers for Peace** — Established in 1999, the Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution focus on research, teaching, publication, and knowledge on issues of peace, goodwill, causes of conflict, and world understanding. Each year, 70 Rotary World Peace Scholars begin two-year master's-level degree programs in conflict resolution, peace studies, and international relations at seven Rotary Centers at eight prestigious universities worldwide.

16. **Solar Ovens for Honduras** — Rotarians in the Chicago, Illinois, USA, area delivered more than US\$250,000 worth of solar ovens and medical supplies to San Pedro Sula, Honduras, to help Hondurans recover from the destruction caused by Hurricane Mitch in 1998. The solar ovens help establish community bakeries, which then distribute food to villages. Rotarians contributed more than \$4 million in disaster relief to areas hardest hit by Hurricane Mitch.
17. **AIDS Education for Teens** — Rotary clubs in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, and AID Atlanta promote HIV awareness by having teens candidly share with junior and high school students their personal experiences with HIV. Statistics show two Americans under the age of 25 become infected with HIV every hour. The program targets students ages 12 to 16 and encourages abstinence and personal responsibility.
18. **Coping with Life CD-ROM Series** — Rotary clubs in Great Britain and Ireland developed a series of educational CD-ROMs to help children cope with challenges of growing up. Included in the series is an award-winning CD-ROM that helps children cope with bullying in schools. Rotarians have helped distribute 18,000 CD-ROMs throughout the region and more than 4 million children have access to the information.
19. **Convoy of Hope** — British Rotary clubs drove a 13-truck convoy loaded with relief supplies to western Kosovo in October 1999. With the help of Kosovar volunteers, British Rotarians distributed the supplies to community-based relief organizations. In total, more than 10 tons of supplies were delivered including food, clothes, medical and hospital supplies, personal hygiene materials, and rebuilding supplies.
20. **Microsurgery Training** — Rotary clubs in São Paulo Avenida Paulista, Brazil, and Astley, England, funded a reconstructive surgery training laboratory in São Paulo University Clinical Hospital in São Paulo, Brazil, in 1999. One example of a successful reimplantation surgery was the case of a five-year-old girl whose hand was severed in an accident with a circular saw. A surgeon trained at the Rotary-funded laboratory performed her eight-hour operation.
21. **Toronto Transition Center** — In 1999, the Rotary Club of Toronto, Canada, opened a transition center in St. Michael's Hospital. The center provided a place for homeless patients to recuperate after visiting the hospital's emergency room. The center began with another project of the same club — a Health Bus that brings health care to the homeless people of Toronto.
22. **Tirana Rotary Club Camp** — The Rotary Club of Tirana, Albania, hosted 308 refugees from the heavily damaged region of Malisheva, Kosovo, at a Rotarian's camp from April through July 1999. The camp, supported by the Rotary Club of Bishop, California, USA, and other Rotary clubs, provided food, clothing, and schooling for children. In total, Rotarians from around the world donated more than US\$2 million for the Balkan relief effort.
23. **South Africa-Iowa Choral Exchange** — Modeled after Rotary's Youth Exchange program, Rotarians in Iowa, USA, hosted 100 talented black South African music students for the 1998 academic year. Led by Iowa-born and -raised African American opera singer Simon Estes, the students were selected from the school his foundation operates in Cape Town.
24. **Medical Supplies to Russia** — The Rotary Club of Denver, Colorado, USA, together with Project HOPE, sponsored a US\$2.1 million medical aid shipment to 12 hospitals in Vladivostok, Russia, in 1998. The delivery included rubella/mumps vaccine to immunize 12,000 children, 100,000 vials of insulin for diabetes sufferers, and other basic hospital supplies including gloves, sutures, bandages, and infection-control products. Rotary clubs in Russia provided logistical support.
25. **Fresh Drinking Water in India** — With the help of Canadian Rotarians, the Rotary Club of Madras, India, provided access to fresh drinking water for some 200,000 lower-income residents of that city. Rotary members in Madras provided the design, project management and hands-on renovation assistance.
26. **Creative Mentoring Program** — In Delaware, USA, 800 Rotarians and others were trained in 1998 to mentor up to 1,200 elementary school children for a year. "With many single-parent families and with the diminishing influence of family on the children, caring older adults can fill a void that is greatly needed," said Rotarian Bob Casey, the program's founder.
27. **Mammograms in Poland** — Survival rates from breast cancer in Poland are close to 50 percent, compared to about 80 percent in the United States. Rotary District 7330 in Pennsylvania, USA, donated early detection equipment to Polish hospitals. The club raised nearly US\$64,000 from 1 March to 9 May 1998 (Mother's Day) and exceeded many expectations.
28. **HorsePower/Therapeutic Riding** — In 1998, the Rotary Club of Topeka in Kansas, USA, helped found HorsePower, a horse-centered program for at-risk youth. The program targets teenagers with truancy and behavioral issues and helps them develop skills such as boundary setting, communication, and trust. The Therapeutic Riding program serves children and adults with disabilities including autism, cerebral palsy, and multiple sclerosis. Wheelchair bound individuals are able to access the horse-mounting area by ramp, and benefit from the interaction with the animals. Benefits include motor skill coordination, increased strength, and verbalization.
29. **Tuberculosis Testing Laboratory** — Rotary clubs in the KwaZulu Natal region of South Africa opened in 1998, a tuberculosis testing laboratory for 15 area *bekimpilos* or rural preventative health units. With more than US\$100,000 in Rotary support since 1989, the *bekimpilos*, staffed by local nurses, have trained residents in nutrition, family planning and child spacing, immunizations, tuberculosis and AIDS prevention, and community-sponsored gardens.
30. **Orphanage Renovation in Bulgaria** — Together, Rotarian leaders and 18 Rotaractors from Britain traveled on vacation to renovate a classroom or two at an orphanage in Bourgas, Bulgaria. Before the holiday was over, however, they had refurbished a building which houses and provides classroom space for 300 children, repaired 10 toilets, provided 20 new hot-and-cold showers, replastered and painted corridors, and replaced 50 damaged lights. Prior to their arrival only five toilets and three cold-water showers worked.
31. **Salud para el Pueblo** — Thanks to the joint efforts of Rotary clubs in Salinas, Ecuador, and Oregon, USA,

- 21 villages on the southwestern coast of Ecuador have clean water and sanitation. Recognized as an outstanding example of sustainable development by two United Nations agencies in 1998, the project involved 56 village-level committees. Together, Rotarians and villagers developed a self-sustaining water supply infrastructure including piped water systems, latrines, chlorinated water, and disinfectant for home water storage tanks.
32. **Police Language Training** — In 1997, the Rotary Club of Pietermaritzburg East, South Africa, developed a five-week intensive language course in Zulu for police officers of European and Asian descent. More than 80 percent of the local population spoke only Zulu, while most of the police force spoke only Afrikaans or English, often resulting in tragic misunderstandings. This project was one of Rotary's major contributions to crime fighting in the area.
 33. **Literacy in Bangladesh** — Literacy rates in Bangladesh increased significantly as a result of an innovative Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) literacy training program introduced in 1996 by the Rotary clubs in Dhaka. Since then, more than 160,000 people have graduated from the program. In addition, 4,085 teachers have been CLE trained and their education shared in 2,157 classrooms in 357 government primary schools and 15 Rotary-sponsored private schools.
 34. **Microbanking in Central America** — Rotary clubs in Portland, Oregon, USA, helped more than 5,000 rural Central Americans out of poverty by establishing 24 village banks since 1996 with more than US\$98,000 donated from Portland-area Rotary clubs. Recipients — mainly women from impoverished rural areas — borrow a small amount each quarter, and the payback of principle with interest enables the money to be used over and over.
 35. **Mobile Riverboat Clinic** — Along the Meghna River in Bangladesh, roads are scarce and medical care is hard to find. The Rotary Hasuk Mobile Medical Boat Clinic is the only source of medical assistance many people in this rural area will ever receive. The free clinic floats from village to village serving about 60 patients each day, 24 days a month. On average, 2,500 people visit the clinic each month. The boat's seven-person crew includes Rotary volunteer dentists and physicians from around the world.
 36. **Bombay Pavement College** — Through the Rotary Club of Toronto, Canada, District 7070, the Rotary Club of Bombay, India, and District 3140, street children of Mumbai (formerly Bombay) can receive formal training. The Pavement College offers children literacy and writing training and loans for small business ventures. The students are also taught entrepreneurial skills, such as messenger services and bicycle repair, to help them find work in the community.
 37. **Jonathan's Dream** — In memory of Jonathan, a disabled child who died in 1995, 300 Rotarians from District 7890, Connecticut, USA, joined other organizations to raise money for a 25,000-square-foot playground accessible to disabled children. The playground allows children in wheelchairs, with walking devices, and with other disabilities to use equipment like all other children. The project has developed into a nonprofit organization called Boundless Playgrounds. More than 30 additional playgrounds have been built in other U.S. cities, and many more are being developed.
 38. **Operation Condor** — Since 1995, Rotary clubs in Wheaton, Illinois, USA, and Huánuco, Peru, have offered medical services and treatment to Peru's indigenous population in mountainous communities where families suffer from malnutrition, high infant mortality rates, and widespread disease. By 2000, the program expanded to 100 volunteers from Illinois, New York, Florida, Idaho, Wisconsin, Alaska, Pennsylvania, and Canada. With the equivalent staff of a small hospital, Operation Condor took over two hospitals and five operating rooms to treat 2,000 patients in Huánuco.
 39. **Helping Kenya's Blind** — Rotary clubs of Bombay, India, and Nairobi South, Kenya, joined together for a book project benefiting almost 50 percent of Kenya's blind population. The Bombay club received a consignment of 2,200 Braille books that turned out to be unsuitable for the Indian Braille system. The Braille books were compatible to the Kenyan system, and the clubs worked to bring the books to Kenya's national library. An estimated 230,000 visually impaired people reside in Kenya.
 40. **Vocational Training in Jamaica** — In 1996, Rotarians from District 6840, Mississippi and Louisiana, USA, joined the Rotary Club of Ocho Rios, Jamaica, to establish a badly needed vocational training school in Ocho Rios. These schools soon spread to other locations in Jamaica, with local businesses contributing supplies and equipment.
 41. **Shalom-Salaam** — After the Oslo Peace Process in 1994, the Rotary Club of Skøyen, Norway, launched a peace program aimed at bringing together Israeli and Palestinian youth. The first year included only two students and began to grow. Every year 12 students — six from Israel and six from Palestine — come together to study and socialize for six weeks.
 42. **Organ Donations** — Recognizing a need for organ donations, Rotary clubs in California, USA, began a local educational program in 1993. It soon grew to become an international project of the Rotary International Medical-Health Vocational Fellowship group. Speakers visited clubs, districts, and conventions to raise awareness and increase participation in organ donation programs. The group created manuals, videos, and a computer database of all organ transplant activity in the Rotary world.
 43. **Community Health in Bolivia** — In 1992, the Rotary clubs of Montero, Bolivia, and Waynesville, North Carolina, USA, worked to improve conditions in the barrios surrounding Montero. They provided access to fresh water and sanitation and educated residents on health care and nutrition through home visits and group meetings. By June 1995, 86 latrines had been constructed and 123 houses had running water. A medical clinic had given more than 5,000 examinations and a dental clinic close to 900 dental exams.
 44. **Leprosy Clinic** — Rotary clubs in Dudley, England, and Bargarh, India, constructed 40 houses to serve as a dispensary for 40 families affected by leprosy. The project was started in 1990 by a British Rotarian. The Dudley Rotary club continued its support by bringing running water and electricity to all of the housing units.

45. **Toward a Better Understanding** — In the early 1990s, Rotary club members in District 1160, Ireland and Northern Ireland, decided to promote tolerance and reconciliation between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The campaign included student writing competitions and reciprocal visits, cultivating relationships with Rotarian peace-makers worldwide.
46. **RotaCare** — Established in 1989, when the first homeless patient was treated in Santa Clara, California, USA, RotaCare free clinics have expanded across the United States. The nonprofit corporation provides free medical care to the working poor. More than 1,500 Rotarians, physicians, nurses, pharmacists, social workers, and other volunteers have joined together in many communities.
47. **Los Altos Story** — In 1989, the Rotary Club of Los Altos, California, USA, under the leadership of past president Dushan Angius, who lost a son to AIDS, produced a documentary video detailing the valiant battle waged against AIDS by Steven Angius and two other local Rotarians. The award-winning documentary aired on television and copies on video have circulated to high schools, junior high schools, and elementary schools around the globe.
48. **Retirement Counsel** — In the late 1980s, Rotarians of then District 975 launched the Australian Retirement Planning Foundation with a charter board consisting of an insurance executive, social security director, tax commissioner, and other Rotarians knowledgeable in the field of law and taxation. The foundation offered free community and company seminars tailored to retirees, workers approaching retirement, and those planning to retire in about 10 years.
49. **Lighthouses for Literacy** — In 1987, when Rotary clubs in Australia and Thailand became aware of mass illiteracy in Thailand, they collaborated with the Srinkarinwirot University and the Thai Ministry of Education to create the first Rotary Lighthouse Literacy Project. In four rural areas of Thailand, program coordinators provided extensive training in the Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) method to teachers and administrators. In 1992, the Lighthouse program was adopted nationally when the Ministry incorporated it into Thailand's National Economic and Social Development Program. To date, over 400 Thai schools and communities have benefited from the program. School officials report an enrollment increase of 67 percent.
50. **Hearing Aids for Thailand** — In 1986, the Rotary Club of Tokyo-Kokubunji, Japan, donated 114 hearing aids and audiology equipment to the Deaf Children's Foundation in Thailand. The almost US\$23,000 worth of equipment was distributed to needy students at schools for the hearing impaired.
51. **Solar Panels for Clinic** — After two years of planning and six trips to Mexico, the Rotary Club of Crescenta, Canada, installed in 1986 solar panels on the roof of a medical clinic in El Fuerte, Mexico. The panels provided a steady stream of electricity for physicians when operating on patients.
52. **Rotary Community Corps** — Under the guidance of a sponsoring Rotary club, Rotary Community Corps have spurred economic development and self-sufficiency through members' dedication to improve the quality of life in their own community. Started in 1985, today more than 4,000 Rotary Community Corps have addressed AIDS, drug abuse, illiteracy, hunger, pollution, and other issues at the local level.
53. **Rotary First Harvest** — Rotary First Harvest (RFH) is a non-profit agency that was founded by the University Rotary club in Seattle, Washington, USA, and became a District 5030 project in 1984. RFH gathered wholesome fruits and vegetables for food banks. By collecting donated items from farmers and food processors who have surplus products, the program brought millions of pounds of food to the hungry.
54. **Water Wells in Honduras** — Rotarians from then District 669 raised US\$87,000 in 1984 to construct 40 water wells in southern Honduras along the Nicaraguan border. The district purchased two trucks equipped with a well-digging rig and casings, supported two Hondurans to come to the United States and study well-digging, and hired the students' professor to supervise the initial stages of construction in Honduras. The Honduran Rotary clubs supplied the concrete and labor needed to dig the wells.
55. **Rotary Volunteers** — Started in 1979, the Rotary Volunteers program provides opportunities for Rotarians and other skilled professionals to offer their expertise to local, national, and international service projects. Rotary serves as a clearinghouse — an information network — on volunteers and Rotary-sponsored project sites. Contact and arrangements for terms of service is made directly between the volunteers and project contacts. Once a registered Rotary Volunteer locates a place to serve, he or she may be eligible for a Grant for Rotary Volunteers. To date, US\$1.2 million has been awarded for 400 Rotary grants involving 40 countries.
56. **Working with Prisoners** — When the Rotary Club of Amble & Warkworth, England, needed help to convert some buildings into a holiday facility for the needy in the late 1970s, it called on the inmates of nearby Acklington Prison to serve as a labor force. Rotarians and inmates worked willingly and cheerfully side by side as they were reminded that those who had been removed from the community could still be of value to it.
57. **Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grants** — These large-scale grants have funded numerous Rotary projects around the world. 3-H Grants have funded long-term, self-help grassroots projects that will be self-sustaining after the grant money has been spent. All projects must have had significant Rotary involvement and include Rotary clubs and districts in more than one country. The grants have ranged from US\$100,000 to \$300,000. Launched in 1978, Rotary has awarded more than 250 grants worth \$69 million in 61 countries.
58. **Belizean Crippled Children** — Since 1977, Rotarians from District 6510, Illinois, USA, have been sending orthopedic surgeons to Belize every year to conduct free clinics for children with physical deformities. Several children are also selected to travel to the USA for corrective surgery each year.
59. **Earthquake Relief in Italy** — Devastated by earthquakes in 1976, the Friuli area of Italy received significant aid and recovery assistance by Rotary clubs in Italy and abroad. Clubs supported the construction of six-flat buildings, restored a senior citizens home, and transformed a stable into a "restoration center" with an annexed school.

- Immediately after the earthquake, Rotarians in Colchester, England, packed two caravans with essential supplies and drove them to affected areas.
60. **Gift of Life** — Created in 1975 by a group of Rotarians in Manhasset, Long Island, New York, USA, Rotary members have made possible life-saving surgery in the United States for more than 2,000 children from dozens of countries where such treatment is not available. Rotarians coordinate donated hospital and surgeons arrangements, travel, and home care. Rotary clubs in several other cities and countries have developed similar programs.
 61. **India's Rotary Wheat** — In 1975, Rotarians of Bombay, Down Town, India, helped harness the Suseri River for irrigation of wheat crops — which had never before been grown there. Mustard and green gram crops were also planted. The crops were so successful that by 1977 the cost of irrigation facilities had been repaid and the farmers named their crop Rotary Wheat to express their gratitude.
 62. **Kénia Psychiatric Village** — The Rotary Club of Ziguinchor, Senegal, built the first village of its kind for the mentally disabled outside Dakar in 1972. The facility opened in 1974 and included eight cottages for patients and their families, a dispensary, meeting cottage, and housing for workers. Founded by a Rotarian psychiatrist, the village philosophy was that one of the greatest therapeutic values is the collective life, which permits the establishment of mutual respect between the patient and the community.
 63. **Rehabilitation Institute** — The Chicago Rotary club began a long-standing affiliation with the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago in 1969 when they sponsored an outpatient clinic for them. In 1974, the club officially opened and dedicated a new facility called the Rotary Children's Habilitation Center within the Institute. The center operates as an outpatient clinic for children disabled due to illness, accident, birth defects, or abuse.
 64. **Emergency Box Scheme** — One of Rotary's oldest and most successful disaster relief activities, the Emergency Box Scheme originated in 1971 in District 1050, England. It prepares a stock of emergency supplies ready to be sent to any part of the world following a disaster. The boxes contain enough supplies (basic cooking items, blankets, clothing, first aid, water purifying tablets, and some tools) to help a family of four to survive for a few months.
 65. **Jaipur Foot** — Rotary clubs in the United States, Canada, England, and India have worked together to provide artificial limbs to those in need in South America, Africa, India, and other countries. The Jaipur foot was developed in India in the 1970s and is a prosthetic foot well-suited for a rural environment — strong, flexible, durable, easy to use, and inexpensive to create. Numerous limb clinics and centers have sprouted in developing countries around the world.
 66. **Rotaract** — In 1968, Rotary sponsored service clubs for men and women ages 18-30. The clubs provide opportunities for service to the community that include collecting clothes and medical supplies for disaster victims, promoting blood drives, and entertaining the elderly in nursing homes.
 67. **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)** — Introduced in Australia in 1967, RYLA provides week-long programs of leadership training seminars. Young people ages 14-30 participate in workshops that focus on leadership and professional development. Sessions are tailored to participants' interests and age group.
 68. **Group Study Exchange Programs** — Since 1965, Rotary's Group Study Exchange (GSE) program has provided thousands of young professionals with the opportunity to travel abroad and share vocational information with others in another country. To date, more than 40,000 young professionals have participated through 8,000 teams involving 100-plus countries.
 69. **Drug Addiction Recovery Program** — In 1946, the Rotary Club of Kowloon West, Hong Kong, donated a building to the Discharged Prisoners Aid Society to establish a center to treat drug addicts who, having withdrawn from drugs in prison, resumed the habit after release. The center provided help with drug withdrawal and counseling by skilled caseworkers.
 70. **Matching Grants** — Since 1964, this Rotary program has matched funds raised by Rotary clubs and districts for international service projects that involve clubs in two or more countries. More than 13,500 Matching Grants in 165 project countries have been awarded.
 71. **Memorial Paul Harris Forest** — In 1964, members of the Rotary Club of Safed, Israel, marked Rotary's 60th anniversary by establishing a forest of 10,000 trees in Galilee. By the late 1960s, the forest was renamed the Paul Harris Peace Forest, as it was located in an area where people lived in peace. By the early 1980s, a visitors center was completed and each tree was adorned with a memorial marker and sign.
 72. **Interact** — Rotary inaugurated its first universal youth program, Interact, in 1962 to help youth continue Rotary's tradition of community service and leadership. Interact projects focus on issues relevant to young people including drug abuse prevention, the environment, homelessness, and urban peace. Today, more than 8,000 Interact clubs exist in 107 countries.
 73. **Rotary Ann Retirement Community** — The Rotary Club of Eagle River, Iowa, USA, launched this nonprofit organization in 1962 to care for the elderly. It provides safe, affordable, and secure housing and health services for adults over 55. The complex has grown to include one- and two-bedroom apartments, a residential care center, and nursing care center.
 74. **Freight Cars of Food** — In 1955, the Rotary Club of Fresno, California, USA, loaded five freight cars with food, to help combat hunger in Europe and Asia. In honor of Rotary's 50th anniversary, the Rotarians raised money and obtained food through the Christian Rural Overseas Program, which sent U.S. government surplus food overseas, once shipping expenses were paid.
 75. **Helping the Needy Sick** — In 1955, a Rotary club in Saigon, Vietnam, sponsored a health center for children and maternity cases. Club members provided daily treatments at no cost. The center was set up to treat 150 people a day, but soon increased its capacity to 250.
 76. **Rebuilding in Hiroshima** — Rotarians in Hiroshima, Japan, joined together to build a community center in Atomic Bomb Memorial Park. The idea for the project began in 1952, and by 1954, 78 percent of the funding had been completed.

77. **World Community Service** — Developed in the 1950s, World Community Service organized Rotary community projects in developing countries — pairing the service efforts of clubs in developing countries with clubs in other countries. Many projects provide technical help, agricultural equipment, books, drugs, and other desperately needed items.
78. **Scholarships in Israel** — In 1948, Rotarians in Haifa, Israel, provided six scholarships at a local school and assisted with related benevolent projects.
79. **Rotary Fellows/Ambassadorial Scholarships Program** — As a memorial to Paul Harris after his death in 1947, a graduate fellowship plan was initiated. Eighteen graduate students from seven countries left their home to study in 10 different countries and serve as ambassadors of goodwill. Today the Ambassadorial Scholarships program allows undergraduate and graduate students to study abroad while serving as ambassadors to the people of their host country. The students give presentations about their homelands to Rotary clubs and other groups and share their experiences upon returning home. To date, more than 34,000 scholarships have been awarded at a cost of US\$396 million.
80. **War Orphans** — In Sweden, in 1944, Rotarians played an important part in caring for 32,000 Finnish children uprooted by World War II.
81. **Rotary Conference Births UNESCO** — In 1942, Rotarians in London, England, organized a conference attended by ministers of education and observers to consider organizing a vast educational and cultural exchange. So successful was the conference that it resulted in the development of the United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
82. **Diphtheria Inoculations in Argentina** — Rotarians in Tigre, Argentina, administered more than 2,000 inoculations in their city in 1937 to prevent the spread of diphtheria. The task was made possible by the cooperation of the Rotary club and physicians who generously volunteered their services.
83. **Rotary Medical Clinic** — In 1936, a Rotary medical clinic in Amoy, China, treated more than 3,000 patients free of charge for several months. In 1935, the club built and maintained a shelter for rickshaw men. Rotary clubs in China were dissolved in 1950.
84. **Youth Exchange** — Started in 1929, Rotary has helped secondary students ages 15-19 go abroad either for the academic year or an extended period of time. The increased self awareness and global perspective the students receive would not be possible without the many volunteer host families and Rotarians who serve as Youth Exchange officers. Today, some 7,000 students live overseas each year under the auspices of Youth Exchange.
85. **Japanese Orphanage** — With funds raised from Rotarians around the world, Rotarians in Japan in 1923 responded to a devastating earthquake by building a home for orphans left homeless.
86. **“Boy Conservation”** — Rotary clubs in the 1920’s, concerned about underage boys working long hours in sweatshops launched “boy conservation” programs. One such project, developed by the Rotary Club of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, USA, was adopted citywide.

87. **Society for Crippled Children** — In 1919, Rotarians in Ohio, USA, established the Ohio Society for Crippled Children — the forerunner of the National Easter Seal Society.
88. **Rotary’s War Effort** — When World War I broke out in Europe, Rotary clubs in Great Britain and Ireland girded themselves for many kinds of relief work, including housing of Belgian refugees. When the United States joined the war effort in 1917, U.S. Rotary clubs sponsored Liberty Bond drives and organized campaigns to supply food, clothing, books, magazines, and other comforts to servicemen.
89. **Rotary’s First Joint Project** — In early 1913, disastrous tornadoes and floods swept across the middle western United States. Rotary clubs joined together for the first time to establish a relief fund — raising US\$25,000 to aid disaster victims.
90. **Rotary First Service Project** — While Rotary founder Paul Harris was interested in fellowship, he hoped that Rotary would undertake broad civic functions of value to the entire community. In 1907, the Rotary club launched its first community service project — the establishment of a “public comfort station” (public restrooms) near City Hall in Chicago.

Use the spaces below to add Rotary projects relevant in your area to complete the list.

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