



What do you call a youth group that boasts top-notch service projects, members you really want to spend time with, and clubs worldwide? It's INTERACT and . . .

SERIOUS FUN



Each Interact club carries out at least two service projects per year. One serves the school or community and the other furthers international understanding. Although Interactors work hard to make these projects succeed, they also have a good time meeting other teenagers and working together with their new friends.

So what do Interactors do? One thing they do is raise money — lots of it! And they come up with imaginative ways to do it. One club made a mile-long strand of spaghetti in order to raise money to support a children's fund. Other enterprising clubs raise funds through babysitting, car washes, holiday gift-wrapping, and sponsorship of dances and concerts.



For more information, contact your local Rotary club or Rotary International World Headquarters, One Rotary Center, 1560 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201 USA. Fax: (847) 328-8554 or (847) 328-8281. Web site: www.rotary.org



Rotary International

INTERACT is a service and social club for young people, ages 14-18. The first Interact club was founded on 28 October 1962. Today, there are more than 6,000 clubs around the world, each sponsored by a Rotary club. While the Rotary club provides guidance and inspiration, the youth clubs are self-governing and self-supporting, giving members a chance to develop a range of leadership skills while learning the value of teamwork.

Interact stands for international action. International because Interact clubs exist in some 100 countries. Action because Interactors are doers who want to solve problems and improve the quality of life — in their own community and around the world.



Many Interact clubs take a hands-on approach to community service — as in hands on a paint brush, a hammer, or a sewing machine. Interactors in Mexico painted an orphanage, installed new equipment in its playground, pruned the orchard, and put up new fencing around the grounds. In Brazil, Interactors mended enough used clothing to outfit several hundred needy families. And in Cyprus, Interactors painted cartoon figures on the walls of a children's hospital to cheer up the young patients.

Interactors find many ways to brighten the lives of children, from teaching youngsters

to read to hosting outings for youth with disabilities. In South Africa, Interactors helped talented street children to produce artwork which they auctioned off to help other homeless children. In the USA, Interactors use skits and discussions to help children make wise choices when faced with peer pressures. Interact clubs carry out projects benefiting people of all ages, from visiting nursing homes to collecting food for the homeless. They conduct blood drives and traffic safety campaigns. They alert people to the dangers of drug abuse and AIDS. They plant trees, repair nature trails, and promote recycling efforts.

Interact clubs also play a major role in PolioPlus — Rotary International's massive effort to immunize all children against the dreaded disease of polio. In countries where polio still occurs, Interactors publicize the availability and importance of polio vaccination and perform vital tasks on immunization days. In polio-free countries, Interactors raise funds to support these immunization efforts.

International service projects foster cross-cultural understanding as well as sharing. In Singapore, for example, Interactors held an exhibition to inform the public about the widespread loss of

limbs by Cambodians due to land mines, and they raised funds to pay for prosthetic devices.

In communities around the globe, Interactors interact with other young people and adults, not only via joint service projects, but also through leadership training events and conferences on youth issues. Through Interact, young people discover exciting opportunities to be their best selves and have the time of their lives — in other words, to have serious fun.