

IN THE FOCUS

Dear Friends,

now is the time to drop the final 2018 Polio position.

Polio is a highly infectious, crippling and potentially fatal viral disease which mainly affects young children. There is no cure, but there are effective vaccines. The strategy to eradicate polio is based on preventing infection by immunising every child until transmission stops and the world is polio-free. The source of polio virus transmission is infectious humans spread mainly through the faecal-oral route or, less frequently, by a common vehicle (e.g. contaminated water or food) and multiplies in the intestine, from where it can invade the nervous system and can cause paralysis. But, less than 1 in 200 infections leads to this. Of those paralysed, 5% to 10% die when their breathing muscles become immobilised.

It's important to keep pushing towards eradication of diseases—even if they've been eliminated in large swaths of the world—to ensure the everyone benefits from public health efforts. The incidence of diseases that linger longest is going to impacting the most vulnerable communities. For a disease to be gone entirely, it has to be eradicated, with zero cases reported anywhere in the world.

Another week with no WPV1 cases though twelve WPV1 positive environmental samples were collected, seven in Pakistan and five in Afghanistan. There was one cVDPV2 case in Nigeria. Also, 6 positive cVDPV isolates from healthy community contacts, 5 cVDPV2 in Niger and one cVDPV1 in Indonesia.

In summary, the 2019 polio virus position is: 6 WPV1 cases and one cVDPV2 case. Positive environmental samples in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nigeria and in Indonesia.



In the year 2018: 33 WPV1 and 105 cVDPV cases; and year to date in 2019: 6 WPV1 and 2 cVDPV cases.

There is another friendly reminder for you: If you have not yet donated funds to our END POLIO NOW project, please do so now.

Thank you for your help and support eradicating POLIO.

Bernhard BAUMGARTNER

Zone 19P

THEME

Why climate change is Rotary's business



Rotarians understand that the whole world is their backyard. They can see the effects of climate change in communities they care about, and they haven't waited to take action. They're tackling the problem the way they always do: coming up with projects, using their connections to change policy — and planning for the future.

We're people who care about our world. We want our world to be a better place, and it's not just about the six specific areas of focus. It's broader than that. We have to look at the world as a whole and how we can make it a better place. If we're losing countries due to sea level changes, if stronger storms are disrupting water supplies or destroying people's livelihoods, that's more people who are going to be disadvantaged. So caring about the environment goes toward our ultimate mission, and we should give it the importance it deserves. As a humanitarian organization, we're obligated to talk about it. We need to have the conversation.

Rotarians are doers. Show them a problem and they look for solutions. But a global problem such as climate change might seem daunting to even the most resourceful Rotary member. Break that complex problem down into smaller pieces, however, and you find there are many things Rotarians can do — and are already doing, with help from The Rotary Foundation.

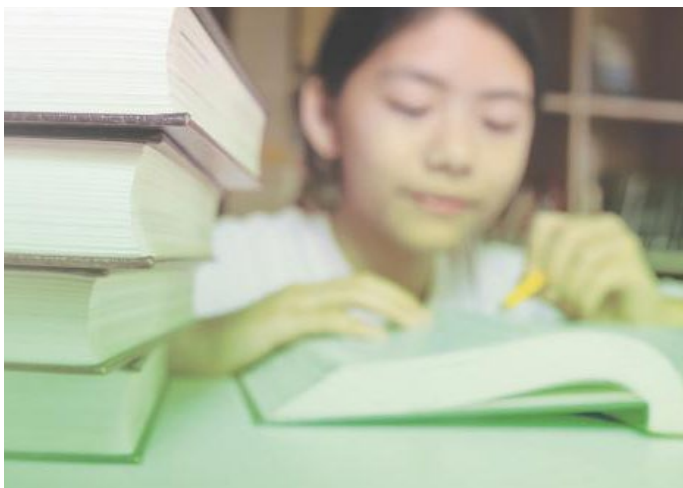
Drawdown researchers ranked solutions from 1 to 80 based on their potential to avert or reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We looked at those rankings alongside global grant projects to see how Rotarians are already helping to fight climate change.

FAMILY PLANNING

In lower-income countries, the Drawdown authors write, 214 million women who want more control over their pregnancies lack access to contraception, which leads to about 74 million unintended pregnancies each year. Giving women the health care they want and need also benefits the planet, reducing population growth as well as greenhouse gas emissions.

GIRLS' EDUCATION

A woman with no schooling has four or five more children than a woman with 12 years of schooling, which means that educating girls will have a huge impact on population growth.



REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

Regenerative agriculture practices include avoiding the use of plows to keep from disturbing the soil; planting a diverse array of cover crops; and limiting or abstaining from pesticides and synthetic fertilizers. These methods boost the amount of organic matter — carbon — in the soil, improving its health and that of the plants growing in it.

REDUCED FOOD WASTE

One-third of the fruits and vegetables, meat, and other food the world produces never gets eaten. Instead, it rots unharvested in fields, spoils in storage, or sits forgotten in the back of the refrigerator, only to end up in the garbage. The production of uneaten food squanders resources such as energy, land, and fertilizer. In landfills, food waste generates methane, a greenhouse gas. From start to finish, uneaten food is responsible for releasing the equivalent of 4.4 million gigatons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each year.



ROOFTOP SOLAR

Homeowners and power utilities are beginning to replace or supplement fossil fuels with solar panels as a source of electricity. And the more than 1 billion people in developing parts of the world who rely on kerosene lamps and diesel generators can now use affordable clean energy instead. That could make solar energy a powerful tool for eliminating poverty, even as it dramatically reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

TROPICAL FORESTS

Reforestation would enhance the planet's ability to absorb carbon dioxide through photosynthesis while providing wildlife habitat, contributing to flood control, and conserving soil and water. But to be sustainable, the authors note, reforestation must demonstrate immediate social and economic value.

Members of the [Environmental Sustainability Rotarian Action Group](#) can help your Rotary club or district plan environmental projects and publicize your efforts.



LEARNING

MEMBERSHIP

Deepening our impact by expanding membership is a top priority for us.

Use these resources to help your club grow:

- [Assess your club](#)
- [Engage current members](#)
- [Connect with prospective members](#)
- [Follow your membership leads](#)
- [Make new members feel welcome](#)
- [Develop your club](#)

ASSESS YOUR CLUB

Use these resources to see if your club is meeting members' needs and reflecting the community:

- [Rotary Club Health Check](#) — Identify your club's problem areas and make changes to help it stay relevant for members and the community.
- [Is Your Club Healthy?](#) — Take this Learning Center course to help your club improve its member experience, service and social events, public image, and club operations.
- [Understanding Membership Reports: Getting Started](#) — Learn how to use membership data to determine where to focus your membership efforts.
- [Membership Assessment Tools](#) — Analyze your member profile to identify prospective members and diversify your membership.
 - [Representing Your Community's Professions](#) (classification assessment)
 - [Diversifying Your Club](#) (member diversity assessment)
 - [Finding New Club Members](#) (prospective member exercise)
 - [Improving Your Member Retention](#) (retention assessment and analysis)
 - [Enhancing the Club Experience](#) (member satisfaction survey)
 - [Understanding Why Members Leave](#) (exit survey)
- [Building a Diverse Club](#) — Take this Learning Center course to strengthen your membership and increase your club's capacity to serve.

ENGAGE CURRENT MEMBERS

Use these resources to learn strategies that will keep members excited about Rotary:

- [Best Practices for Engaging Members](#) — Take this Learning Center course to develop strategies for engaging people at all stages of membership.
- [Practicing Flexibility and Innovation](#) — Take this Learning Center course to help you better serve the needs of members and prospective members.
 - [Find ideas, a FAQ, and other resources](#) on rotary.org/flexibility.
 - [Enhancing the Club Experience](#) — Tailor this member satisfaction survey to get opinions on your club's future. Then act on the results and consider implementing your members' ideas.
 - [Improving Your Member Retention](#) — Learn when and why members leave your club and generate strategies to keep them engaged so they will stay.
 - [Connect for Good](#) — Encourage members to get involved in their club, community, and the Rotary world for a more meaningful experience.
 - [Understanding Why Members Leave](#) — Use this exit survey to address the reasons that members may be leaving your club.

CONNECT WITH PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Use the strategies and ideas in these resources to connect with potential members:

- [Engaging Younger Professionals](#) — Welcoming younger professionals into Rotary is essential for us. Our digital kit will help you rethink membership and bring emerging leaders into your club.
 - [Strategies for Attracting New Members](#) — Take this Learning Center course to help draw prospective members, update your club's experience, and better highlight what it does well.
 - [Customizable club brochure](#) — Design your own club brochure using the template on Rotary's Brand Center. Choose images and wording to best represent your club.
 - [Discover Rotary](#) — Show this presentation to pro-



spective members or at your club's public events. Add content and images specific to your club, and have prospective member brochures available.

- **Finding New Club Members: A Prospective Member Exercise** — Try these strategies to attract qualified members for your club.

- **Impact Begins With You** — Give this brochure to prospective members so they can understand what Rotary is about and what sets it apart from other organizations.

- **Creating a Positive Experience for Prospective Members** — Working with prospective members is a delicate task. Find tips and ideas to determine whether membership would match their needs as well as your club's. Learn what you can do to ensure that prospects have a positive experience, regardless of whether they join.

FOLLOW YOUR MEMBERSHIP LEADS

Many prospective members express their interest in Rotary through rotary.org/join. If you are a club or district leader, you will receive an email alert letting you know if any of these prospective members have been assigned to your club or district. Check often — these prospective members are waiting to hear from you.

These resources can help you understand what to do with membership leads:

- **Online Membership Leads course** — This Learning Center course will show how a prospect experiences the membership leads process, and how club and district leaders can create a consistent, positive experience for prospective members.

- **Connect to Membership Leads** — Find prospective members who want to get involved.

- **Managing Membership Leads presentation** — An in depth training tool for helping clubs and district leaders understand the entire process for managing leads.

- **How to Manage Membership Leads** (for clubs and districts). Learn how to find and manage your online membership leads.

- **Club and District Membership Leads video** — This video explains the new membership leads process for clubs and districts.

MAKE NEW MEMBERS FEEL WELCOME

Use these resources to celebrate new members, develop an orientation program, and get them involved early and often.

- **Kick-start Your New Member Orientation** — This Learning Center course shows how to make your club's new members feel welcome, appreciated, and valued.

- **Introducing New Members to Rotary: An Orientation**

Guide — Find ideas for engaging new members, getting them involved, and giving them a meaningful Rotary experience.

- **Rotary Basics** — Give this comprehensive overview of Rotary to new members or order it for club reference.

- **Connect for Good** — Encourage members to get involved in their club, community, and the Rotary world for a more meaningful experience.

- **New Member Welcome Kit** — Welcome new members to your club with Rotary essentials: Rotary Basics, Connect for Good, a What's Rotary? card, a Rotary magnet, and the Rotary Foundation annual report.

- **Rotary Membership Certificate** — Customize a certificate for your new members and present it to them when you officially welcome them to your club.

DEVELOP YOUR CLUB

Find ideas for planning and strengthening your club in these resources:

- **Understand the current state of Rotary's Membership:** how we got here, who is joining, who is leaving — and the opportunities we all have to make membership a top priority.

- State of Rotary's membership as of 1 January 2019 (PPT)

- State of Rotary's membership as of 1 July 2018 (PPT)

- **Club Membership Committee Basics** — Enroll in this learning plan to learn more about your responsibilities in developing a strategic plan to engage and attract members.

- **Club Membership Committee Checklist** — Follow these steps to identify prospective members, introduce them to your club and Rotary, invite them in a meaningful way, and be sure to engage them and get them involved.

- **Strengthening Your Membership: Creating Your Membership Plan** — Develop a long-term strategy for boosting membership.

- **Be a Vibrant Club** — Learn 10 best practices shared by vibrant clubs worldwide, along with regional versions featuring local success stories.

- **Club flexibility** — Learn about flexible membership and meeting options; view frequently asked questions, governance documents, a video, and start guides for alternative membership types, and flexible meeting formats.

- **Regional Membership Seminar Curriculum** — Find session guides to lead breakout sessions at your regional membership seminar.

- **District Membership Chair Terms and responsibilities** — Description of role, term, and complete list of responsibilities.

- **Your Membership Plan** — This Learning Center course will teach you how to create a plan that includes steps your club can take to strengthen its membership.

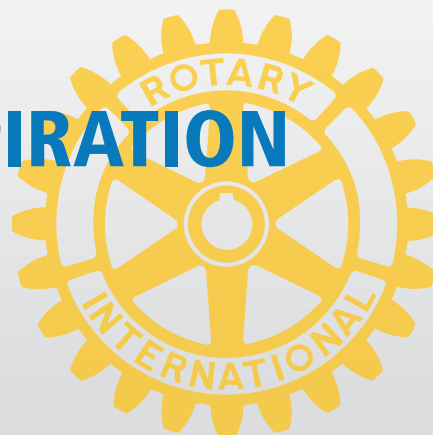
- **Leadership in Action** — Develop skills such as teamwork, communication, and innovation in your club, with the session guides and ideas in this resource.

- **Starting a Rotary Club** — Learn what you need to do to form a club.

Find out more: rotary.org



BE THE INSPIRATION



NEWS

District 2240 Czech Republic & Slovakia

Global Grant GG1747062**Safe water, better sanitary conditions in Yasinya Social Service Centre, Ukraine.**

RC Košice Classic, an international partner to a global grant with RC Uzhhorod Skala, has completed many years of efforts devoted to our District's biggest Global Grant to date. In 2014 we visited a social services centre in Yasinya. The proceeds of a fundraising dinner for the benefit of the centre was 4,000 euros. We used the money to provide new windows and doors. We formulated a project valued at USD 159,771 USD. Nineteen Rotary Clubs from six Districts and seven countries joined us. Now the Centre has two wells, supplying drinking and utility water from a sewage redressment plant. This grant serves as a beautiful example of international cooperation.

Thanks to the efforts of ICC D-CZ-SK's past chairman František Ryneš, we obtained a EUR 7,300 financial contribution from German clubs in late December 2018 towards the Yasinya Social Services Centre. Pending approval by our German Rotarian friends, we should use the funds to provide the Centre with professional kitchen amenities. The kitchen, which serves three meals every day to 60 clients, is in need of a general overhaul. The global grant precludes a complete repair, but we are happy to see that thanks to Rotarian assistance from Germany, we might be able to significantly improve the quality of life of the people in the Yasinya Social Services Centre.

Svatopluk K. Jedlička

Take your folks to garden party!

Although May's District Conference at Prague's Žofín still a few months away, a creative spirit set in in early July.



GOs met to discuss the side programme and invited Rotarians and the broader public to an 18 May all-day garden party at Prague's Slovanský Ostrov. We are talking about projects such as Net for the Family, Junák-Czech Scout, Beauty of Help Foundation sponsored by T. Kuchařová, SONS-United Blind Association and their Guide Dog Training Centre, Para-CENTRUM Fenix, or People in Need.

"The May Garden Party will be a shining example of how Rotary opens to interaction. These organizations share similar values and missions, and want to make the world a better place. Each of them does it in its own way in the areas of their focus," says Governor Zdeněk Michálek. The first details of an interesting, exciting programme are available on www.rotaryprague2019.cz and will be gradually updated.