

IMPORTANT NEWS REGARDING MATCHING GRANTS

To all Rotarians in District 6360,

The following communication was recently received from Rotary International;

At their April meeting, [The Rotary Foundation Trustees](#) examined how the global economic crisis has affected the Foundation's ability to support Rotarians' good work worldwide. Like many foundations, we have been forced to reduce program spending, and consequently, the [Matching Grants](#) budget was reduced for 2009-10.

Recognizing the vital role that Matching Grants play in improving the lives of underserved communities around the world, the Trustees recently added an additional US\$2.3 million to the 2009-10 Matching Grants budget. These funds were recently made available from reduced grant spending in 2008-09. However, at this time, despite the budget increase, the Matching Grants budget has been fully committed.

As a result of the many grants that we were able to fund, our Foundation is supporting hundreds of outstanding projects at a time when they are most needed. Clubs and districts that have not received Matching Grants this Rotary year are encouraged to fund their projects entirely with cash and [District Designated Fund](#) contributions in lieu of receiving a match from the Foundation. Sponsors of pending Matching Grant applications will be notified of this option by their grant coordinator. Please note that the project budget must be a minimum of \$10,000 to use this option.

In view of this development, your District Grants committee met to address the process it will use to fund Matching Grant requests for the remainder of this Rotary year, ending June 30, 2010. Our goal continues to be to make decisions regarding the application of District Designated Funds (DDF) based on the principles of The Four Way Test.

Beginning immediately, all Matching Grant applications received by the committee will be measured against the following criteria;

1. Does the request meet the US\$10K threshold?
2. Does the request reflect projects which support the emphases of The Rotary Foundation in the areas of PolioPlus, Clean Water and Sanitation, Health and Hunger, and/or Literacy?
3. Does the District 6360 partner club support the Annual Program Fund of the Rotary Foundation with club and individual member contributions?

If the Matching Grant Application meets ALL of the criteria, it will be reviewed upon receipt, and approved for matching DDF.

The committee recognizes that there are many worthwhile projects being initiated by clubs around the world that may not fall under one of the special emphases listed above, or otherwise fail to meet the other criteria. We will meet in early February, 2010, to review any Matching Grant applications that failed to meet the criteria, and, if there is any DDF remaining, make decisions on whether and to what extent to support the request(s).