

Russell Gurney

From: James Allen <james.allen@everychildafuture.com>
To: james.allen@everychildafutue.com
Cc: Jacqui Bensemenn
Subject: Rotary Give Every Child A Future - Australasian Centenary Project Update
Attachments: RGECAF One Page Summary.pdf

Dear Rotary District Leaders,

Last year we wrote to you all to give you some information about a major international project that is being launched to celebrate the Centenary of Rotary in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific. The project will prevent cervical cancer and save children's lives through the introduction of three vaccines (for HPV, rotavirus and pneumococcal disease) into nine Pacific Island countries (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu). The project was initiated by Rotarians in Australia and New Zealand and is being executed in partnership with UNICEF with whom Rotary has a deep and lasting relationship having worked together on End Polio Now and other projects around the world.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will be providing finance to the governments of four of the countries (Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu) to introduce these three vaccines. Rotary will fund regional and other supporting activities in those four countries and fully fund the program in the other five countries. The ADB signed off on its project in November last year, which was later than we were expecting and has resulted in some delays. Details of the program are currently being finalised by UNICEF with each of the governments. At this stage we are hoping that the first vaccinations under this program will take place towards the end of 2019.

We see this as a project for all Rotarians and are keen to get every District and as many clubs as possible involved. A global grant application is being prepared to gain support from the Rotary Foundation and preliminary discussions with the Rotary Foundation staff in Evanston have been positive. We have also had discussions with both the Australian and New Zealand Governments and are optimistic that one or both will support the project.

Attached is a one-page summary of the project which has been given the name **Rotary: Give Every Child A Future**. Additional marketing materials have been prepared and are available. There are several videos including a message from Ian and Juliet Riseley which can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/ehjgRWFZ-j4>. There is also a PowerPoint presentation and a website everychildafuture.com.

So, what are we asking of you as leaders in your District and community and how can you get involved? In particular:

- Please spread the news about this project – include an item about the project in your District newsletter including the link to the project website and the Riseley video. We can provide text and photos for this if required.
- We are mounting a major social media campaign to attract donations from the general public. So, we need Rotarians to advertise what we are doing on Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.
- We are in discussions with Bunnings about setting aside an additional day in the Bunnings Barbeque schedule for Clubs to assist in the fundraising for this project. We will be seeking District and club support for this once a date, etc. has been finalised.
- Some Districts have already committed some of their DDF to this project. If you have not done so already, please consider doing so.

We look forward to hearing from you and would of course be happy to answer any questions.

Kind regards,

Jacqui Bensemenn

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Overview

2021 marks the centenary of Rotary in Australasia and provides a unique opportunity to celebrate Rotary's achievements over the last 100 years.

To do this, Rotarians in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands, in collaboration with UNICEF, plan to vaccinate 100,000 of the most disadvantaged children and adolescent girls across the Pacific to prevent:

- In women, cervical cancer
- In children, severe diarrhoea caused by rotavirus and meningitis, blood infections and pneumonias caused by pneumococcal disease

Context

While there have been improvements in immunisation services many children still miss out on vaccines. Three times more women die from cervical cancer in the Pacific than in Australia and every year, 1 in 18 children die before their fifth birthday In Kiribati.

Many of these lives could be saved by vaccines.

The project

Rotary will work with UNICEF to introduce three life-saving vaccines across nine Pacific Island countries; the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

The Asian Development Bank is financing the introduction of these vaccines into four of the countries (Vanuatu, Tonga, Samoa and Tuvalu) while Rotary will fund regional and other supporting activities in those four countries and fully fund the programme in the other five countries.

Impact

Rotary and UNICEF are aiming to vaccinate 100,000 children over four years but this is just the beginning. This project will help strengthen the Pacific's broader health systems and ensure the sustainable delivery of these vaccines into the future. Generations

will continue to benefit from this project. A truly inspiring Rotary legacy.

Vaccines



Human Papillomavirus (HPV) against cervical cancers



Pneumococcal vaccine against pneumonias, meningitis and blood infections



Rotavirus vaccine against severe diarrhoea

Funds will support



Vaccines
Procurement



Supplies
Including cold chain equipment, storage and logistics



Education
Healthcare workers, communities and partners



Technical support
Policy, management and systems strengthening