

Rotary



Club of Ann Arbor



**BE THE
INSPIRATION**

2018-2019 Annual Report

a2rotary.org

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

December 2019

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

This past “Rotary Year” (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019), our club has continued to be strong and vibrant. The club embodies the Rotary motto of “Service Above Self.” We have done this through funding and also facilitating numerous projects and grants both in our community and worldwide.

It has been an honor to serve as the president of the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor – to be chosen to lead a 100+ year old club comprised of service-minded people who have accomplished so much in all walks of life, is both humbling and inspiring. It has also been a pleasure to enjoy the fellowship with our members at our weekly meetings, various social events and monthly happy hours.

In preparing this annual report, I am reminded of the tremendous impact this club has made and continues to make both locally and globally. I always closed the weekly meetings with a final thought. Here are two of my favorites:

“Life is tough, it’s tougher if you’re stupid.”
Attributed to John Wayne

“The Life You Lead, Is the Lesson You Teach.”
Author unknown

In Rotary Service,



Greg Stejskal

RCAA Past President 2018-2019



COMMUNITY GRANTS & ACTIVITIES

“Service Above Self” is the Rotary motto, but our club’s special interest is **“Helping Kids Succeed.”** This has been Rotary Club of Ann Arbor’s (RCAA) focus, especially working with kids through tutoring and mentoring programs. We have also funded numerous local organizations through grants. In 2018-19, these grants totaled \$65,500. Most of the grantee organizations provide assistance and educational opportunities to disadvantaged children. (See list of most recent grant recipients on the next page.)

In addition to the local grants, RCAA has organized an annual food drive during the month of March. Recognizing that healthy meals can be a challenge for economically disadvantaged families during the summer months when children are not attending school, we dubbed our campaign **“Rotary Fights Summer Hunger.”** We collect nonperishable food and monetary donations. We set up collection points in local businesses, organizations and the public schools. We try to increase the amount collected each year measured in meals, based on weight or dollar amount collected. Our goal in 2019 was 60,000 meals. We actually collected 84,735 meals, thus surpassing our goal by 40%. Todd Kephart has been chair of the food drive committee and ably led a hardworking, well organized committee that has coordinated our efforts with Food Gatherers. Above, a classroom of students at Pattengill Elementary collected 102 cans for our food drive, organized by our Interact Club at Pioneer High School.



On July 4, almost twenty Rotarians participated in the annual **Ann Arbor Fourth of July parade**. Below, President Greg and Christie Bacon demonstrate the hand driven mobility carts assembled by Rotarians. These carts will truly transform the lives of disabled people living in Gabon, Africa allowing them to achieve practical mobility and the freedom to fully participate in their communities for the first time.



COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANTS

Community Projects

The Ann Arbor Rotary Club annually solicits applications from Washtenaw County not-for-profit organizations whose purpose aligns with the theme "Helping Kids Succeed." The Committee grants up to \$5,000 for a program or \$3,000 for scholarships to each selected organization. The Committee awarded \$65,500 in its most recent round. Applications are solicited through direct e-mail, by articles in local media, and word of mouth. In 2019, 41 applications were submitted. Successful recipients were announced in mid-April with funds transferred by the end of April. Grantees are listed in the box to the right. Below are photos of the Annual Grantee reception held in June 2019.



Project/Partner	Club Contribution
Summer Food Service Program Food Gatherers	\$5,000
Leadership Development Camp Peace Neighborhood Center	\$4,000
Camp Scholarship Washtenaw Camp Placement	\$3,000
Middle School Expansion Girls' Group	\$5,000
"Teen Voice" Program SafeHouse Center	\$5,000
Annual Science Olympiad Washtenaw Science Olympiad	\$5,000
Home Base Literacy Intervention for Parents Washtenaw Literacy	\$2,000
Marching Band Camp Expenses Ypsilanti Community Band	\$5,000
Power Hour Program Boys and Girls Clubs	\$5,000
School Based Program Ele's Place	\$2,000
2018-2019 Mainstage Season Wild Swan Theater	\$2,000
Back to School Backpack Program Avalon House	\$7,500*
Patient Assistance Program Corner Health Center	\$5,000
Body Safety Training for Children WAC for Children	\$5,000
Total Projects	\$65,500
*Denotes District 6380 \$2,500 matching grant	

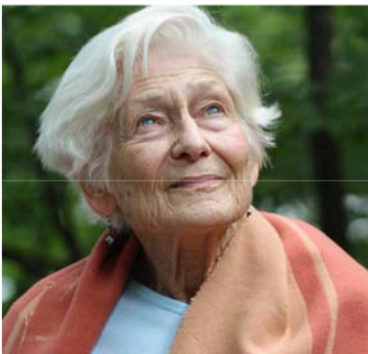
POLIO ERADICATION, NORTHRUP AWARD AND VETERANS

Polio Eradication

Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for more than 30 years. Our goal of ridding the world of this disease is closer than ever with only 2 countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan reporting cases of polio in the last year. As a founding partner of the Global Polio Eradication initiative, Rotary International has reduced polio cases by 99.9% since the first project to vaccinate children in the Philippines in 1979. Our club has actively participated in this initiative since its beginning. In 2018 our club donated \$15,000 to Rotary International for polio eradication and was recognized as an outstanding donor. To the right, is a photo of our Purple Pinky Day event for World Polio Day.



Robert S. Northrup Humanitarian Award



The Robert S. Northrup Humanitarian Award was established in 2018. It honors Rotarian Robert S. Northrup in recognition of Rob's life and distinguished career in medicine, public health and philanthropy. In the second year of this award, it was given to Dr. Irene Butter, who is a Holocaust survivor, U of M Emerita Professor of Public Health, cofounder of the Raoul Wallenberg Medal, and cofounder of Zeitouna (olive branch in Arabic) an Arab-Jewish women's dialogue group. The award was presented on April 24, 2019 at a luncheon meeting where she spoke. The luncheon was open to the public and drew over 250 attendees.

Veterans Hiring Initiative

In November, 2018 Hire MI Vet coordinated its Fourth Annual Hiring event with over thirty Rotarians as "Ambassadors of Good Will." Rotarians helped evaluate veterans resumes and guided them to employers that matched their skills and experience. Other Rotarians registered the veterans as they arrived at the event. During our 2018-2019 Rotary year over 27 veterans were hired. Since we started in 2015 over 75 veterans or family members were hired. That is a great success story for an all-volunteer organization and much of the success belongs to our Club's volunteers and the continuing leadership of Rotarian Don Deatrick.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Rotaract and Interact Clubs

RCAA also sponsors three Rotary youth clubs: The University of Michigan Rotaract Club and both the Ann Arbor Pioneer and Huron High Schools Interact Clubs. These clubs meet regularly during the school year. They do social events and fundraising activities and organize and participate in local and global projects.

U of M Rotaract worked with the Honduras Child Alliance in El Povenir, for a second year. Fifteen Rotaractors went to Honduras during their 2019 spring break. They helped to prepare a newly acquired building to be used as a schoolhouse for children in the area. In just a week, the team got to work mixing concrete, painting walls and building relationships with locals and other volunteers.



Before renovation began.



After renovation was completed.

The Huron and Pioneer Interact Club activities have included ushering at the Michigan Theater, preparing free breakfasts at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, school grounds cleaning and recycling awareness. In addition, they have been integral in helping with our annual food drive.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

Our club also annually sponsors high school students attending Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) conference. This year we sponsored and paid all expenses for seven Ann Arbor high school students to attend the conference in April. The conference is designed to promote personal and leadership development, character building and good citizenship.

YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT

Scholarships

In addition to the above grants our club gave \$37,000 in scholarships through two continuing programs at Washtenaw Community College.

“Service Above Self” scholarships are for students who attend Washtenaw Community College and need financial assistance. These scholarships are offered to WCC students who are current or past graduates of any Ann Arbor high school. Veterans receive special consideration. These are needs-based awards. Our club awards up to eight scholarships each year, covering up to \$1,250 of tuition each semester. Scholarships are renewable if the recipient earns a minimum 3.0 GPA, is pursuing classes toward the completion of one of the college’s programs and successfully completes 2/3 of the classes on his or her schedule.

STRIVE (Students Taking Renewed Interest in the Value of Education) scholarships are given to students for their college education. We have partnered with Pathways to Success Academic Campus in Ann Arbor to mentor high school seniors who have committed to performing well in school and then pursuing further education. In 2019 these ten students were awarded STRIVE scholarships to attend Washtenaw Community College. The total amount awarded was \$13,600.



Rotary Readers and Tutors

Another ongoing program our club sponsors is Rotary Readers and Tutors. This program provides reading and math tutors to elementary students at several schools in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. During the 2018-19 academic year, we had a group of 26 tutors (four were not Rotary members, but friends of Rotary). Most Rotarians donate one hour of their time each week throughout the school year to work with an individual or selected students but a number find the programs so engaging and rewarding that they contribute two or more hours/week.

Junior Rotarians

Also, as part of RCAA’s encouragement and recognition, the club selects fifteen students who have demonstrated exceptional achievement in academics and community service from five Ann Arbor high schools: Community, Pioneer, Huron, Greenhills and Father Gabriel Richard. The honored students are selected by their school counselors. Along with the student’s parents, each student is invited to attend a Rotary luncheon meeting to share their high school experiences and plans after graduation and to receive recognition from our club.

MEMBERSHIP, DSA AND IN MEMORIAM

Membership Update

Our Rotary club invites its members based on candidates' history of service and leadership, then engages and supports them in the early portion of their membership to help build connections to foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise. New members are inducted in the spring and the fall of each year. The 2018-2019 classes welcomed 16 new members and four transfers from other Rotary clubs. As of June 30, 2019, we had 280 active members, six Honorary members and seven Inactive Emeritus members.

Distinguished Service Award Recipients

In 2018-2019 Distinguished Service Awards, our Club's highest honor, were presented to Millie Danielson, Dave Keosaian, John White, Switchback (Steve Colson) and Peace Neighborhood Center (Bonnie Billups).

In Memoriam

This past year we lost eight valued friends who enriched our Club and our community.

Reno Maccardini	November 7, 2018	Walt Hancock	February 27, 2019
Art Holst	December 19, 2018	Howard Cooper	March 7, 2019
Gloria Kerry	January 7, 2019	John Debbink	March 20, 2019
Ingrid Deininger	February 25, 2019	Joe Bellanca	April 26, 2019



Rotarians participating in the groundbreaking for the Ann Arbor Fisher House being built adjacent to the Veterans Hospital. The Fisher House Michigan project began as a RCAA initiative in 2015 and came to fruition in 2019.

GLOBAL GRANTS & INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Our club has also acted to serve globally. Through our International Humanitarian Projects Committee, we have funded several grants and have been able to “leverage” some of those grants by obtaining matching funds from other clubs, districts and Rotary International. One such grant/project was in Sierra Leone. This project spearheaded by our club with an investment of \$10,000 was leveraged through matching grants with a final total of \$142,000. Club member, Mary Avrakotos, was the point person on this grant and traveled to Sierra Leone to help facilitate its implementation.

This two-phase project resulted in the planting of three orchards comprised of thousands of pineapple trees. Revenue from the orchards will provide the support needed to assure every child in Bumpeh Chiefdom receives a secondary education. A fourth orchard will provide support for a Benevolent Fund to pay for hospital services. The photo to the right was taken on a visit to one of the schools in Rotifuink, the largest city in the Bumpeh Chiefdom.



2018 - 2019 International Projects

Global Grant Projects are larger projects in size with better outcome and impact in lives of the beneficiaries. Several Rotary Clubs from different areas and districts typically sponsor Global Grants Projects with direct contributions. These contributions are first matched by local Districts and ultimately the entire amount is matched by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

Project/Location	Club Contribution	Total Project Cost
Community Development Project Sierra Leone	\$10,000	\$142,000
Provide HPV injections for young females India	\$6,500	\$60,000
Furnish a Medical Clinic Jamaica	\$10,000	\$80,000
Pediatric Hearing Clinic Ghana	\$5,000	\$40,000
Total Projects	\$31,500	\$322,000*

***Club contributions were leveraged 10+ fold**

PEACE COMMITTEE

The Peace Committee's mission is to work locally and globally for peace, social justice, and the non-violent resolution of conflict. To begin accomplishing some far-reaching goals, a 2018-2019 Action Plan was created. It is divided into efforts relating to:

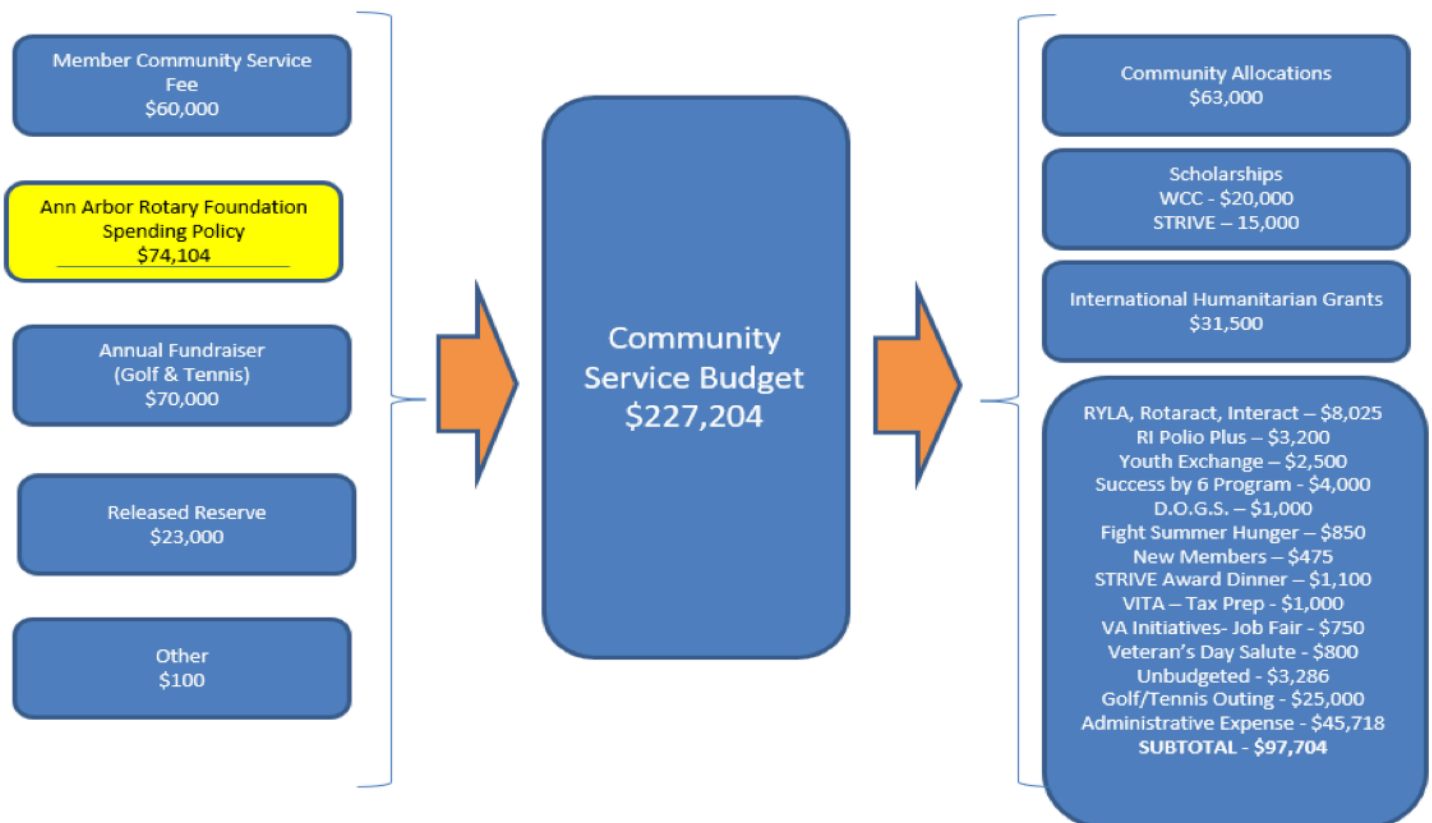
- Our Club; Our Community; Our Region ("Tri-Rotary" Peace Initiative with Windsor, Detroit, and Ann Arbor area Clubs); and Our World Through Rotary International

Recent accomplishments include:

- Co-sponsored Peace in the Streets conference held in April 2018 at Wayne State University
- Help local student Madison Vorva receive a Rotary Global Grant Scholarship funding her Masters program at Cambridge University in the U.K.
- Sponsored a speaker at the Yale Indigenous People's Pow Wow

COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND FLOW CHART

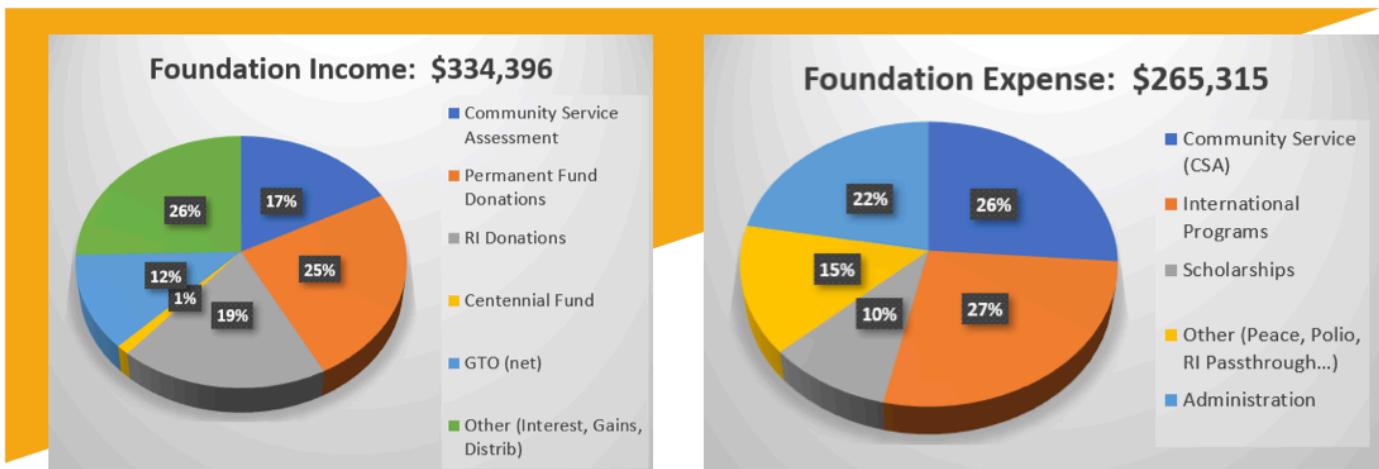
(2018-2019 FY) |



CLUB ENDOWMENT AND OPERATING ACCOUNTS

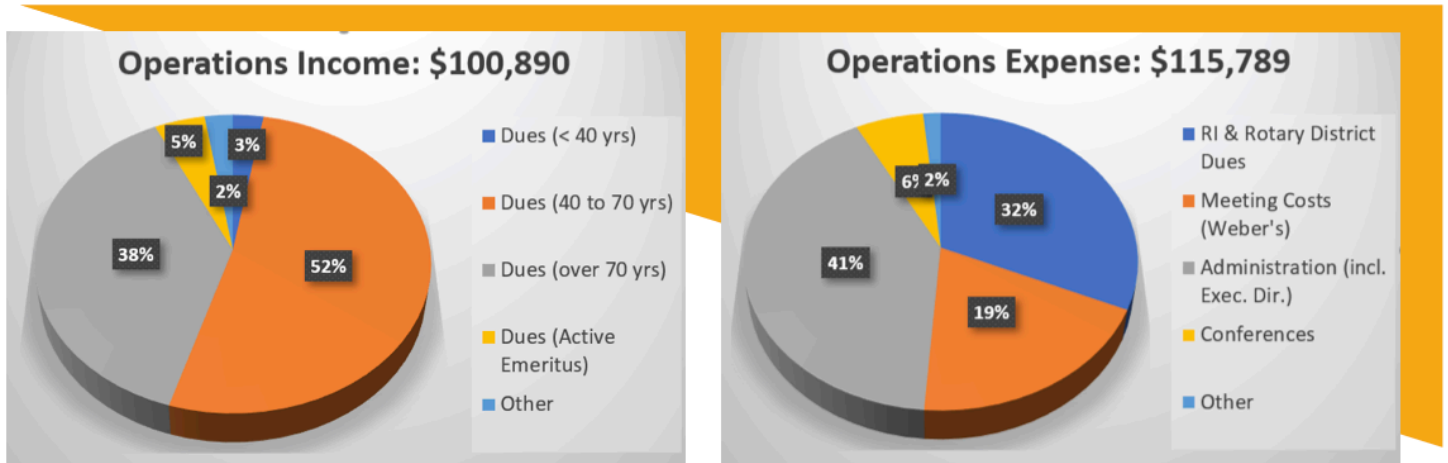
Foundation/Endowment

Our Club's permanent endowment was established in the 1980's to provide a sustainable and consistent source to fund our Club's local and global grants, projects and scholarships. The annual distributions from the Foundation portfolio have risen in FY 2019 to \$74,104, increased from \$68,571 in FY 2018, and averaging 6.8% annual increase over the past 14 years. In FY 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019) gifts to the RCAA Foundation totaled \$83,160 (160 donors, with \$450 in memorials, one large gift of \$47,500 and "planned giving" bequest intentions). The principal balance in the endowment on June 30, 2019 was \$2,173,768.



Operations

Our club operations consumed \$14,900.41 more than our income. This is a result of our income coming in under budget (fewer members hence lower dues income) and the major expenses that exceeded budget including facility charges and increased administrative expenses.





That's all folks!



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