

Rotary District 5500



Rotary Foundation Newsletter

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ANNUAL FUND GIVING 12/24

Ajo	\$680
Benson	\$1,355
Bisbee	\$0
Casa Grande	\$2,900
Catalina	\$5,895
Coolidge	\$0
Douglas	\$0
Dove Mountain	\$5,099
Florence	\$0
Fort Yuma	\$2,091
Globe	\$0
Green Valley	\$6,735
Marana	\$11,300
Maricopa	\$0
Mountain Emp-Sonoita	\$1,649
Nogales	\$504
Old Pueblo	\$1,060
Oro Valley	\$3,385
Pantano	\$550
Rincon	\$3,708
Rio Rico	\$3,507
SaddleBrooke	\$9,483
Saddlebrooke Sunrise	\$1,200
Safford	\$0
Sahuarita	\$25
San Luis Frontera	\$60
Sierra Vista	\$4,239
Sierra Vista South	\$180
Sierra Vista Sunrise	\$4,437
Somerton	\$1,300
Superior	\$120
Tubac	\$3,843
Tucson	\$6,814
Tucson Casas Adobes	\$1,450
Tucson Kino	\$2,675
Tucson Presidio	\$1,100
Tucson Rainbow	\$0
Tucson Sunrise	\$2,600
Tucson Sunset	\$1,200
Tucson Verde	\$6,410
Vail	\$1,000
Valle Verde-Green Valley	\$8,603
Willcox	\$0
Yuma	\$7,730
Yuma Crossing	\$0
Yuma Foothills	\$1,349
Yuma North End	\$504
Yuma Sunrise	\$1,200



IN 2025, MAKE THE ROTARY FOUNDATION ONE OF YOUR CHARITIES!

BIG WEST WEBINAR SERIES: PLAN NOW, GIVE LATER

5PM MONDAY, JANUARY 27

Plan Now, Give Later

[REGISTER HERE](#)

The 2024 Rotary District 5500 Results

Michael J. Harris Memorial

Ride to End Polio -- Nov. 23, 2024



This year's Ride to End Polio raised **\$5,032,219**, including the Gates Foundation 2 to 1 match, to support Rotary's polio eradication efforts. This brings the total of the life of the project to **\$72.3 million**.

The funds originate as follows, not including the Gates Foundation Match:

- \$186,414 from indoor activities
- 64,104 self reported by cyclist
- \$4,806 donated by cyclists when registering
- \$1,422,082 from Raise for Rotary

INTERNATIONAL PROJECT FAIR at The Conference of Clubs October 18th

The inaugural International Project Fair took place on Oct 18 at Casino del Sol with exhibits from 11 countries and 5 continents. Rotary clubs from D5500 led the way with 20 Rotary projects. Many of them had other Rotary clubs in the District as partners. Polio Plus, Shelter Box, and our Global Grant Team also had exhibits, along with ASORBO and Cross Border Alliance joining us from Mexico.

The Fair was kicked off by short presentations followed by 90 lively minutes of fellowship and networking as more than 100 conference attendees visited exhibits, shared project ideas, located new partners for the future, and celebrated international opportunities for service. Thanks to exhibitors, conference organizers, and visitors for making this International Project Fair a resounding success!



USA MEXICO FRIENDSHIP CONFERENCE & GLOBAL GRANT EXCHANGE



District 5500 Rotary Foundation Team: DGE Bruce Monro, Bud Eckhart, Laura Romero, Jen Sprung, DG Sue Archibald, PDG Kristi Halvorson, PDG Michael Drake, Grants Chair Barbara Kiernan and PDG Anita McDonald.



Bud Eckhart and Laura Romero from the Tubac Rotary club presented their Global Grant Cleft Palate Project to the Friendship Conference.

In October, Rotarians from District 5500 went down to the beautiful city of Xalapa in District 4185 in central Mexico (near Veracruz) for the annual USA Mexico Friendship Conference and Global Grant Exchange. They joined 60 Rotarians from District 5495 in northern Arizona and Rotary Districts from New York and Mexico that reviewed presentations on 23 Global Grant projects over two days.

Our District Rotary Foundation Team pledged \$40,000 in District Designated Funds (DDF) on eight of the projects. Tubac Rotary Club and Tucson Rotary Club presented their global grant projects and received funding pledges from attendees.

2024-25 DISTRICT GRANT PROJECTS

Lead Club Name	Project Name	Allotted Funds
Catalina (Tucson)	Support for Mariachi Conference in Tucson	\$3,760
Coolidge	Outdoor Space at Hope Women's Center	\$3,592
Fort Yuma	Indoor Playground	\$3,760
Green Valley	Wrightson Ridge STEM Pilot Project	\$1,880
Mountain Empire-Sonoita	Community Food Pantry Improvements	\$940
Oro Valley	Springboard Home for Girls Project	\$3,760
Rincon (Tucson)	Dictionaries for Students	\$2,520
Rio Rico	Rio Rico Rotary Walking Trail Benches	\$940
SaddleBrooke	Low Income Senior Christmas Party	\$2,350
Sahuarita	Books for Kinders in English and Spanish	\$2,250
Sierra Vista	Research Books for Students	\$2,047
Somerton (9 Rotary clubs)	The Dictionary Project	\$3,600
Tubac	The Cleft Palate / Cleft Lip Surgery Mission	\$3,760
Tucson Verde	Chinle/Navajo Solar Light Project	\$1,880
UA Rotaract	Period Poverty Project	\$500
Valle Verde-Green Valley	Musical Garden	\$3,674
Willcox	Willcox Rotary Peace Poles	\$1,260
Yuma	Yuma Rotary MIKID Sensory Room	\$3,760
Yuma Foothills	Serenity Garden Project	\$3,760



YUMA

Yuma club built a sensory room for kids with sensory challenges.



SOMERTON

9 Rotary clubs in Yuma joined in the Dictionary Project for 3,000 3rd graders.



RIO RICO

Built and installed 3 new benches on a Rio Rico nature trail.



CATALINA

Support & publishing workbooks for the Tucson Mariachi Conference.



SAHUARITA

500 nature books & totes were distributed to kindergartners.



SADDLEBROOKE

36 Rotarians help put on a Holiday Luncheon for 140 low income seniors.

ROTARIANS BUILD A HOUSE IN A DAY FOR MEXICAN FAMILY



Bianca Gonzalez-Rosales and her two sons were the recipient of the home.

On October 24, 2024, Rotarians and friends from 5 Rotary clubs joined the Saddlebrooke Rotary club and built and painted a house in the small village of Cerro Azul south of Tecate, Mexico.

Corazon, Inc., a California non-profit coordinated the construction along with several local community volunteers and Bianca Gonzalez-Rosales. Bianca volunteered in her community for 5 years and 100's of hours to earn the right to receive a home.

The group started at 8:30am and finished by 4:30 when Bianca received the keys in a brief ceremony. Our motto 'Service above Self' was never more evident than on that day!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

In 2023, our Foundation funded more than 1,100 global grants, 470 district grants, and 310 disaster response grants to help communities thrive. Rotary Direct is one of the easiest and most secure ways for YOU to support the Foundation: because contributions are automated, donors don't need to worry about sending checks or remembering to make an annual contribution on time.

Rotary Direct saves time and reduces administrative costs. Monthly, quarterly, and annual gift options are available. Rotarians can enroll at the [Rotary Direct Webpage](#), return a completed [Rotary Direct enrollment form](#), or enroll by phone by calling 1-866-976-8279.