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BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA METRO CITY

RI District 3291 | Charter Date : 14/06/1995 | Club No. : 30869



January is Rotary's Vocational Service Month, a great time to leverage vocational service in your club projects and activities. Vocational Service calls on us to empower others by using our unique skills and expertise to address community needs and help others discover new professional opportunities and interests. Rotary emphasizes integrity and high ethical standards. Two standards developed by Rotarians – The Four-Way Test and the Rotarian Code of Conduct – provide a road map for ethical behavior in the workplace and other areas of life. By including men and women from diverse professions and backgrounds, Rotary recognizes the importance of all skills and occupations. A vibrant Rotary club reflects the businesses, organizations, and professions in its community, embracing diversity in experiences and perspectives. Your professional life and vocational service go together. Rotarians have a dual responsibility: to represent their occupations within their club and to exemplify the ideals of Rotary in their places of work. As leaders in their businesses and professions, Rotarians can advance high ethical standards by setting a positive example among colleagues and in their community. Here are a few specific ways Rotarians integrate ethics into their daily work life. Founded as a business networking organization, Rotary emphasizes the importance of bringing together business and professional leaders for the purposes of exchanging ideas, developing relationships, and improving communities.

Rotary members are committed to professional development and advancing their skills. Rotarians can pursue this commitment through activities that increase their knowledge, and by guiding and training others to find gainful, fulfilling employment. A vocational training team (VTT) offers a hands-on approach to vocational service. In VTTs, groups of professionals travel either to learn more about their vocation or to teach local professionals about a particular field. A VTT helps create sustainable change by strengthening the knowledge and skills of individuals and communities, thereby improving their capacity to serve. In addition to experiencing a new culture and fostering global connections, Rotarians participating in a vocational training team have the opportunity to make an impact long after their travels end.

EDITORIAL

Subhojit Roy



Second woman nominated as Rotary International president

Stephanie Urchick

Stephanie Urchick, member of the Rotary Club of McMurray, PA, USA, will become the second woman to take office as president of Rotary International on 1 July 2024.

During her one-year term, Urchick will lead the global service organization in adapting its systems and structures to enable Rotary's 1.4 million members in 200 countries and regions to deliver impactful and lasting solutions to the continued challenges facing the world today in a more efficient and regionally effective

manner.

To that end, Urchick will strive to foster an understanding of how regional differences affect the way Rotary members work together, and how to leverage and embrace different perspectives to create a strong foundation for innovation, sustainability, and growth.

"Rotary is not the same for everyone everywhere. Understanding how culture, religion, geography, language and so much more inform how Rotary members work together is critical to furthering Rotary's impact," said Urchick. "By acknowledging, respecting and responding to these differences, Rotary can increase cooperation and create and sustain meaningful change everywhere we live, work, and serve."

Urchick will also seek to bridge information and communication gaps and foster connections through technology.

"Rotary successfully pivoted to the digital world at the outset of the pandemic, and I want to continue to maximize the benefits," said Urchick. "Virtual platforms remain a great way for members to engage with Rotary and spread the word about its causes and work."

Rotary members throughout the world develop and implement sustainable, community-driven projects that fight disease, promote **peace**, provide **clean water**, support **education**, save **mothers and children**, grow local **economies** and protect the **environment**. Over US\$5.5 billion has been awarded through The Rotary Foundation – Rotary's charitable arm that helps clubs work together to perform meaningful, impactful service.

About Stephanie Urchick : Urchick holds a doctorate in leadership studies from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. A Rotary member since 1991, Stephanie has served Rotary in many roles and capacities. Her service includes building a primary school in Vietnam; installing water filters in the Dominican Republic; mentoring new Rotary members in Ukraine; and coordinating a Rotary Foundation grant project in Poland.

6 Rotary members honored as People of Action : Champions of Inclusion Their commitment shows how inclusion makes an impact

By Etelka Lehoczky

Rotary honored six members as People of Action: Champions of Inclusion in January to recognize their commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion around the world. The distinction was announced to coincide with Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the U.S. holiday that honors the slain civil rights leader. These members and their work exemplify Rotary's core values and illustrate how inclusivity can make a transformational impact on individuals and communities.

İclal Kardiçali ; Turkey

Project: Do You Like Music?; Rotary E-Club of District 2440



Kardiçali, a community volunteer for 50 years, focuses on helping women and children through music. She conducts music training and therapy for displaced children, especially those from Kurdish, Syrian, and Roma communities. She helps children express themselves through music and understand its role in showing how diversity enriches the

human experience. Kardiçali trains teachers and students in music education, especially at state schools in the Izmir

area that have fewer resources. She also supports the Children's Peace Orchestra, whose members lack housing. Her book, "Do You Like Music?," is being translated into Braille so it will be available to even more children. She's also working with Izmir community leaders to adapt the book for children with learning disabilities. And she donates copies of the book to students, teachers, organizations, and schools to make the project more sustainable. Her project is supported by Rotary clubs from Districts 2440 and 2420, along with Inner Wheel clubs in Turkey and northern Cyprus, state schools, Lions clubs, and the National Education Board of Çeşme for Teacher Training.

Rosemary Nambooze ; Uganda

Project : Angel's Center for Children with Special Needs and Inclusive Education Under Basic Education and Literacy Project; Rotary Club of Wakiso (District 9213)



Nambooze, an advocate for children with disabilities and for inclusive education, founded the Angel's Center for Children with Special Needs in Wakiso, Uganda. Her advocacy comes from her experience as a parent of a child with Down syndrome who encountered a lack of services for children and

their caregivers. The Angel's Center currently hosts more than 120 children and provides early learning intervention, integrated therapy, outpatient services, and nutrition-focused sensory gardens. It supports caregivers with counseling and respite care, and helps teachers learn how to meet the needs of children with disabilities. Nambooze also helps young adults with disabilities find employment. Since 2012, her work has affected more than 150 children and 200 families. As her Rotary club's president-elect, Nambooze also mobilizes members to advocate for all children to have equal access to education, health care, and community activities. The club's signature project supports inclusive education measures in schools, such as building libraries, implementing adaptive infrastructure, training teachers, developing a needs-based curriculum, and enrolling and retaining students with disabilities.

Sarita Shukla ; India

Project : Transgender Empowerment – Astitva; Rotary Club of Global Action District 5150



Shukla is dedicated to supporting the transgender community in New Delhi, India. She leads the transgender empowerment project, known as Astitva, at Pahal – Nurturing Lives, a mentorship organization that works to empower young people of all genders. Shukla says the

transgender community is very vulnerable as the least understood and the most abused. People who are transgender often have no options to earn a livelihood other than sex work or begging. After the COVID-19 pandemic affected those sources of income, Shukla supplied people with groceries and other necessities and worked with local authorities to get members of the transgender community vaccinated. She also helps raise HIV/AIDS awareness in the community and educates people about prevention. Through Astitva, she provides counseling, training, and mentoring to help transgender people transition to government and corporate jobs. She has had an impact on more than 2,000 people through these initiatives and hopes to help many more.

Anderson Zerwes ; Brazil

Project: Brazil's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee; Rotary Club de Encruzilhada do Sul (District 4680)



Zerwes is an advocate for LGBTQ+, racial, and gender equality and disability rights who has been a leader in diversity, equity, and inclusion in South America. He led the formation and is the current president of CDEI Brasil (the DEI committee in Brazil), which has more than 60 Rotary and Rotaract members from

across the country and supports and guides local districts. His work has encouraged 27 out of 31 governors to make DEI district chairs part of their leadership teams and ensure that DEI activities are part of the district's focus. The committee has prepared educational materials, trained leaders, produced monthly webinars and social media content, and raised awareness about DEI events. It has also built partnerships with nongovernmental organizations and advised communities about DEI issues. Zerwes has worked closely with clubs, districts, and leaders in Brazil to ensure that Rotary offers a welcoming environment for people from diverse backgrounds. The committee regularly shares news about its activities with the DEI Task Force. Because of Zerwes' initiatives, CDEI has served as a model for other Rotary clubs and districts and has been replicated in other countries.

Cam Stewart – Mikostahpinukum (Red Morning) ; Canada

Project : Indigenous Community Action Project
Rotary Club of Calgary East (District 5360)



Stewart has been active in diversity, inclusion, and human rights for more than two decades, with a particular focus on Indigenous inclusion. He founded and chairs District 5360's Indigenous Relations Committee, which is unique within Rotary because its members include Indigenous, non-Rotarian leaders.

The committee, which reports to the district governor, ensures that Indigenous issues and people are a priority. It received a district grant for the Indigenous Community Action Project to address some calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. This project creates opportunities for Rotary clubs and Indigenous organizations to identify community issues, brainstorm solutions, develop initiatives, and take action together. Stewart provides resources for clubs to learn about DEI issues related to Indigenous peoples and organizes events where people can meet, learn, celebrate, and build relationships. He also arranges for Elders or other keepers of knowledge to participate in Rotary events. Stewart has been honored with an eagle feather and a pipe from Elder Doreen Spence and was given the Blackfoot name Mikostahpinukum (Red Morning) by Elder Herman Yellow Old Woman.

Club News

Project Thalassaemia



André Hadley Marria; United States

Project : Spark Thomasville : Rotary Club of Thomasville (District 6900)



Marria is a diversity, equity, and inclusion leader in her club, district, and community, and a founding mentor of a program for underserved communities. Currently governor-elect of District 6900,

she has served as DEI chair since 2020 and built a district-wide effort. After encouraging each club to select a DEI chair, she helped people identify personal biases and improve their clubs' culture and inclusivity. Marria was the first Black president of her Rotary club and led the club's first Black history program. She has also had a variety of roles, including board member and executive director, at Spark Thomasville, a 12-week incubator program for entrepreneurs. She has helped participants set goals, develop business plans, improve their communication skills, and perfect their presentation pitches for a competition. She initiated a partnership between Spark and her Rotary club that provides program participants with educational materials and mentorship. Her leadership at Spark Thomasville led to a redesigned curriculum, a more diverse board, a more inclusive applicant pool, and the organization becoming a federally recognized nonprofit. Marria has also raised more than \$500,000 for the Marguerite Neel Williams Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Georgia, where she continues her work in youth development.

As part of its sustaining project to support the cause of thalassaemia, Rotary Calcutta Metro City facilitated a donation of Rs 50,000 for procuring Reagents for pathological and biochemical tests as Haemoglobin screening, Creatinin, LFT, Sugar etc for thalassaemic patients.

PP's Rtns Subhojit Roy Bandana Das, Arindam Ghosh. Manish Nayak were present at the Thalassaemia Society of India's treatment centre at New Alipore to formally hand over a donation of Rs 50,000 on behalf of Ramawatar Maheshrajka Charitable Trust.

Rotary Calcutta Metro City supports RYLA, Uttaron, held at Dhyanashram



Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City supported RYLA, Uttaron, hosted by Rotary Calcutta Charnock City held at the Dhyanashram, Joka from 21st to 22nd January 2023. PDG Shyamashree Sen alongwith District Chair, RYLA, PP Rtn Tamalesh Kumar inaugurated the RYLA. The first impression session was conducted by PP Rtn Subhojit Roy for the 40 young girl students from neighbouring schools. DGN Dr Krishnendu Gupta was also present along with PP Rima Chakraborty and host Club President Sudipta Chaudhuri and other Rotarians.

Creetings

Happy Birthday - PP Rtn Sunetra Dasgupta for 31st January!

Wedding Anniversary -

PP Rtn Sunetra & Rtn Tilak Dasgupta for 31st January!

Rtn Sunrita Sen & Jinit Haria for 1st February!



The Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world.

Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects.

With your help, we can make lives better in your community and around the world.

Our mission

The Rotary Foundation helps Rotary members to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty.

What impact can one donation have?

- For as little as 60 cents, a child can be protected from polio.
- \$50 can provide clean water to help fight waterborne illness.
- \$500 can launch an antibullying campaign and create a safe environment for children.

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