



July 6, 2010

Literacy Projects based on the Five Avenues of Service

Dear Rotary Club Presidents Literacy Chairs, and Service Chairs:

Welcome to another wonderful Rotary year with many literacy projects to consider for your clubs. This file is full of information that you can use to decide what literacy projects your club will do this 2010-2011 Rotary year. Have fun! Please go to the D5000 website and click on the Literacy Link this year. We have put many files on there to help give you ideas for Literacy Projects.

September 8, 2010, is International Literacy Day. Rotary celebrates in partnership with the International Reading Association. Clubs may conduct an International Literacy Day project during the week of 8 September. Please see suggestions below for International Service Literacy Projects.

Following are suggestions for Literacy Projects based on the Five Avenues of Service. Note that New Generations was recently voted by RI to be a Fifth Avenue of Service.

Suggestions for **Club Service Literacy Projects:**

- Recruit a new club member with a literacy classification
- Schedule a Literacy Speaker for March for Literacy month.
- Devote a club meeting to creating awareness of literacy projects in March for Literacy Month.
- Conduct a Rotary theme of the month for example, December – Family Literacy, by giving students a new book to take home and read with their family during the winter vacation from school.
- Send club members to a district literacy seminar or any literacy conference and devote a subsequent club meeting to their report from the seminar. Read to Me International conducts conferences and literacy events. Their website is <http://www.readtomeintl.org/>

Suggestions for **Vocational Service** Literacy Projects:

- Sponsor perhaps with an Interact club, a high school workshop that teaches vocational literacy based on Rotary's Four Way Test.
- Participate in a Vocational Mock Interview day at a high school your club supports. Contact the school's Guidance Counselor to find out if they hold Vocational Mock Interviews.
- Honor school principals at a club meeting.
- Give a Literacy Recognition Award to an outstanding private citizen who supports Literacy.
- Partner with Community Programs to promote Adult Literacy
 - On Oahu, Rotarians may contact organizations such as Waikiki Health Center's Youth Outreach Program, Jeff Kaplan, Director of Youth and Senior Services 808 942-5858 jkaplan@wakikihc.org
 - Tutor teens that have dropped out of high school for their GED exam.
 - Teach adults to read and write and work with numbers
 - On Oahu and the other Hawaiian Islands, contact Hawaiian Civic Associations and ask how your club can help with adult literacy.
 - Rotary Readers for adult literacy: Rotarians volunteer to read aloud with adults at Community Centers, Homeless Shelters, etc. to allow adults to enjoy the activity of being read aloud to.

Suggestions for **Community Service** Literacy Projects:

- Dictionary Project - Rotary clubs donate dictionaries to third grade students. Members of the club present the dictionaries to the children in their classrooms.
 - Dictionary 100 Club, recognition program for individual Rotarians contributing \$180.00 or more to purchase 100 or more dictionaries for students

- Keiki Vision Project Keiki Vision Program – Rotarians and friends of Rotarians conduct vision screening for 3rd grade elementary school students. Purchase one set of eye charts and tests for \$141.00 and receive a second set free from the Hawaii Optometrist Association. POC Dr. Randy Sakamoto Tel: 330-9256 or email sakamoto@visionhawaii.net (The files for Keiki Vision are on the D5000 website under the Literacy Link. Clubs need to send those files to the schools they will do Keiki Vision at so they can be reproduced. One file contains the Parents’ permission form and the pass/fail notification form to parents. The school sends these out. The other file contains the actual screening form used by Rotarians when they conduct the vision screening in the school’s library.)
- Do a project listed in the publication “Every School A Star Toolkit.” This file is available on the D5000 website under the Literacy Link.
- Engage in a school partnership such as:
 - Rotary Readers – Rotarians and friends of Rotarians volunteer to read to small groups of students or to the whole class on a regular basis. This can be as often as weekly, or monthly, or even every other month. It is wonderful to do this with all grade levels from PK to 6th grades.
 - Rotary Mentors - Rotarians and friends of Rotarians volunteer to work with at-risk students that need extra help. This can be done after school on a weekly basis, where the Mentor helps the student with homework, or subject areas the student needs extra help with, or by simply being a positive adult role model for the student and spending quality time with him or her. It is wonderful to do this with all grade levels from PK to 6th grades.
 - Rotary Sings with preschool students – Rotarians and friends of Rotarians volunteer to sing with preschool students. This is a wonderful way to help young children with oral language development. This can be done on a monthly basis and be very effective and rewarding. One can get songbooks of preschool favorites at local libraries or buy songbooks in stores or online. Just type in preschool songs in books at www.amazon.com and you will get many choices to select from. Many of the books come with CDs to help one learn the songs.
 - Provide financial support, gifts in kind, scholarships or other needs identified by the school.

- Literacy Month in Rotary is in March each year. (March 1st is World Book Day; March 2nd is Dr. Seuss Day in the U.S.) Some schools hold a special Read to Me Day in honor of Literacy month. Check with the school librarian or Principal of schools your club supports to see if they do this or would like to do it. It usually involves reading to whole classes of students for about 20 to 30 minutes per grade level, during a school morning. It usually runs about one hour or so.
 - Family Literacy Night – this is another great idea for March’s Literacy Month. Contact a school or Community Center, Girls/Boys clubs etc. to see if they would be interested. The activity usually runs about an hour. It occurs at the end of the day when parents pick up their children. First a light snack is offered, such as fruit, cheese and crackers. Rotarians, who cut up the snacks in advance, supply the snacks. After the snack break, children and their parents, grand parents, aunties, uncles, and Rotarians, gather in small groups, and read together. Adults can read to children, and children can read to adults. It is great fun and supports our love of reading with others in our local communities. Books can be purchased for this and then donated to the schools, community centers, etc. to help grow their library.
 - Give your speakers a book to sign and donate it to a school’s library or community center’s library from your club.
 - Assistance for student lunch programs. A hungry child cannot be ready to learn.
- Books for Newborns: Presenting a book to a newborn child and its mother in the hospital after the child’s birth. This program promotes literacy from birth and increases the bond between mother and child. Contact: Gloria King rekinghi@aol.com for additional information. This is a project she created.
 - Support a Computer –Assisted Literacy Solution (CALs) or similar program. <http://www.autoskill.com/rotarians/index.php>
 - Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library project <http://www.imaginationlibrary.com/>
 - Register the **Title I Schools** your club supports with **First Book**. You can also register your own Rotary Club with First Book. Clubs may choose to use DSG money or fundraiser money to buy books for the students at **Title I Schools** they support. First Book’s mission is to get new books into the hands of individual students at Title I Schools. Their website is http://www.firstbook.org/site/c.lwKYJ8NVJvF/b.674095/k.CCA8/First_Book_Homepage.htm

- Sign up with Scholastic Literacy Partners. (The file for doing this is on the D5000 website under Literacy.) Scholastic Literacy Partners allows a Rotary club to buy books for individual students at any school. *It does not have to be a Title I School.* Clubs may choose to use DSG money or fundraiser money to buy books for the students at those schools.
- SOUNDS is a literacy program for early childhood. Their website is <http://www.souns.org/>
- Sandparents is a program for early childhood. Their website is <http://www.sandparents.com/>
- Good Beginnings Alliance – This organization “uses its influence and expertise to coordinate action toward the organization of a statewide system of services and support that ensures all Hawaii’s children 0-5 years old are safe, healthy, and ready to succeed.” Their website is <http://www.goodbeginnings.org>
- Join or support a local project to raise funds for a school or other literacy organization. Many clubs are involved in Rotary Goes Back to School, where club members stand outside a store, Longs, Wal-Mart, Office Max, etc., and collect school supplies that the store’s customers buy and donate. Then the clubs give the school supplies to schools they support.
- Rain Gutter Book Shelf Project: Rotarians installing rain gutter bookshelves in classrooms to display children’s books “face out” rather than “spine out”. Students experience an increased interest and excitement for reading because of the more visible presentation of book in rain gutters.
POC: Dan Bent 808-548-0080 or DanBent@FairMediation.com
- Rotary Recycled Books and Magazines Distribution to Elderly Care Homes, Hospitals, Prisons, and Children’s Hospitals.

Suggestions for **International Service** Literacy Projects:

- Participate in an International literacy project. Contact District International Service Chair PDG Gary Siracusa at siracusag001@hawaii.rr.com for additional ideas.
- Train volunteers in English as a Second Language (ESL).
- Participate in a literacy and education-focused international project that is connected to health, hunger, and water concerns.

- Devote a club meeting held during the week of 8 September (International Literacy Day is September 8) to a program focusing on Rotary's cooperative relationship with the International Reading Association. The publication *Every School A Star Toolkit* is available on the District 5000 website under the Literacy Link. This was created in partnership between Rotary International and the International Reading Association. Feel free to download this PDF file and share it with Principals of the schools your clubs support.
- Support the Rotary Club of Hawaii Kai's Afghanistan School Supply Project. Monetary donations to this project helps to buy thousands of dollars in school supplies that Rotarian Gary Bowersox buys in Afghanistan. By participating in this project, Rotarians are helping to educate the children in Afghanistan. Gary Bowersox's email is mrgary77@aol.com Please visit the following website <http://www.gems-afghan.com> to learn more about this worthwhile project. At the website, scroll down to the bottom of the page and look for the **Hawaii Kai Rotary Club**. There are PDF and News Film Clip files about this International Literacy Project in Afghanistan.
- Support the Oduworo Village Project in Uganda. Rotarians around the world are donating money to this project for many things, including water projects, sanitation projects, putting electricity into huts, and *giving money to buy books to build school libraries*. The points of contact for this project are Paula and Gerry Portor. Paula's email is plpgmp@charter.net Her phone number is 909-336-1082. Visit the website <http://www.helpinguganda.org/>
- Give Hope Give a Hand. Providing functioning prosthetic hands at no cost to recipients. This is an incredible project that gives people who have lost their hands a new chance. Once the prosthetic hand is attached, they can immediately pick up a pen and use it to write with, use the prosthetic hand to type on a computer keyboard, and use it for everyday tasks like eating and drinking. People can go to school and get an education. This changes lives! Go to this website to learn more: <http://www.ln-4.org/> There is a short video that is worth your time to view!

- PACE Universal – http://www.paceuniversal.com/dpage.php?page_id=1 Promise of Assurance to Children Everywhere (PACE) is a non profit California Corporation which was established in 2003 with two distinct missions:
 - To nurture the educational, health, nutritional, social and cultural development of girls in impoverished areas of India and other parts of the world.
 - To build, in Piyali Junction (outside Calcutta), the first prototype PACE Learning Center (PLC) complex to serve as a model for the delivery of these services all over the world. Monetary donations enable girls to go to school in India.
 - Greg Mortensen, author of *Three Cups of Tea* and *Turning Stones Into Schools*, was one of the Plenary Session speakers at the 2010 RI Convention in Montreal Canada. He said, "You educate a boy, you benefit that individual. You educate a girl, you benefit that community."
- Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) Effective and proven program to quickly teach basic reading skills to anyone. It was pioneered abroad and is now being brought to the United States for use in attacking adult literacy. U.S. clubs and districts have the option of sponsoring CLE projects abroad or in the U.S. For more information go www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/serv_opp_cle_fact_sheet.pdf
- Beyond Borders the Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) <http://www.beyondborders.net/CLE.htm>
- ESCUELITA YO PUEDO Partnering for Sustainable Community Development in Central America <http://www.buildingnewhope.org/escuelita-yo-puedo.html>

Suggestions for New Generations Service Literacy Projects:

- Conduct a Four Way Test Poster Exhibition Project. (The file about doing this project is on the D5000 website under the Literacy Link.) This project was created by Gale Warshawsky and was done successfully by Rotarians in the RC of Windward Oahu Sunrise. Working with students in grades 2nd and 3rd in the after school A+ program in a school supported by that club, students worked in teams of 4. They drew pictures and wrote sentences about each part of the Four Way Test. The completed posters were displayed in the school's cafeteria for all to view.
- Conduct a Four Way Test Essay Project for High School students. There will be a file about how to do this project including a rubric for scoring the essays. There are changes to this project from previous years. The updated file will be placed on the D5000 website under the literacy link when the file is completed.

- Peace Poster/Essay Contest – This is a partnership project that was created by the Rotary Clubs of Windward Oahu Sunrise and Waikiki in 2009-2010. (The files for it, including the rubric for scoring the work, are on the D5000 website under the Literacy Link.) This was a very successful project and anyone is welcome to do it with his or her own Rotary club. The members of the RC of Waikiki's Early Act club (7th graders) engaged in creating posters and writing essays about what peace meant to them in their school community, home community, and world community. They worked in teams of 3 or 4. Rotarians in both clubs judged the posters and essays and a first place team and first runner up team were selected. The winning teams were invited to the RC of Waikiki where they were guests for lunch and then they read their winning essays to the club members. Colored copies of all the posters were reproduced and placed on the tables at that meeting so all could see the wonderful work. In addition, the posters were scanned and saved as jpg files so they could be used in peace greeting cards, which the members of the Early Act club put together with envelopes for a fundraiser activity. This was a very successful project.
- Sponsor college scholarships at the club level for high school students.
- Participate in the Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation (HRYF) Scholarship interviews and donate money to HRYF.
- Conduct character literacy projects such as:
 - Who Is Nobody <http://www.whoisnobody.com/>
 - Laws of Life <http://www.georgialawsoflife.org/>
 - BrainWise <http://www.brainwise-plc.org/>
 - Make a gift of books such as *Elmer and Andy's Apple Dumpling Adventure* <http://www.andyandelmer.com/home.html>

Additional Resources to Find Projects you club may choose to participate with:

ProjectLINK is a searchable database that lists Rotary club and district community service projects in need of funding, volunteers, donated goods, and/or partners for a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant, and completed projects that can be used as examples of best practices. For additional project details, contact programs@rotary.org or the local Rotarian or club listed.

Recognition Awards for Literacy:

Once you complete your club's literacy activities, please fill out the *Literacy criteria awards brochure 2010-2011* that is on the D5000 website under the Literacy Link. Please submit it to Gale Warshawsky by **April 15, 2011**.

Our goal is to have 100% District 5000 Literacy Awards and 100% District Governor's Distinguished Literacy awards. We know your clubs will have completed at least 10 literacy projects and we want you to be honored and celebrate another Rotary year of Literacy Greatness. It is honestly not hard to complete 10 literacy projects. What is hard is deciding which 10 projects your club wants to do as there are so many to choose from!

2010-2011 Criteria for the District Literacy Award

Clubs must complete **five literacy projects**. Projects that are the same but in different locations (i.e. Dictionaries to schools, Keiki Vision, etc. count as only **one** project.) The following project is required for the District Literacy Award:

1. Complete a Dictionary Project with a school or schools your club supports.

2010-2011 Criteria for the District Governor's Distinguished Literacy Award

Clubs must complete ten literacy projects, including five for the District Literacy Award, plus five additional projects.

The following project is required as part of the District Governor's Distinguished Literacy Award:

1. Complete a significant International Literacy Project.

Let's have another wonderful year full of literacy projects!

Yours in Rotary and Literacy,

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