

From: PolioPlus

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Rotary End Polio Now

November 2014 | Take action to End Polio Now



[World Polio Day: health officials laud polio eradication achievements, point to disease's endgame](#)

After a year of shrinking polio cases worldwide, the crippling disease is now on the cusp of being eradicated, said top health officials at Rotary's second annual World Polio Day event on 24 October. At a special [Livestream program](#) -- End Polio Now: Make History Today -- Rotary leaders joined global health experts and celebrity singers to hail the progress of the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#).

GIVE NOW

Rotary honors Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper

Polio Eradication Champion Award recognizes supportive efforts

Canada has committed more than \$580 million to polio eradication since 1988 and has been a [longstanding partner with Rotary](#) in the global effort to eradicate the disease.



Business partnerships pay big dividends in the fight against polio

Building relationships is the key to success

Are you aiming to [enlist a corporation or business](#) to support Rotary's drive to end polio? Whether you're targeting the local, regional, or national level, the best way to begin is to identify a key contact and simply ask.



SUPPORT MILES TO END POLIO

Join General Secretary John Hewko and six Rotary staff members as they bike in El Tour de Tucson to raise funds for the fight to end polio.

[Support Miles to End Polio](#)
[Advocate for polio eradication](#)
[Give to End Polio Now](#)



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Pakistan's prime minister vows to make country polio-free

Pakistan Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif has expressed confidence that the country has the ability to reverse the spread of polio and is taking the right steps to eradicate it.

"We owe this to our people, our children, and the world community," said Sharif on World Polio Day, 24 October. "I exhort all parents and caregivers to play their part by helping the government in reaching every child for oral polio vaccinations so that our future generations grow physically healthy and free of polio."

Activities roundup

Rotary members in Brazil allocated \$1 million in District Designated Funds to help End Polio Now. Led by regional Rotary Foundation coordinators Paulo Zanardi and Celso Alves and Foundation Trustee Antonio Hallage, the effort to make the generous contribution possible drew heavily upon the support of Brazil's Rotary district governors.

[Rotary Charities of Traverse City](#), a public foundation created by the Rotary Club of Traverse City, Michigan, USA, contributed \$250,000. "Eradicating polio is a defining issue on the 21st century worldwide health agenda," says Gregg Smith, president of the Rotary Charities board of trustees. "The medical facts support finishing the job in the next three years, and the financial cost of failing is untenable."

The [Rotary Club of Richmond Hill](#), Georgia, USA, and Georgia Game Changers running shoe company netted more than \$2,500 through a community 5k race.

Rotary members in [District 3830](#) (Philippines) arranged for End Polio Now posters to be displayed free of charge on more than 170 buses in Manila for nine months, beginning on World Polio Day.

Find more at endpolio.org

[Advocate for a polio-free world](#)

Learn about the [polio endgame plan](#)

Resources & reference

Find out how the [End Polio Now -- Make History Today](#) fundraising campaign sponsored by Rotary International and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation makes contributions work three times as hard.

Read [A Rotarian's Guide to the Race to End Polio](#).

Read opinion pieces related to polio eradication by RI General Secretary John Hewko on the [Thomson Reuters Foundation website](#), in the [Huffington Post](#), and in the [San Diego Union-Tribune](#).

[Share your story](#) for an opportunity to be featured on [endpolionow.org](#).

End Polio Now is a bimonthly source of news, information, and resources for Rotary members who support the global effort to eradicate polio.

Send questions and story ideas to PolioPlus@rotary.org.



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