



## Rotary Club of Bellevue



This is Rotary.

# What is Rotary?

*Rotary is a global network of community volunteers. Rotary members are business, professional, and community leaders who volunteer their time and talents to serve their communities and the world.*



## Rotary is... *Service Above Self*

Rotary is a service organization of business and professional men and women united worldwide, who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and work toward world understanding and peace. Belonging to a Rotary Club gives men and women an organized outlet for contributing to their community.

Paul P. Harris and fellow business leaders who believed in the ideal of “Service Above Self” formed the world’s first service club in 1905. Today, Rotary has a global network of 1.2 million members in more than 33,000 clubs in over 200 countries.

In 1961, a group of Bellevue business people who subscribed to these ideals founded the Rotary Club of Bellevue. Today the club has grown to over 200 business and community leaders committed to service on a local, national and international level.

Rotary members meet weekly to build friendships and plan service activities. Rotary clubs are autonomous and determine their own service projects based on local needs and the interests and abilities of members.

Rotary clubs are nonreligious, nongovernmental and open to every race, culture and creed. Club membership represents a cross-section of local business and professional leaders who share the common goal of service to others.

# What is Rotary?

## Rotary is... *supporting critical Community Projects*

The Rotary Club of Bellevue has contributed over \$1 million dollars and countless volunteer hours to organizations in our community through its community grants program:

- Camp Goodtimes – summer camp for children with cancer.
- Holiday Fund – supporting the Overlake Service League
- Service to Youth – identifies deserving college bound youth for Scholarships
- Rotary Homeless Youth – Meals for the Landing food support at the YMCA
- RotaCare – free health care to the Eastside needy
- Rotary First Harvest – financial support and regular volunteers at the Seattle warehouse
- Stream Team Volunteers
- Early Learning, Family & Childcare Center – for Bellevue Community College
- Eastside Housing Association – a collaboration of Catholic Community Services, Friends of Youth, and Hopelink.
- Service to the Disabled - special programs for Eastside individuals
- Service to Mature Adults - helping older people in our community
- Environmental Protection - working with local groups to preserve our local environment
- Special Olympics -providing event assistance and support
- Adoption Support Program - bringing children and families together



*The Rotary Club of Bellevue annually holds a gala and auction to support local organizations. Past beneficiaries include:*

- Bellevue Philharmonic Orchestra
- Bellevue Arts Museum
- Eastside YMCA
- Camp Goodtimes
- Eastside Housing
- R Adventure Camp
- Bellevue Community College Childcare
- Overlake Special School
- Senior Services
- IQuest Museum
- Youth Eastside Services
- Providence Marionwood
- Kids Quest
- Kinderling Center
- Elder & Adult Day Services
- Olive Crest
- PACE
- YWCA-Eastside Women's Day Shelter
- Camp Korey
- Eastside Baby Corner

# What is Rotary?

## The Rotary Club of Bellevue is... *information and education*

Belonging to the Rotary Club of Bellevue gives men and women an enjoyable and organized way to make a contribution to our local community and the world. By using their skills and expertise globally, members also enhance their professional network, career development, and cross-cultural understanding.

Today, the Rotary Club of Bellevue includes over 200 business and community leaders committed to service. When you become a Rotary member you are “loaned” a classification based on the “principal or recognized business or professional activity of the firm, company or institution” with which you are connected. The concept for this is that by having only the top practitioners of each profession in the club, members will benefit from knowing people outside their own areas and that the club will benefit from a broad range of services and expertise.

Rotary membership provides opportunities for members to develop life-long friendships with other professionals and establish contacts with an international network of 1.2 million professionals. Members learn about a variety of subjects through the speakers at weekly meetings and work together to address important community and international needs.

*Each meeting includes a guest speaker, ranging from top business leaders to government officials to members of the arts to local and national charitable organizations.*



# What is Rotary?

## Rotary is... *being involved in International Projects*

Members of the Rotary Club of Bellevue participate in a broad range of humanitarian, intercultural and educational activities designed to improve the human condition. Rotary's humanitarian grants support projects that provide health care and medical supplies, clean water, food, job training, youth development, and education to millions of people in need, particularly in the developing world.

Rotary also provides numerous grants each year to fund the work of Rotary volunteers, who travel to parts of the world where their technical expertise and knowledge are most needed to alleviate hardship and solve problems.

In addition, Rotary builds understanding through international scholarships, exchange programs and humanitarian grants. The Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution is an innovative program designed to educate tomorrow's peacemakers. Hosted at seven leading universities around the globe, the program funds 60 Rotary World Peace Fellows for graduation studies in international relations, conflicts studies and negotiation.

Since 1947, some 35,000 students from 110 countries have studied abroad as Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars. Rotary's Group Study Exchange has helped more than 45,000 young professionals explore their career fields in other countries. And each year, some 9,000 secondary school students experience life in another country through Rotary Youth Exchange.



*For nearly 50 years, Bellevue Rotary members have supported hundreds of international projects, including:*

- *Land Mine Removal – Cambodia and Vietnam*
- *Rural Women's Development Center – Nepal*
- *Disabled New Life Center – Nepal*
- *Clean Water Projects – Ethiopia, India, Pakistan*
- *Kids First Vietnam*
- *Micro Credit Lending – India*
- *Rotary Polio Eradication*
- *Computers – Bulgaria, New Delhi, Belize*
- *Mexico Los Ninos Project – Tijuana*
- *Pakistan Earthquake Relief*
- *Agros International Water Project – El Salvador*
- *Literacy Projects – Ethiopia, Mexico*
- *Medical Equipment – Bangladesh*
- *Dental Equipment – Peru*
- *Orphanage – Africa*
- *Dental Supplies – Masai*
- *Haiti Earthquake Relief*
- *Medical & Computer Equipment – Bhutan, Bulgaria, South America*

# What is Rotary?

## Rotary is... *polio eradication*

*Providing vitamin A supplements during polio National Immunization Days has averted an estimated 1.5 million childhood deaths since 1998 — testimony to the “plus” in PolioPlus.*



In 1985, Rotary launched **PolioPlus**, an ambitious program to immunize the world's children against polio. Rotary's grassroots leadership, volunteer support, and initial funding for vaccine provided the catalyst for the World Health Assembly's resolution in 1988 to eradicate polio worldwide. Spearheading partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative are the World Health Organization, Rotary International, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF.

After 25 years of hard work, Rotary and its partners are on the brink of eradicating this tenacious disease, with polio cases dropping by 99% since 1988. Rotary members have given more than \$650 million and countless hands-on volunteer hours to this critical effort. But a strong push is needed now to root it out once and for all.

Rotary's **\$200 Million Challenge** is the Rotary Foundation's response to the two grants totaling \$355 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to help eradicate polio. Every dollar given to **PolioPlus** will be counted toward the \$200 million match, which must be completed by June 30, 2012.

The resulting \$555 million will directly support immunization campaigns in developing countries, where polio continues to infect and paralyze children, robbing them of their futures and compounding the hardships faced by their families.

The savings to be realized from polio eradication is potentially as high as \$1.5 billion per year — funds that could be used to address other public health priorities. The savings in human suffering will be immeasurable.

# What is Rotary?

## The Rotary Club of Bellevue is... *a commitment to service*

Membership in Bellevue Rotary involves a commitment to service, including:

- Regular attendance at weekly meetings.
- Active participation in at least one committee.
- Prompt payment of initiation fees and quarterly dues.
- Commitment to major fundraising activities as established by the membership.
- Contribution to the Rotary International Foundation

Membership costs include an initiation fee of \$100. Annual dues of \$250, which includes "The Rotarian," a monthly Rotary magazine. Quarterly luncheon fees of \$23.50/meeting. Other contributions include two auction tickets for the major fundraiser, which costs \$350, whether you attend or not. Members are occasionally "fined" at meetings as a humorous way to recognize individual Rotarians for their achievements in the local and international community, and for contributions of service to the club. These fines are usually minimal.

Bellevue Rotary is committed to supporting the Rotary Foundation projects by having 100% participation by its members in annual Foundation donations through a minimum \$100 donation each year. With a gift of \$1,000, the member becomes a Paul Harris Fellow. Rotarians become Sustaining Members of the Foundation with an annual minimum gift of \$100. When the cumulative amount reaches \$1,000, the Rotarian becomes a Paul Harris Fellow.



*To learn more about the Rotary Club of Bellevue, visit [www.BellevueRotary.net](http://www.BellevueRotary.net) or contact:*

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*The Rotary Club of Bellevue meets weekly at The Harbor Club every Tuesday at 12:00 noon. The Harbor Club is located on the 25th floor of the Symetra Financial Center, on the southwest corner of NE 8th St. & 108th Ave NE, in downtown Bellevue.*



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