

DISTRICT 2452

Monthly Newsletter



RI President Holger Knaack

October 2020 - Message



During a recent Zoom meeting with Rotarians and Rotaractors, I looked at the smiling faces on my screen and realized how much our organization has changed in a short period. It is clear that there is no going back to the "old normal" in Rotary — and I see that as an exciting opportunity!

Innovation and change are happening at so many levels as we rethink and remake Rotary. Rotary's new flexibility is blending with digital culture to drive change in ways that many of us have never seen before. We can learn a lot from Rotarians like Rebecca Fry — who, at age 31, already has 15 years of Rotary experience.

I see Rotary as a phenomenal platform to change the world. I believe I can have the greatest influence by empowering others to create the change they wish to see in the world. I've gained leadership insights through my experiences in RYLA and Rotaract, and now, as charter president of the Rotary Social Impact Network, a new e-club.

Engaging Rotary program alumni is key in forming new clubs. Our club is proof that Rotaractors and other alumni want to join Rotary — but sometimes they can't find the Rotary club that's right for them. Our club has 31 members, all between the ages of 23 and 41, and almost all of them are alumni of Rotary programs.

We need to be able to integrate and align Rotary with the other personal and professional goals we're pursuing. In chartering this club, we set out to design a personalized model of Rotary that is focused on added value for our members. We have also sought to leverage connections — through Rotary Fellowships, Rotary Action Groups,

and other international partnerships — in order to elevate our members' experiences beyond the club.

Our club meets and manages most of its projects online, using Microsoft Teams to engage 24/7 in topics that interest our members. This also means our club is not geographically bound to any one location: Although many of us are in Australia, we also have members in Germany, Italy, Mexico, Tanzania, and the United States.

Also key for our club is measuring the impact of our projects. For Plastic Free July this year, we created an awareness campaign promoting ways that individuals could reduce their use of plastics, and we reached more than 6,000 people. It's a project with a tangible impact that anyone can take part in wherever they are. I'm proud that, through our club, we are bringing people together for a new type of Rotary experience. I am excited for our future.

All Rotary clubs have the opportunity to be innovative clubs, just like Bec's club. Let's trust those clubs, learn from them, and lend them our support. Change in Rotary happens at the grassroots level, as clubs lead the charge, defining what this new Rotary can be.

Change is constant, and we have more work to do in many areas. It is important that we celebrate the contributions of people of all backgrounds and promote people from underrepresented groups so that they have greater opportunities to participate as members and leaders in Rotary.

The tools to make Rotary more inclusive, more relevant, and more fun for everyone are at our fingertips. Let's use them now, and we will see how Rotary Opens Opportunities for ourselves and for those yet to discover us.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR MESSAGE

DG MAZEN ALUMRAN 2020-2021

Dear Rotarians,

The month of September has been dedicated on the calendar of Rotary International as that for “Basic Education and Literacy”.

History has shown that the Communities and Nations that have invested in their peoples’ health and education are the ones that maintained sustainable development and flourished.

Nelson Mandela once said, “Education is the most powerful weapon which we can use to change the World”.

Yet today, we are right into the Twenty First Century, with all the technology and resources available, still we are nowhere close to achieving eradication of basic illiteracy in the World. It has been stated that, “more than 775 million people over the age of 15, are illiterate. That is 17% of the World’s Adult population.” In addition, today Education remains an inaccessible right for millions of Children around the world. It has been stated that more than “72 million children of primary education age are not in school” and therefore have no access to basic education.

What has gone wrong?



In stressing the Value of Education, our goal as Rotary

This is not the space to talk about the great gap between the development of nations, or the vicious Poverty circle or how nations mismanage their resources. We will concentrate on three simple points:

1) The Will to Educate and the Awareness of its Value Allocating necessary funds by governments. Basic schooling is a right of every child. But it is also as important to stress, how vital is the awareness of the population itself of the Value of literacy and basic education for their development. As Rotarians, we can help create and reinforce this awareness in communities. This is a role in which our our Clubs can partake.

2) The Lack of Funds and the Accessibility While the Will might be there, sometimes inability is due to the geographical remoteness of regions and the lack of funds to reach those that can benefit. Here too, our Clubs can be of assistance through providing advice and the appropriate Technology to reach those difficult regions to make Education accessible.

Cont’d.....

“Education is the power to think clearly and the power to appreciate life.”

-Brigham Young

District Governor Message

3) Prejudice and Discrimination

Inequality between boys' and girls' schooling can be found in a lot of countries. Priorities are given to boys and the girls are left illiterate with less access to basic education. It is sometimes forgotten that they are the most important elements in a Society. A famous Arab Poet wrote:

الأم مدرسة إذا أعددتها

أعددت شعباً طيب الأعراق

It means basically, the mother is the school, if she is well prepared (taught), one would have well prepared the people of the nation. A lot can be done by our Clubs to close this divide between genders.

My late father, Ahmed Alumran, known as the "Father of Education of Bahrain" was a valiant advocate of the importance of Education. He believed that, "Education builds Nations". So, in the early part of the past Century, he together with the assistance of sincere colleagues and citizens and the support of the wise leadership of this country, laid down the building blocks for education in Bahrain. He strived for it to be the right for all children across genders and regions and intensified his effort to establish schools to cover all corners of the Island. When the Value of Education is entrenched, it becomes a cultural necessity.

International is to is "to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy for adults".

September 8th was International Literacy Day as observed by the United Nations. The theme was to remind the international community of the importance of Literacy for individuals, communities and societies. The issue of Literacy is a Key Component of the UN's Sustainable Development. Goals and the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

It was argued that the latest Covid-19 crisis aggravated the situation with Literacy further, as most literacy programmes were suspended with just a few continuing virtually or in open-spaces This added to those already disadvantaged.

We as Rotarians of District 2452 shall debate this month how to create awareness in our societies and communities of the Value of Literacy and Basic Education, how to close the big divide in accessibility using modern technology, how to make sure there is no prejudice and discrimination across genders and any other obstacles to the right to Education.

The famous British statistician Claus More said, "Education costs money, but then so does ignorance."

Let's work together, *for a better tomorrow*

"Not all Heroes Wear Capes"

By Mr. Flores

October Words of Wisdom!

BY PDG EMAD ALMOAYED

October is Economic and Community Development Month, and we are reminded, on Rotary's website, that Rotary supports investment in people to create measurable and enduring economic improvement in their lives and communities.

There are many communities around the world that are in need of, and many actually receive, Rotary clubs' support to help their economic and community development.

In our special District, no local community is more in need of such, and similar, support, I believe, than that in our beloved Palestine, which our District is privileged to include.

Two stanzas of poetry come to mind, and I guess, and hope, that's what you are awaiting! ;

Saadi Shirzi (1210-1292), says, in Farsi;

بَدْرِيَا دُرْ مَنْفَعِ بِي شَمَارِ اسْتِ

وَكُرْ خَوَاهِي سَلَامَتِ بَرِ كُنَارِ اسْتِ

In Arabic;

فِي الْبَحْرِ دُرٌّ لَيْسَ يُحْصَى نَفْعُهُ

أَمَّا السَّلَامَةُ فَهِيَ عِنْدَ السَّاحِلِ

In English;

'There are pearls at the bottom of the sea, the value and benefit of which is immeasurable. Safety, however, if that's what you are after, is on the seashore!'

So, you've got to work at it, and its hard work.



And, Abulqasem Alshaabbi (1909 - 1934) says;

إِذَا الشَّعْبُ يَوْمًا أَرَادَ الْحَيَاةَ

فَلَا بُدَّ أَنْ يَسْتَجِيبَ الْقَدْرَ

'If the people decide to live, destiny is bound to succumb'

So, let's Want To, and let's Work At It.

In the Economic and Community Development Month, and always!!!



"Rotary is fellowship. Real fellowship is frank, spontaneous, full of warmth, and if you want to gauge its depth you will find that it is the difference between 'Mister' and 'Bill' — 'Reverend' and 'Jack.'"

"Frank L. Mulholland - Rotary Club of Toledo, Ohio, USA May 1915"



Brief Insight
PDG Nijad K. Al Atassi
Rotary Public Image Coordinator Zone 21B 2020-2023
Rotary Extension Representative to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Rotary Code of Ethics

My business standards shall have in them a note of sympathy for our common humanity. My business dealings, ambitions and relations shall always cause me to take into consideration my highest duties as a member of society. In every position in business life, in every responsibility that comes before me, my chief thought shall be to fill that responsibility and discharge that duty so when I have ended each of them, I shall have lifted the level of human ideals and achievements a little higher than I found it. In view of this, it is my duty as a Rotarian-

I

To consider any vocation worthy and as affording me distinct opportunity to serve society.

II

To improve myself, increase my efficiency and enlarge my service, and by doing so attest my faith in the fundamental principle of Rotary, that he/she profits most who serves the best.

III

To realize that I am a business man and ambitious to succeed; but that I am first an ethical man and wish no success that is not founded on the highest justice and morality.

IV

To hold that the exchange of my goods, my service and my ideas for profit is legitimate and ethical, provided that all parties in the exchange are benefited thereby.

V

To use my best endeavors to elevate the standards of the vocation in which I am engaged, and so to conduct my affairs that others in my vocation may find it wise, profitable and conducive to happiness to emulate my example.

VI

To conduct my business in such a manner that I may give a perfect service equal to or even better than my competitor, and when in doubt to give added service beyond the strict measure of debt or obligation.

VII

To understand that one of the greatest assets of a professional or of a business man is his friends and that any advantage gained by reason of friendship is eminently ethical and proper.

VIII

To hold that true friends demand nothing of one another and that any abuse of the confidence of friendship for profit is foreign to the spirit of Rotary, and in violation of its Code of Ethics.

IX

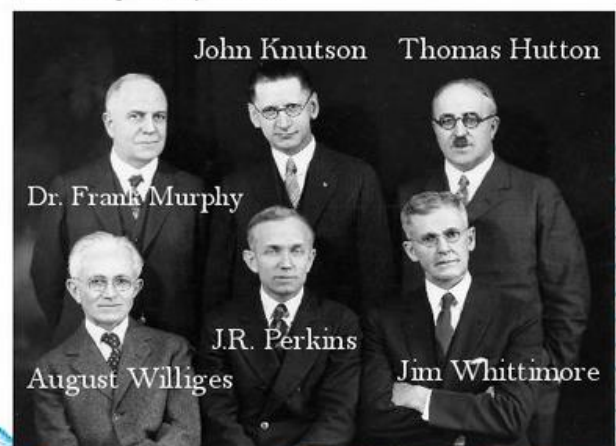
To consider no personal success legitimate or ethical which is secured by taking unfair advantage of certain opportunities in the social order that are absolutely denied others, nor will I take advantage of opportunities to achieve material success that others will not take because of the questionable morality involved.

X

To be not more obligated to a brother Rotarian than I am to every other man in human society; because the genius of Rotary is not in its competition, but in its cooperation; for provincialism can never have a place in an institution like Rotary, and Rotarians assert that Human Rights are not confined to Rotary Clubs, but are as deep and as broad as the race itself; and for these high purposes does Rotary exist to educate all men and all institutions.

XI

Finally, believing in the universality of the Golden Rule, all things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them, we contend that Society best holds together when equal opportunity is accorded all men in the natural resources of this planet.



Authors of the Rotary Code of Ethics

**Great People have Great Values
 and Great Ethics**

Integrity is not something you show others.
 It is how you behave behind their back.

DID YOU KNOW?

THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE

BY RTN/CHAIRPERSON LAMEES ALHASSAR



Most Rotarians have never attended a Rotary district conference. They have not experienced one of the most enjoyable and rewarding privileges of Rotary membership. A district conference is for all club members and their spouses, not just for club officers and committee members.

The purpose of a District Conference is for fellowship, good fun, inspirational speakers and discussion of matters which make one's Rotary membership more meaningful.

Every person who attends a district conference finds that being a Rotarian becomes even more rewarding because of the new experiences, insights and acquaintances developed at the Conference. Those who attend a Conference enjoy going back, year after year.

Every one of Rotary's 528 districts has a conference annually. These meetings are considered so important that the Rotary

International president selects a knowledgeable Rotarian as his personal representative to attend and address each conference.

The program always includes several outstanding entertainment features, interesting discussions and inspirational programs.

One of the unexpected benefits of attending a district conference is the opportunity to become better acquainted with members of one's own club in an informal setting. Lasting friendships grow from the fellowship hours at the district conference.

Join us in the 8th District 2452 Conference 11th-14th March 2021 in the Kingdom Of Bahrain.



Rotarians are very much more favorably disposed toward action than they are toward words."

"Paul P. Harris Rotary Club of Chicago November 1912"

The District 2452 Club News - Jordan

By: PP Mohammed A Khayyat
Rotary Club of Amman CAPITAL



Rotary Fund Raising during the COVID-19

For Rotarians and the Rotary beneficiaries, COVID-19 prevented weekly meetings to assemble and Rotary Clubs mostly became E-clubs and meeting became on virtual Zoom.

The personal Rotarian interaction, is a very important issue in Rotary. Luckily, this developed a connection between clubs all over the world where people in a club in Bahrain can see what the other club is doing in South Africa for instance.

Technology has become an excellent provider of that consecutiveness and interactions, making corporation and learning between clubs a much faster and effective.

Clubs are more connected than ever, we are seeing members contributing and participating in mini club meetings in the world were they were not being able to do so before. Even conventions will be done on two levels the actual and virtual versions.

For example, Honolulu convention received the 183000 participants on line which never happened and never been like that before as a Rotary experience.

Issues of donors and donors experiences in such coronavirus pandemic are totally of priority. Rotary needs money and Rotarians have raised 400 millions a year through beneficiaries and Rotarian contributions. RI would raise it up to \$2 billion a year.

Rotary is the large organization globally. So fundraising is a major keystone to what we do. But we were used to getting together to raise funds. The creativity of Rotarians to raise money is unbelievable working and achieving. Recently we figured it out that we have to pivot so how to raise up that kind of money in this new environment.

Rotarians started to see online auctions for different clubs. We have to unleash the creativity of the 1,200,000 Rotarians. For polio we have succeeded in eradicating the disease except in Pakistan and Afghanistan as we have only now 94 cases only. Surely we have to make up ways of new fundraising process to spend on eradicating polio as planned.

Clubs are embracing technology in their service. This technological offering and experiences is encouraging members to contribute and to be vibrant more and get engaged, that will encourage young people to join much more in a quantitative measure and be more demographic.

We are approaching in a more technologically focused clubs. Rotarians were able to embrace this challenge of COVID-19 experience and turn out to benefit from its circumstances.

Optimistic and excited. In times of Rotary serious challenges, can bring opportunities and open new doors.

“The International Association of Rotary Clubs has fairly won its title, for the sun never sets on Rotarians.” ~John Poole Rotary Club of Washington, D.C. August 1919

The District 2452 Club News - Jordan



By: PP Mohammed A Khayyat
Rotary Club of Amman CAPITAL

الروتاري الدولي واهمية دور الشباب بالمشاركة فيه.

الروتاري الدولي العالمي كمنظمة دولية والتي تم تأسيسها بعام ١٩٠٥ من القرن الماضي بالولايات المتحدة الامريكية تم تصدير افكارها ومبادئها الخدمية لاوروبا وجميع انحاء العالم بما تخدم المجتمعات المحلية والدولية اجمع.

منظمة الروتاري الدولي تضم ضمنها اعضاء ومهنيون يمتلكون الفكر الواضح للخدمة العامة وللتعارف والاجتماع ضمن انديتهم لتنفيذ العمل الاجتماعي والعمل التطوعي والخدمي للمجتمعات المحيطة بهم بالاضافة الى المجتمع الدولي ككل ونشر وارساء السلام ضمن المجتمعات والعالم ايضا، مما يتيح لاعضائها المليون والمائتي الف لتنمية مهاراتهم القيادية وقدراتهم في مجالات الخدمة العامة بما يتلائم بمستويات راقية من المهنية والاخلاق الحميدة.

كثيرا من الروتاريين العالميين وصلوا المراكز دولية مرموقة بالدول المختلفة. وقد اضاف الروتاري بالسماح للنساء بالانضمام اليها بعد فترة الثمانينات من القرن الماضي بعدما كانت محصورة منذ تأسيسها على رجال الاعمال فقط، بعدا عميقا يجذر العمل المهني ويطوره بشكل اشمل واكثر ثقة ومنفعة وتأثير.

الروتاري الدولي في مدينة ايفانستون- الينوي بالولايات المتحدة الامريكية والتي تدير اكثر من ٣٥٠٠٠ نادي بالعالم اجمع تبنت افكارا جديدة لاعادة هيكلة الروتاري في الالونة الاخيرة ، بحيث تقوي الصلات بالمجتمعات المحلية بالعالم، بحيث ان الاكثريه من الاعضاء فيها يعتبرون في مراتب عمرية كبيرة ، فتوجب ان يعملوا على السعي لاضافة الفرص لروح الشباب بالتفاعل الإيجابي ضمنها.

فعمل الروتاري الدولي لزيادة الوعي لوجودهم و تطوير برامجهم وخدماتهم المجتمعية ضمن اجيال الشباب وشجعهم ليكونوا جزءا فاعلا من ضمن عملها الدولي، والانضمام لعضويتها بشكل فعال وكبير. فشجع على انشاء ورعاية اندية الروتراكت التي تضم اجيال الشباب تحت سن الثلاثين وتم تعديلها لتصبح لسن السابع والعشرين، لتلمس اهمية المشاركة بالعمل الروتاري والانضمام لها فعليا . بالرغم من ان نسبة الاعضاء الشباب شكلوا اقل من عشرة بالمائة من اعضائها العاملين قبل عام ٢٠١١ ، الا ان النسب المتنامية حاليا تبشر بقراءات ملموسة في تناميها وفعاليتها.

فالاعضاء الشباب يمتلكون ويعرضون افكارا جديدة ومعاصرة. نعم فالروتاري كمنظمة دولية تعي قدرة واهمية الفئات العمرية الاكبر سنا لكن اهمية اضافة الاعضاء القادرين على حمل وتطبيق وعرض افكار جديدة تساويها بالاهمية ايضا. فبدون تلك الخطوات لضم فئات عمرية شابة فلن يكون الروتاري قادر على التغيير والتقدم. كما ان اعطاء الاهمية للملموسة للاعضاء الروتاريين الاناث يشكل لبنة اساسية في ديمومة العمل المشترك والقيادة. كما ان دمج الاعمار والجنسوية تضمن رسوخ الشعور بجدية وقوة منظمة الروتاري تحت مظلة الزمالة والصداقة والمحبة والسلام.

COVID-19 تحديات

هذه الظروف الاستثنائية الخاصة ب COVID-19 والتي نعيشها بعام 2020 لم يستطع أحد أن يستشعرها أو يتوقعها، مما دفع الأندية الروتارية للسعي للحفاظ على العضوية و ضمان تفاعل الاعضاء ضمن هذه الظروف بطرق مختلفة اعتمدت على مواجهة التحديات وتبسيط الإجراءات واستخدام الوسائل التكنولوجية لضمان الخدمة الاجتماعية ضمن كل الظروف .

فعلا هذا هو الروتاري بشفافيته وقدرته على تيسير العقبات ومواجهة الصعوبات والتحديات لتخرج ما فينا من قوة وصلابة والاتصال الفعال للحفاظ على فاعلية عملنا الخدمي المدني بالتأثير وخدمة مجتمعاتنا و حماية هيئاتنا الإدارية والمالية .

قوتنا بالروتاري تكمن في تحفيز الأفكار الخلاقة و القدرة على التركيز وحسم الأوضاع ضمن آلية مرنة وقابلة للتطبيق وتحفظ للروتاري نزهته وصون هيئته وهيبته وصورته المشرقة عالمياً.

رئيس سابق محمد اديب الخياط
نادي روتاري عمان كابيتال
المملكة الاردنية الهاشمية

The District 2452 Club News - Armenia

Rotarians and Friends

Rotary in Armenia Walk Together To Help...

It has been and still is an ongoing effort by the RC Yerevan to pull up energies, resources, friends, connections, local authorities to help their compatriots in the remote and poor parts of the countries to help overcome the deteriorating effects of COVID 19.

Starting early April up until now, a group of RC Yerevan members threw out a call to attract supporters to service above self.

This beautiful initiative is a brilliant example of social partnership as brought together and consolidated resources of the Rotarians, friends of Rotary, representatives of Armenia Diaspora community from France and Great Britain, diplomats, national and local government representatives, etc.

Everyone contributed, time, skills, connections, vehicles, food and hygiene commodity, money, love, care, passion, etc.

During the lockdown that still goes on in Armenia, the priceless assistance reaches to 710 recipients: former beneficiaries of RC Yerevan's projects, people with disabilities, borderline remote village population, many children families, families of freedom fighters, etc. The packages were 21 kg/each of food commodity and sanitizing supplies. Distribution was done in seven different geographic locations varying from the northern part of Armenia down to the border with Iran.

Fundraising still continues and we value every single contribution that would help us reach out to more people in need of help, support and assistance.



“The most worthwhile thing is to try to put happiness into the lives of others.”
Sir Robert Baden-Powell

The District 2452 Club News - Cyprus

Paphos-Aphrodite Rotary Club



After discovering how many families were suffering hardship after becoming unemployed due to the Corona Virus, Paphos-Aphrodite Rotary Club allocated funding of €3,500 to provide food parcels.

For several weeks during the summer, the Club members worked with another organisation, who vetted the families to make sure they were in genuine need. We filled 27 trolleys full of shopping and have provided large food 106 parcels. Although dried food is often available through organisations, we felt it was important that families had good nutritious food, therefore each week the bags contained fresh fruit and vegetables, milk, fresh meat, yoghurts, cheese, eggs etc. - enough to feed a family for a week.

The families were from a variety of nationalities, but all needed some support. Recipients included single parents, immigrants, students, young families and victims of domestic violence. It was wonderful to see the young children peering excitedly into the bags and knowing that they were going to have some treats.

The Club members feel very privileged to have been of assistance to so many families, and we know that our efforts have been much appreciated.



As the COVID-19 pandemic spreads uncertainty and hardship around the world, Rotary members and participants are innovating, caring for those affected, and showing that even at a distance, there are ways to help

The District 2452 Club News - Lebanon

By: President Effat Assaly
Rotary Club of Beirut Center

Event One:

The RC Beirut Center in partnership with the Tripoli Association of Atlanta will participate in the rehabilitation of the newborns' intensive care room at the Beirut Governmental Hospital of Karantina that was badly damaged from the 4th of August Beirut Port's explosion.

P Effat Abou Assaly thanked Mr Michael Halaby the founder of the Tripoli Association of Atlanta for their generous donation, and RC member Rola Jbeily for her big efforts. We were all received at the Beirut Governmental Hospital of Karantina by Mr Chami and Dr Robert Sacy who showed us the blast damages.

This event was followed by a lunch at Le Gabriel Sofitel Hotel in Ashrafieh.



Event Two:

P RC Beirut Center Effat Abou Assaly hosted in her historical residence in Abey P RC Atlanta Buckhead Michael Halaby, PP Tripoli Maarad Abdel Mounem Marhaba, and Consul of Lebanon to Atlanta Wassim Hojeij in the occasion of the donation of the Tripoli Association of Atlanta to the RC Beirut Center for the rehabilitation of the newborns' intensive care room at the Beirut Governmental Hospital of Karantina.

An exchange of banners took place in the presence of RC members of Beirut Center, Saida and Beirut Cosmopolitan.



The District 2452 Club News - Lebanon

By: AG/ PP Tony Abou Naoum,
Rotary Club of Zahle
Rotary Club of Bekaa

Rotary and a pledge to the resurrection of Beirut and Lebanon

The calamity of 4 August 2020's gigantic explosion of the Port of Beirut, the third largest explosion in the history of humankind, was a disastrous magnification of the miseries that Lebanon was living, through the catastrophic economic, social and political turmoil, augmented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Close to 200 victims, more than 7000 injured, 300,000 plus displaced people without shelter, and thousands of destroyed or heavily damaged buildings, hospitals, learning institutions, housing units and businesses, are painful statistics to this devastation.

Girded with resilience, determination and courage, thousands and thousands of local and international volunteers with numerous NGOs and charities rushed, immediately following the explosion, to the rescue. Rotarians were obviously amongst the first on Ground Zero. Rotary Club Zahlé – Békaa members, supported by volunteers, professional and international Rotary Clubs, have:

- Provided moral and psychological support to the survivors and displaced,
- Helped in the cleaning of the rubble from the streets and the damaged hospitals and buildings,
- Donated furniture and appliances,
- Distributed food boxes to displaced families,
- Supplied close to 200 homes with rechargeable emergency lamps,
- Presented to Harawi Governmental Hospital, a Respiratory Ventilator along with a large quantity of PPE supplies, under a Global Grant in partnership with local and international Rotary Clubs, District 2452 Fund, and the Rotary Foundation.

Recently partnered with other NGOs from the area of Zahle, for the Initiative “Beirut in the Heart of Zahle”, to rebuild 75 apartments in one of the most devastated streets near the Port of Beirut.

Our pledge is to continue our efforts and endeavors until the resurrection of Beirut and Lebanon, in service of humanity.



The District 2452 Club News - Lebanon



The Rotary Club of Beyrouth Rotarians and Friends,

The Rotary Club de Beyrouth was the coordinator between the Belgian NGO “Hôpital sans Frontières” and the Hôpital Libanais Geitaoui severely hit by the explosion. PP Reine Codsí and PP Savia Kaldany were on site when the medical equipment, sent by Hôpital sans Frontières, reached the Lebanese Hospital.



In the second picture: The Rotary Club de Beyrouth also committed to the rehabilitation of the obstetrics section of the Hôpital Pédiatrique de la Quarantaine; some of our members visited the premises with the hospital director, Mr. Abboud Chami. This hospital, located in the vicinity of the Port, was nearly entirely destroyed by the blast.

Call for Action and in Support of Lebanon

Dr Sonu Bhaskar

On Behalf of the Board of the Rotary Club of Sydney

On 4 August 2020, two explosions struck right in the heart of the Beirut, the capital of Lebanon. A tragedy of the scale – we witnessed remotely unfold on the streets of Lebanon has drawn international attention towards the unfolding humanitarian emergency. Our heart goes out to the victims of Beirut’s explosion, the survivors and to the Lebanese expats around the world. Reports suggest that the blast killed at least 200 people, injured more than 6000 and inflicted widespread property damage. Approximately, 250,000 people are feared of becoming homeless. Ground reports suggested ~500 emergency admissions of the blast victims at one hospital in Beirut following the blast. Health systems in Beirut are overwhelmed in coping with the casualties. Humanitarian organisations such as [Médecins Sans Frontières \(MSF\)](#) and/or [Red Cross Lebanon](#) are supporting Beirut’s health services cope in the aftermath of blasts amidst ongoing COVID-19 public health crisis.

Through this call for humanitarian action and support, we are urging fellow Rotarians and members of the community to support these organizations pursue the much-needed frontline medical support. Goes without saying, we at the Rotary Club of Sydney stand together with Lebanon in these difficult times – compounded by the COVID-19.