



ROTARY FOUNDATION MILESTONES

1917 At the Rotary Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, Rotary President Arch Klumph proposes the establishment of an endowment “for the purpose of doing good in the world.”



1917 The endowment receives its first donation: \$26.50 from the Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri, USA.

1928 The Rotary Foundation is formally named, and the first trustees are appointed.

1930 The Foundation awards its first grant: \$500 to the International Society for Crippled Children (Easter Seals).

1947 Rotary founder Paul Harris dies. Rotarians will contribute

more than \$1 million to the Foundation in his memory in the 18 months following his death.

1947 The Rotary Foundation launches its first program: scholarships for international graduate study.



1951 Arch Klumph dies as the Foundation is approaching the \$3 million mark.

1957 'Paul Harris Fellow recognition is instituted.

1965 For the first time, a single year's contributions to the Foundation exceed \$1 million.

1965 The Group Study Exchange, Special Grants (later called Matching Grants), and Awards for Technical Training programs are launched.



1978 The Health, Hunger, and Humanity (3-H) Program is created.

1979 For its first 3-H project, Rotary begins to immunize more than six million children in the Philippines against polio.



1980 The 3-H committee recommends 2005 as the target date for eradicating polio worldwide. The Council on Legislation endorses a proposal to "eliminate polio through immunization."

1981 The Rotary Foundation Endowment for World Understanding and Peace is established.

1985 The PolioPlus and Grants for University Teachers programs are launched.



1988 At the Rotary Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA, Rotary announces that the PolioPlus campaign, which aimed to raise \$120 million, had in fact raised almost \$220 million.



1988 Spurred by Rotary's fundraising success, the World Health Assembly sets a goal of worldwide polio eradication and launches the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI).

1988 The Foundation holds the first Rotary Peace Forum, in Evanston, Illinois, USA.



1995 The PolioPlus Partners program is created to support National Immunization Days.



1999 The Rotary Peace Centers are founded. The inaugural class of Rotary Peace Fellows will begin studies in the fall of 2002.



1999 The Trustees create the Bequest Society, which recognizes those who leave at least \$10,000 to The Rotary Foundation.

2004 The Trustees establish the Every Rotarian, Every Year initiative, designed to inspire all Rotarians to contribute to the Annual Fund every year.

2004 The Trustees found the Arch Klumph Society to recognize

individuals, couples, and organizations that have contributed \$250,000 or more to The Rotary Foundation.

2007 The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation issues Rotary a \$100 million challenge grant to raise funds for polio eradication.

2009 The Gates Foundation gives Rotary an additional \$255 million for polio eradication work and increases the challenge to \$200 million, matching every \$1 Rotary raises with \$3.55.



2009 Rotary partners with USAID to launch the International H2O Collaboration to improve drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene.



2012 Rotary meets and exceeds the \$200 million challenge that the Gates Foundation issued in 2009; it raised \$228 million for polio eradication.

2012 India goes a full year without a new polio case and is removed from the list of countries in which polio is endemic.



2013 The Gates Foundation offers to match Rotary’s contributions for polio eradication 2-to-1 up to \$35 million per year for five years. Rotary takes the challenge under the banner of End Polio Now: Make History Today.



2013 The Future Vision pilot concludes and the Foundation adopts a new grant model comprised of district and global grants worldwide.



2015 The number of polio-endemic countries drops to two.

2017 Rotarians return to Atlanta to celebrate a century of success.

