

# RESOLUTION 19R-23

To request the RI Board to consider collaborating with those working on myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome research

**Proposer(s):** Rotary Club of Greeley-After Hours, District 5440, USA

**Endorsed by:** District 5440 through an annual district conference, Gering, Nebraska, USA, 18 May 2019

1 WHEREAS, the virus that often triggers myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic  
2 fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) is closely related to the virus that causes polio, and

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4 WHEREAS, an estimated 15 to 30 million people worldwide, predominantly  
5 women, have ME/CFS, and

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7 WHEREAS, government and organizational funding for research and education  
8 to recognize and treat ME/CFS is woefully inadequate

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10 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary  
11 International consider using the vast knowledge and resources Rotary has  
12 already developed and implemented to eradicate polio for the support of,  
13 encouragement of, and collaboration with those working to fund myalgic  
14 encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome research and education.

(End of Text)

## PURPOSE AND EFFECT

15 This resolution would leverage Rotary's worldwide reputation and expertise on  
16 polio eradication to raise awareness of the need to educate the public and medical  
17 practitioners on the importance of treating and ultimately finding a cure for those  
18 suffering from ME/CFS.

## FINANCIAL IMPACT

19 If implemented, this resolution would have a financial impact on RI which cannot  
20 be determined at this time. Cost would be dependent on the scope and extent of  
21 support provided by the RI Board for collaborating with those working on  
22 ME/CFS research.