

# RESOLUTION 19R-24

To request the Trustees to consider adding the elderly and aging as a seventh area of focus

**Proposer(s):** Rotary Club of Santa Cruz do Sul, District 4680, Brazil

**Endorsed by:** District 4680 through a district legislation meeting, Camaquã, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, 15 June 2019

1 WHEREAS, the world's population is aging, and

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3 WHEREAS, a large proportion of the elderly are vulnerable and in need of  
4 support, and

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6 WHEREAS, the elderly are largely no longer in the labor market and are  
7 dependent upon retirement and pension income or financial assistance from  
8 relatives or third parties, and

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10 WHEREAS, the public sector's investment in senior citizens, eldercare and  
11 housing for older people without families, or with distant family members, is too  
12 small to meet the needs of seniors, and

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14 WHEREAS, there is increasing global demand for projects and services that  
15 support the elderly: nursing homes, housing, health care, disease prevention and  
16 treatment, education, recreation, and sports activities for the elderly, and

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18 WHEREAS, the elderly are not included in any of Rotary's areas of focus and are  
19 therefore ineligible to receive financial assistance in the form of global grants.  
20 This makes it impossible for Rotary clubs and districts to carry out projects with  
21 Rotary Foundation funds to meet the growing demands of a population whose  
22 aging is now accelerating due to recent advances in healthcare

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24 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary  
25 International consider requesting the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation to  
26 consider adding the elderly and aging as a seventh area of focus to provide  
27 funding and support for projects that allow Rotary clubs and partners to prepare  
28 people for aging, and create facilities that can meet their needs, so that the aging  
29 can experience the joy of their later years in a safe, healthy, comfortable  
30 environment that enables them to interact positively with people of different  
31 generations.

(End of Text)

## **PURPOSE AND EFFECT**

1 Clubs often come to districts with projects for the elderly, especially the creation  
2 of retirement and assisted-living communities; their requests are generally not  
3 economic in nature. Frequently, they are faced with the reality that the elderly  
4 are not included in any of the areas of focus, and are therefore unable to benefit  
5 from global grant funding. After years of research and exchanging ideas with  
6 fellow members from various clubs around the world, we have realized this  
7 experience is common to all Rotarians and came to the conclusion that the best  
8 way to meet the needs of this large and significant segment of the world  
9 community is to propose to the Council on Resolutions a resolution requesting  
10 the Trustees to consider adding the elderly and aging as a new area of focus. If  
11 this proposal is approved, we can all present global projects, form partnerships  
12 with districts and clubs in other countries, and count on The Rotary Foundation  
13 to match funds raised by clubs, districts, and partners. Thus, our projects will  
14 meet the needs of all people, from prenatal to aged, not leaving any unattended.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

15 If implemented, this resolution would result in an increase in expenses for The  
16 Rotary Foundation.

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18 An additional area of focus would be required in order to provide global grants  
19 for activities in the elderly and aging field. Annual administrative expenses to  
20 support an additional area of focus are estimated at US\$300,000, which includes  
21 the modification of the existing grant application software.

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23 Although we are focusing on grant processing impact, there are additional  
24 administrative impacts in other areas, such as finance.