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ROTARY GIVE EVERY CHILD A FUTURE NEWSLETTER

March 2022

Vaccinations continue in Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvulu and Nauru with Tokelau and Cook Islands hoping to start their programs by [Immunisation week](#) 24-30 April. While the COVID pandemic has caused delays RGECAF is committed to delivering the vaccine programme for three years in each country from whenever they start.

On the fund raising front it has been a slow quarter with Omicron and the holiday season but if your club is planning events please let us know.

We are now raising our last \$700,000 so please continue to encourage your club and district to donate.

With RIPE Jennifer Jones planning visits to the Pacific over the next year to highlight Rotary Give Every Child A Future it's going to be a great year!.

<p>100,000 CHILDREN</p> <p>protected from rotavirus, pneumococcal disease and cervical cancer</p>	<p>3 vaccines</p> <p>RV, PCV and HPV</p>
<p>9 Pacific Island countries</p>	<p>'Down Under' Centenary project over 3 years</p>
<p>NZ\$4.5 million</p>	



Baby Rosalia is now protected after receiving her rotavirus vaccine in Tuvalu.

Thank you so much to every single Rotarian involved in the mammoth effort to raise funds for this programme. Your support means parents like Rosalia's can watch their children grow up knowing they're safer from preventable disease.

Right now there are many more babies like Rosalia in Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga, and Nauru receiving pneumococcal conjugate and rotavirus vaccines thanks to the Rotary Give Every Child A Future Partnership

Our plans for rolling out these vaccines in The Cook Islands and Tokelau have been delayed due to the prioritisation of COVID-19 vaccines for children and adolescents. However, the UNICEF Pacific team are aiming for rotavirus and pneumococcal conjugate to start rolling out there in the next couple of months, hopefully by the week of World Immunisation Week in April. Dates for the Niue launch are still being confirmed.

HPV vaccines, the third vaccine being funded by this partnership, have already launched in Nauru and Tuvalu but of course Tonga has been delayed. The other countries are still in the planning stages, with Vanuatu developing the training materials and Samoa having completed the readiness assessment. Health worker training has been conducted in every country.

Additional orders for all three vaccines and cold chain equipment will be placed by each country in March, as part of UNICEF's annual procurement process.

TONGA UPDATE

UNICEF was on the ground in the immediate aftermath of the emergency, leading the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) response and ensuring children and families have access safe drinking water as a top priority. They shipped 44 metric tons of emergency supplies to support the most vulnerable which include water, sanitation, and hygiene kits, jerry cans and buckets, and recreational kits for children.

The emergency response has now moved into a recovery operation. UNICEF is supporting Tongan communities to build back better. This includes helping strengthen household sanitation and hygiene, and providing psychological support to help children recover from the trauma.

UNICEF and COVAX

Along with partners, UNICEF has been leading the largest vaccine supply and delivery operation in history through the COVAX Facility, helping to ensure equitable access to quality-assured vaccines for people around the world.

COVAX

CEPI

Gavi
The Vaccine Alliance

unicef

World Health Organization



On 15 January 2022, a plane carrying 1.1 million COVID-19 vaccines, including the one billionth dose supplied through COVAX, touched down in Kigali, Rwanda.

COVAX has now delivered vaccines to 144 countries and territories, with 85 per cent of the doses shipped to 86 lower-income countries.

In recent months, COVID-19 vaccine supply to COVAX increased dramatically, with more than 323 million vaccines delivered in December 2021 – the biggest number of doses delivered in a single month since the first international delivery to Ghana on 24 February 2021. A significant proportion of these vaccines were generous dose donations from high-income countries, including a number donated by the governments of Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

COVID in the Pacific

Pacific Countries with previously no cases now have COVID emerging, including (as at time of writing) Solomon Islands, Palau, Kiribati, Samoa and Tonga. Many are in lockdown and Fiji remains the only Pacific country to have opened its borders to tourists and visitors. UNICEF is working to get vaccines, syringes and PPE to all countries to ensure communities are protected.



Health worker Tilesa packs vaccines in a vaccine carrier

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

The program in the Pacific continues to be going well, despite ongoing delays caused by the pandemic. The vaccination programs in each of the nine countries are progressively being rolled out and the project is on-budget with over 80% of the USD 3.9 million needed raised.

As reported in the last newsletter, the support from the Australian Government has allowed us to initiate the HPV program in Kiribati. Planning and procurement has begun with the aim of starting the vaccination program later this year. HPV vaccines are so important for women and girls in Kiribati and the long-term impact of this program cannot be underestimated.

We now have just USD 700,000 to raise to complete the project and make sure that we reach *every last child* in the Pacific. This is less than 20% of the total funds needed. So, we are almost there.

We are again seeking support from the Rotary Foundation and have a further four Global Grants in the pipeline. We have invited all Rotary Districts in Australia and New Zealand to support these grants with commitments of District Designated Funds. To date every District in New Zealand and almost every District in Australia have supported the project and currently five districts have already committed DDF to the latest tranche of Global Grants.

I want to, once again, thank everyone who has supported this important project which was established to celebrate the Centenary of Rotary in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific. The impact that this is having and will have on communities in the Pacific is amazing. Let's now finish the job.

For more information and to donate, please visit everychildafuture.com.

James Allen RGECAF Project Director RC Sydney

Here's how we have raised US\$3,171,000 so far

District Designated Funds	564,400	TOTAL	3,171,373
Clubs and Rotarians	759,629	TOTAL BUDGET	3,883,253
Other Foundations	201,851	EXPENDITURE TO DATE	1,369,285
Australian Government	859,473		
Global grants matching funds	787,020	BALANCE NEEDED	711,880

JENNIFER JONES, CHILD AND MATERNAL HEALTH AND RGECAF



IMAGINE ROTARY

Rotary International President for 2022-23 Jennifer Jones is planning a Global Impact tour visiting eight projects around the world highlighting the Rotary Foundation's seven areas of focus and End Polio Now. And she has chosen Rotary Give Every Child A Future as her Maternal and Child Health project of focus. A planning visit to UNICEF in Suva in this current year will be followed by a project visit in 2023. And of course Jennifer's International Convention will be in Melbourne from 27 to 31 May 2023. Jennifer is a wonderful story teller and plans to use these visits to tell Rotary's story.

Jennifer's theme is Imagine Rotary

As Rotarians of the Pacific we imagine a region where child health is equitable, where being born in a remote Pacific Island does not mean you are more likely to die before your fifth birthday because you cannot access the vaccines you need to protect you from diarrhoea, meningitis and pneumonia, or where your family loses a mother/wife/ auntie/sister to cervical cancer.

As Rotarians. through Rotary Give Every Child A Future we have been given the opportunity to participate in that dream and make it a reality. Find out how you can [Learn](#), [Donate](#) and [Share](#).

Join us, and be part of the story.



AUSSIE PEACE WALK 2022

Established by Kathleen and Harry Berg, Canberra held [two-day walking weekends](#) from 1992 until the cancelled event (due to COVID-19) of 2020. In 2021 the reins of its management were handed over to Rotary, managed by Event Director Chris Edwards ([Rotary Club of Hall](#)), himself a passionate walker and an Ambassador for [Australian Rotary Health](#), and his multi-club team. Renamed the [Aussie Peace Walk](#) the inaugural event of 2021 was a huge success with over AUD26,000 raised for Rotary Give Every Child A Future. The event ticked multiple boxes; promoting peace, fitness and fun at the same time raising funds and awareness of Rotary Australia's Centenary project to save lives in the Pacific, Rotary Give Every Child A Future. We are delighted that once again, in 2022, the event will donate all funds raised to RGECAF.

The 2022 event features seven walks from 7km to 42km with spectacular prizes from luxury accommodation to virtual world experiences. The Aussie Peace Walk runs from 25-27 March with an opening ceremony at Canberra Peace Bell on the Friday Evening and you can [register here](#).

Sadly, Harry passed away in February 2022 so this month's event will be extra special to those who loved and remember him. And thank you to everyone participating or involved. Your support for RGECAF is amazing!

Join the
Peace Walk

CANBERRA 26-27 March 2022

PROUDLY SUPPORTING
Rotary Zone 8
Give Every Child A Future

what country will you represent?

Register at AussiePeaceWalk.com.au