

Rotary Global Grant Approved to Train Health Promoters in Rural Bolivia

On April 12, 2018, The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International in Evanston, Illinois awarded a \$118,838 global grant to the Rotary Club of West Olympia, Washington, and the Rotary Club of Buena Vista-Surutu, Ichilo, Bolivia for a project entitled “Community Health Promotion in Rural Bolivia”. The purpose of the grant is to provide 40 villagers in 2 rural districts (each with 7 villages) with Community Health Promoter training over a period of two years, so they can perform life saving measures, suture wounds, assist with child birth, administer antibiotics, and educate their communities on disease prevention, family planning and access to contraception, nutrition, use of traditional medicinal plants, domestic violence, and child and adolescent health, all in coordination with local medical staff.

The project is a joint effort between the two Rotary Clubs and Etta Projects, a 501c(3) non-profit nongovernmental organization based in Tacoma, Washington and Montero, Bolivia, that was founded in 2003 and has been working in rural Bolivia ever since to honor the life and legacy of Etta Turner, a teenager who died in a bus accident in 2002 while she was in Bolivia as a Rotary International Exchange Student.

In addition to funds from the two Rotary Clubs, the project is also being funded with contributions from the Rotary Clubs of Federal Way, Des Moines/Normandy Park, Renton, South Kitsap, Gig Harbor Midday, Hawks Prairie–Lacey, and Poulsbo North Kitsap, as well from the Thurston County Rotary Water Projects Committee (a group of all nine Rotary Clubs in Thurston County, Washington that works on water and sanitation projects around the world) and the Black Hills High School Rotary Interact Club, and these funds were in-turn matched by the club’s respective Rotary Districts (Districts 5020 and 5030) and by The Rotary Foundation.



For more information (and updates on the project), please contact Bruce Smith of the Rotary Club of West Olympia at (360) 867-1862, or check the “Rotary Foundation and International Service Committee News” section of our club website at:

<http://www.westolympiarotary.org/>