

### **EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

The Gately Rotary Club of East London, embarked on a game changing project in Early Childhood Development some 3 years ago, in line with the primary focus area of Education, as identified by Rotary International.

The project has been labelled as a quantum leap project, within the Rotary community. This project has as its focus the training of 50 practitioners with National Qualification of NQF 4. These practitioners, upon graduation, are being deployed to 50 ECD Centres around the Border-Kei area affecting the lives of 3000 children under their direct care.

The Gately Club, together with 3 local East London Rotary Clubs, in collaboration with 3 Rotary clubs in the USA and the Rotary Foundation, have injected R3 million to date in this worthy project. Funds have also been allocated to educational toys, monitoring, positive parenting and essential equipment to capacitate these centres.

Funds raised through wine donations will directly benefit the Early Childhood Development Project and provide many children from a disadvantaged background with a much-improved opportunity to succeed in life. KFC through their JAM initiative also donates nutritious meals to all 3000 children at these centres plus an additional 6000 on a monthly basis. Gately Rotary Club warehouses the stock on behalf of KFC.



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### **YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Interact**

Interact is a programme for High School age youth. Gately rotary sponsors interact clubs at Alphendale High, Grens High, Kusile Comprehensive and Stirling High.

Part of the Interact support is funding the following programmes:

- District Youth Leadership Camp for 8 learners (2 from each club) over 4 days
- Soup kitchen sponsorship for each club
- 1 day "Find Your Voice" Leadership event for 80 learners who are invited from all the Interact clubs in East London area.

#### **Rotaract**

Gately Rotaract programme is for young adults from 18-30 years. Rotaract operates as a Rotary partner and the two clubs collaborate and work together in projects. The Gately Rotaract club is very vibrant and full of energy.



### YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMES

#### Find Your Voice

The "Find Your Voice programme" is run for Rotaract aged young adults over a period of 7 months. Twenty young adults from diverse backgrounds and vocations are taken through a rigorous leadership programme over 7 months. Each participant is carefully selected, and is required to attend all contact sessions (1 day per month), and submit a portfolio of evidence at the end of the program. Funding for this programme is provided by the Leadership Development Trust.



#### Masithethe Peer Counselling

This project is aimed at equipping learners to assist their peers who might find themselves in crisis and guide them to professional help. 40 learners attend a rigorous 2 week Peer Counselling training run by Masithethe (formerly Life Line) in East London.

### WAREHOUSE - ROMEX

ROMEX was established some 18 years ago and had as its main objective to improve the quality of life of the sick, frail and disabled members of society with medical equipment donated from generous sponsors in the medical field, that modernise their equipment on a regular basis. Over the years millions of rands worth of equipment have been sent to the Warehouse in East London and collected, safeguarded and distributed by volunteer Rotarians and distributed to recipients across South Africa.

Since the passing of Dr Henk Kayser, the Founder of Romex, the supply of Medical Equipment from abroad has by and large dried up and needs to be actively pursued again. The Rotary Foundation would be willing to enter into a Global Grant with Gately, who manages the Warehouse, provided an International Sponsor Club could be found to partner Gately and any other local Clubs who have a particular interest in this project. The Gately Warehouse has since taken on a life of its own with the warehousing of JAM products, a nutritious dry foodstuff, sponsored by KFC and fed to some 10,000 children on a daily basis, at Early Childhood Centres, around the Eastern Cape. The Gately Warehouse also stocks a vast quantity of foodstuff donated by Brand Houses of goods, where labels and packages have been damaged and earmarked for children orphanages and old age homes. The project is known as Robin Good. As Gately Club exclusively carries the cost of operating this warehouse at present, whilst benefits accrue to recipients across our District, it is envisaged to engage the private sector and other Rotary Clubs in a Joint Venture Not For Gain Partnership. This Vision is to be realized in the near future, whereby additional funds would be sourced from the Private Sector as well as the Rotary Foundation, in order to establish a First-Class facility to the benefit of many citizens across the entire District. Interested parties are invited to make contact with the Gately Rotary Club, in order to engage constructively in a meaningful way to improve the lives of so many people in desperate need of help.



### WORLDWIDE “END POLIO” CAMPAIGN

Poliomyelitis (polio) is a paralyzing and potentially fatal disease that still threatens children in some parts of the world. The poliovirus invades the nervous system and can cause total paralysis in a matter of hours. It can strike at any age but mainly affects children under five. Polio is incurable, but completely vaccine-preventable.

#### PolioPlus

In 1985, Rotary launched its PolioPlus program, the first initiative to tackle global polio eradication through the mass vaccination of children. Rotary has contributed more than \$1.6 billion and countless volunteer hours to immunize more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries. In addition, Rotary's advocacy efforts have played a role in decisions by donor governments to contribute more than \$7.2 billion to the effort.

#### Challenges

The polio cases represented by the remaining one percent are the most difficult to prevent, due to factors including geographical isolation, poor public infrastructure, armed conflict and cultural barriers. Until polio is eradicated, all countries remain at risk of outbreaks.

#### Ensuring Success

Every dollar Rotary commits to polio eradication will be matched two-to-one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation up to \$35 million a year through 2018. These funds help to provide much-needed operational support, medical personnel, laboratory equipment, and educational materials for health workers and parents. Governments, corporations and private individuals all play a crucial role in funding.

#### Rotary in Action

More than one million Rotary members have donated their time and personal resources to end polio. Every year, hundreds of Rotary members work side-by-side with health workers to vaccinate children in polio-affected countries. Rotary Members work with UNICEF and other partners to prepare and distribute mass communication tools to reach people in areas isolated by conflict, geography, or poverty. Rotary members also recruit fellow volunteers, assist with transporting the vaccine, and provide other logistical support.

