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Rotary Foundation Minute

HOW DO GLOBAL GRANTS MAKE SUSTAINABLE CHANGE IN THE WORLD?

One remarkable aspect of The Rotary Foundation is that opportunities for significant projects exist wherever there's a need — in large countries and small ones, in metropolitan areas and rural ones.

Global grant projects are built on international partnerships, and those collaborations can take many forms. A district in Canada may be the international sponsor, with a U.S. district as the host sponsor. A club in France could sponsor a global grant project in Germany. The need, not the location, determines the project.

Here's another example: Rotary clubs in Honduras and the U.S. worked together on a global grant project to provide eye care to people in Honduras. Members from both clubs provided vision services through local clinics. They evaluated more than 1,200 people and gave prescription eyeglasses to 600. A local nongovernmental organization will continue to provide glasses and medications to people who need them.

What does this mean for the community? Better eyesight can lead to better educational or occupational opportunities, which can mean a better quality of life for people.

Clubs around the world use these grants from the Foundation to make long-term, sustainable change. Every club has the opportunity to do this, one project at a time.

How do you want to make an impact in the world?

Until next week

PDG Zoë

Zoë van der Meulen Rotary District 7170 Foundation Chair Rotary Club of Unadilla, NY