

ROTARY DISTRICT 5470

International Service News

D-5470 International Service Newsletter #36

September 2022



The Rotary District 5470 International Service Committee educates and nurtures Rotarians and clubs working in the seven Areas of Focus.

- ◇ It connects clubs
- ◇ It builds relationships
- ◇ It educates, assists, and may

help finance clubs' international project development and fulfillment efforts.



It also inspires Rotarians like you who chose to visit international projects and see first-hand how to *Imagine Rotary*.

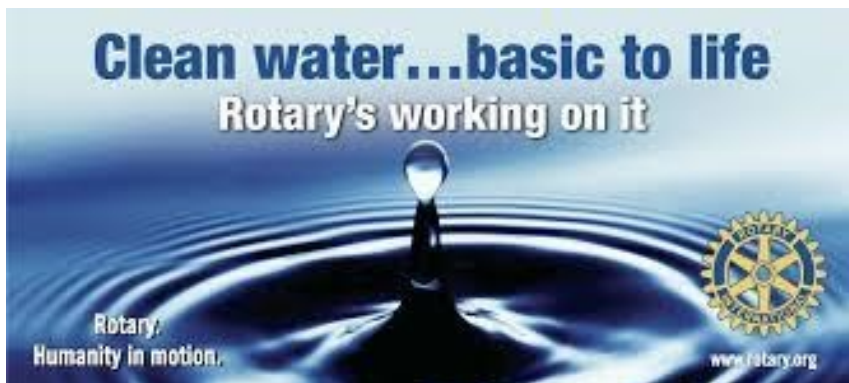
In this newsletter, we'll continue to show more of our many global grants as well as upcoming projects .

Share your club's international projects and interest with District International Service Chair [Becky Kiser](#) who will share with

“Volunteers are unpaid not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.” – Anonymous

In This Issue

- Women and Water: Investment rather than Charity/Colorado Springs Rotary Club
- Water Project Travel Opportunity-Kenya
- Emma Walker-Silverman wins RI Ph.D. Scholarship to Oxford/ Telluride Rotary Club
- Chinle Planting Hope-Update/ Glenwood Springs RC
- Rotary –Peace Corps Week
- My International Trip to Colorado Springs/RC of East Colorado Springs
- Global Grants



Women & Water: Investment rather than Charity

By Jon Kaufman, Colo. Springs RC



Global Water First was born from 13 years of experience in 15 countries with a project of Rotary clubs worldwide. H2openDoors has been a reliable, charity-driven solution for tens of thousands by installing 38 robust water purification facilities, each with the capacity of producing between 20,000 to 40,000 liters of safe drinking water every day. These will be water sales enterprises run by women, with expectations that the generated revenue can also fund the essential social services of their communities.



The equipment is manufactured by Innovative Water Technologies in Colorado using membrane technology to physically remove bacteria, virus and cysts from the raw water. Over the years, Global Water First has worked with the factory to develop various configurations, informed by field experience in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. These systems can turn virtually any raw water source into drinking water that exceeds the standards of WHO and the US EPA.

All configurations can operate on solar power or grid, and come with a 10 year guarantee from Global Water First, along with full mentoring to establish a thriving water enterprise, preferably run by women of the communities.

Global Water First projects can be funded in a variety of ways, including traditional grants. However, there are two significant and sustainable ways we are most enthusiastic about. First, equity investments in GWF. As a Delaware Public Benefit Corporation, we offer shares in our company using SAFE investment agreements that provide for full capital and market rate return.

We have also formed an engagement with Venn Foundation to enable robust Program-Related Investments as structured through the IRS since 1968 and expanded in 2016. PRI's are the brainchild of the Ford Foundation who petitioned Congress over 50 years ago to encourage charitable dollars be used for loans, equity, convertible debt and more to any type of entity (nonprofits, government, businesses, etc). By opening a specialized Donor Advised Fund (DAF) at Venn, the donor or private foundation, or even another DAF, can structure and syndicate a PRI. The back office services of Design, Due Diligence, fundraising, reporting and repayment is all handled by Venn, for an average of 2% of total investments.

For decades, Ford Foundation, the Gates Foundation and hundreds of other family and private foundations have been using PRI's to advance billions of dollars to projects that meet the same public benefit that are required in the tax code 501(c)3... but the difference is the capital can be returned and used all over again, with interest, and redeployed to fund new projects..

Global Water First and Program Related Investments:

Administered by Venn Foundation

Why PRIs are Important. Before we can fully appreciate why PRIs are important, we need to **understand why for-profit social enterprise itself is important**. There's a growing awareness in the social sector that the tax-exempt nonprofit model isn't adequately designed to solve all of our most deeply rooted social problems. There are many reasons for **this, including that tax-exempt nonprofits must follow strict** legal rules governing how they operate.

Women & Water: Investment rather than Charity (cont.)

By Jon Kaufman, Colo. Springs RC



There's a very good argument that many of the challenges of typical nonprofits - heavy reporting requirements, self-reappointing boards, poor access to capital, awful labor standards in the name of the public interest- make them poor vehicles for social change. It is time to rethink the structure of public benefit efforts and to try on the proven methods used for decades by Ford Foundation, Gates, MacArthur and so many others.

Venn Foundation is creating and managing a series of Program Related Investments (PRI's) for Global Water First to fund our Safe Water Enterprises (SWE's) in Africa, Latin America and Asia. Each PRI will be structured as a \$300,000 debt capital instrument which is enough capital to create four SWE's (average cost of \$75,000 each). As funds are directed from investors to the GWF PRI, disbursements are made to GWF in \$75k increments to fund the SWE projects.

As revenue from the SWE's comes into GWF, the PRI is "paid back" with interest over 2 to 5 years. Funds that are received back from GWF into the PRI are then disbursed to the investors of the PRI DAF accounts, to be redeployed into new projects or grants at their discretion.

This compounding model allows Investors, Foundations, Family Offices and other entities to fund GWF's high impact projects, receive the principal back with interest over time, and redirect the funds to new projects, thereby creating a leveraged impact with those dollars.

This compounding model allows Investors, Foundations, Family Offices and other entities to fund GWF's high impact projects, receive the principal back with interest over time, and redirect the funds to new projects, thereby creating a leveraged impact with those dollars.

For 2022-23 GWF is Seeking \$2.7 Million in Five Tranches of Funding through PRI's

GWF will be working with the Rotary Club of Kiev International Business and the Kiev Chamber of Commerce to provide immediate water quality solutions that will eventually convert to water sales enterprises run by women. The first \$330K of funding will go towards Military Mobile SunSprings. Cost is \$55,000 landed, and are intended to be available to the Ukraine military as civil defense water solutions, each with 20,000 liter daily capacity. We want to ship one system right now, and follow with 5 more. (See the Configurations section for photos and details.) Once hostilities end, we intend to place 6 additional permanent systems for women to run, earning significant income. Total systems: 11

Scheduled for September 2022, we will be installing a SunSpring system at a Maasai community near Amboselli National Park, and a RackSpring system at a Maasai village near Aitong. Both of these Kenyan communities lack safe water, and recognize a huge opportunity to harvest, bottle and sell. Each community expects net annual revenue exceeding \$200K. We have two similar projects lined up in Uganda, two in Monrovia, Liberia, two in South Sudan, and two in Ethiopia and Somalia. These 10 installations will average \$75,000 each. **Total systems: 10**

Mexico and Guatemala account for 11 of our previous 38 installation. We need to continue expansion in those countries, and continue with Costa Rica, and Panama. With Panama, we have profound opportunities to also set "Rotary Reefs" and develop an innovative solution to the challenges of coastal and archipelago communities. In development is a large electric ship that can carry payloads of over 65,000 pounds. This green boat can move 1000 20L bottles from the water enterprises on shore to areas unavailable by road, and collect the trash from the sensitive mangroves for recycling. **Total systems: 10 + electric ship**

Starting with Brazil, we have plans to install 3 solar-powered water purification plants along the San Francisco River. These will provide purified water in 20L bottles to large communities cut off from the water markets that only serve the urban areas. Each of these installations will use our "Enterprise in a Box" configuration that features a fully-equipped bottling building placed into a 40 foot container. The three containers will ship by sea to Brazil. The installation consists of sliding the buildings out of the containers, creating a two building operations and warehouse, all run by solar and battery power. **Total systems: 3 solarized**

For additional information, contact: Jon Kaufman <jkaufman@globalwaterfirst.com>

Water Project Travel Opportunity - Kenya

Oct. 23– Nov. 3, 2022

By Jon Kaufman, Colo. Springs RC

Service | Soul | Safari

H2OpenDoors and Global Water First presents

KENYA EXPEDITION

Join us as we
install two water enterprises,
 fit 1000 Maasai with new
reading glasses
 and put in two
RACHEL computer labs

MAASAI?

Maasai Community #1
Aitong in North Maasai Mara

Maasai Community #2
Near Amboseli National Park

KENYA

LOW / HILLS / PLATEAU / MTS.

200 mi / 200 km

Oct. 23 - Nov. 3, 2022

with optional extension to November 6 with specially curated experiences to be announced soon

\$4450 per person

Includes luxury accommodations, most meals, safari game drives, air travel within Kenya, ground transportation, park fees and guides. DOES NOT include air travel from or to USA, tips attraction fees.

New Dates/ Lower Cost

New Dates/ Lower Cost

GLOBAL WATER FIRST
Investing in Self-Reliance

Former Telluride RYE student Emma Walker-Silverman wins RI Ph.D. Scholarship to Oxford University Via Sarah Lavender Smith, Telluride Rotary Club

The Telluride Rotary Club is proud that a scholar they put forth as an applicant, Emma Walker-Silverman, has been awarded the prestigious Rotary International Global Grant Scholarship for \$30,000 to support her PhD studies and fieldwork at the University of Oxford. Emma, born and raised in Telluride, is doing valuable and timely research on refugees, with a focus on refugee migration in Turkey, to understand and reduce conflict and suffering among refugees and host countries. Her work furthers Rotary International's mission of peace and conflict resolution. Many thanks to Rotary District 5470 for selecting and supporting Emma. Emma got her start as a Rotary ambassador by leading the Telluride High School Interact Club (a community service club sponsored by Telluride Rotary) and going on a life-changing year abroad to Turkey as part of Rotary Youth Exchange while in high school.



The scholarship will cover tuition to complete her PhD in International Development at the University of Oxford. While her program is based in the UK, her fieldwork focuses on Turkey, where she has spent a great deal of time ever since she was a Rotary Youth Exchange student to Istanbul during her sophomore year at Telluride High School.

Walker-Silverman was born and raised in Telluride, the daughter of Rick Silverman and Lindsey Walker, and graduated from Telluride High in 2013. Early on, she developed a passion to study group identities and refugees in the interest of promoting peace and reducing humanitarian crises. She's currently living in Istanbul and will return to Oxford in October.

In her scholarship application, she explained that her research is driven by questioning, why do some people respond to refugees with hostility, even violence, while others take to the streets to declare "Refugees Welcome Here"? How might social media, often maligned for inflaming xenophobia, be used to improve local attitudes towards refugees?

"My doctoral research seeks to understand differing host community responses to refugees and test how social media might be harnessed to reduce rather than exacerbate intergroup conflict between locals and refugees," said Walker-Silverman. "I focus on Turkey, home to more refugees than anywhere in the world, where social media has played a key role in shaping increasingly hostile attitudes towards the millions of Syrians, Afghans, and others seeking refuge in the country. I use a combination of social media content analysis, focus groups, interviews, and experimental interventions using social media itself. From this, I hope to distill globally applicable lessons on how to reduce intergroup conflict in a context of ever-increasing displacement."

Sarah Lavender Smith, president of Telluride Rotary Club for 2021-22, led a local committee that interviewed and recommended Walker-Silverman for the grant. "We found Emma to be highly articulate, intellectually brilliant, and passionate about Rotary's mission to advance peace and goodwill. We also found her field of study and career goals, while focused on Turkey and its refugee population, to be applicable to help promote peace and reduce conflicts globally," Lavender Smith said.

Walker-Silverman credits the high school Rotary Youth Exchange program for putting her on a life-changing path that led to her current work.

Former Telluride RYE student Emma Walker-Silverman wins RI Ph.D. Scholarship to Oxford University (cont.) Via Sarah Lavender Smith, Telluride Rotary Club

"That year (2010-11) was transformative in so many ways and gave me a connection with Turkey I never could have forged had I only moved here as an adult," she said. "It is no exaggeration to say that all of the work I have done since finishing university, from my Fulbright research in Izmir to my current doctoral project, can be traced directly back to that opportunity" to live with a family in Istanbul, and learn the language, as a high school student.

Walker-Silverman stood out among many applicants also pursuing the scholarship for advanced degrees. "It's competitive because she went against individuals who were nominated by various Rotary clubs in a district that spans the majority of Colorado," said Kate Davis, scholarship chair for Rotary District 5470. Davis said Walker-Silverman impressed the committee with her fieldwork in Turkey, her dedication to mastering the language, her insights into global problems, and her confidence.

"Scholarship recipients are asked to give speeches and become engaged with their host club. Emma shone in her interview," Davis added.

Walker-Silverman has received numerous scholarships and awards throughout her academic career, including a Fulbright for research following her undergraduate study at Stanford University. But this Rotary scholarship, she said, "is by far the most generous funding I have received and will allow me to focus my full time and energy on completing my research. In addition, the scholarship brings with it further connection to the global Rotary community in the form of a hosting club in Oxford and a cohort of fellow scholars that I will join this autumn, adding a human dimension to the academic experience. I'm deeply grateful to the Telluride Rotary Club for their warm and unwavering support during this extended application process, and to District 5470 and Rotary International for putting their faith in my work."

After completing her degree, Walker-Silverman plans to continue applying her research training to reduce intergroup conflict, focusing on refugee-host community tensions.

"As conflict and climate change continue to drive displacement, a key facet of adaptation will be learning to live with one another in such circumstances without tearing each other apart," she said. "Whether this pathway brings me into academia, policy work, or humanitarianism, I will be putting to work the skillset I am acquiring now."

Chinle Planting Hope - Update Navajo Nation Project By Nancy Bo Flood, Glenwood Springs RC

School year has begun!

Approximately 450 subscriptions of Highlight's HIGH FIVE children's "learning and literacy" magazine were ordered – Made possible because of funds donated by individuals of the Glenwood Springs Noon Rotary. First, I share this quote said to the Read at Home by one of the preschool teachers:

"Parents have repeatedly expressed. 'This means so much. Someone cares.' Their child has a new magazine to read with the family. Receiving and sharing is an important connection, emotionally and educationally, between child, family, teachers and school. I'm sure it sounds over-stated - how can one children's magazine mean so much? But imagine not having any library, no bookstores, no way to get something new for your child to read unless you drive nearly 100 miles."

"Read at Home" continues to provide subscriptions to individual preschool/ Headstart children. The magazines arrive at the school.

Teachers distribute each issue to each child and then during class time, they read the stories together and do the literacy "games and activities" together. Children then take their magazine home and share reading with their family. At the present we continue to provide HIGH FIVE magazine subscriptions for hundreds of children on the Navajo Nation, the Shoshone-Bannock Reservation (Idaho) and for Yup'ik children in Alaska. At this new site in Alaska, 50 children (kindergarten, first and second graders) will receive individual subscriptions



A note about the new site, St. Mary's school, from Read at Home board member, Kathleen Hayes, who taught at this school years ago:

Some information about St. Mary's, the school is located about 100 miles from the mouth of the Yukon, St. Mary's is a Yup'ik village in SE Alaska. The village native population is approximately 250. The village has a public school that parents have created. For more information about the school, check out their website: <https://www.smcsd.us/>.



Also "new," is the return of a former site in southern Arizona, the Gila River reservation area. They responded to our emails and asked for assistance to provide subscriptions for the 21 families participating in the early-literacy FACE program (Families in Association with Community). The school, Casa Blanca Community School, also hopes to purchase subscriptions for all preschool and kindergarten students. The director of this program was introduced to Highlights/ High Five a few years ago, pre-Covid, through the "Read at Home" program.

To read with confidence and enjoyment, is an important skill parents can give their children. Love of reading begins at infancy and continues as parent and child enjoy sharing a book, singing a song, humming a lullaby, or listening to a story together. Thank you Glenwood Springs Rotarians for helping make this gift possible.

For additional information, contact Nancy Bo Flood <wflood@hotmail.com>

2022 Rotary-Peace Corps Week 19-23 September!

Hosted by Partnering for Peace Via RI Service and Engagement

The week of Sept. 19-23 is an opportunity for members of both organizations to collaborate, share their resources, and co-create projects that will have an even greater impact. It is hosted by Partnering for Peace, a group of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who are also Rotary members and are passionate about the pact we can make together through the official Rotary-Peace Corps partnership.



im-

The week's theme is Peacebuilding on the Ground and starts on Monday, 19 September with a panel webinar including:

- Chief Financial Officer of Open Doors Asheville, Keevon Baten, who is a Founding Rotaractor Club President, and Returned Peace Corps Volunteer;
- President Emeritus of the National Peace Corps Association and Former President of the Alliance for Peacebuilding, Charles Dambach, who was nominated for the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize and received the 2017 Institute for Economics and Peace Leadership and Service for Peace Award;
- Past Rotary International Director Peter Kyle who has been an active peace builder and former chair of the Rotary Peace Center Committee; and,
- U.S. Representative for Frontline Defenders, Ana Patel, who is a Rotary Peace Fellow, Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, and a Rotary Representative to UN Women.

The week's other events include:

- **Tuesday, 20 September** - What does "Peacekeeping on the Ground" mean to you? (Social Media Discussion on Partnering for Peace's Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn)
- **Wednesday, 21 September** – Breaking Down the Design of a Rotary-Peace Corps Partnership Project with Peace Corps, Namibia, Director of Programming and Training, Jane O'Sullivan (Webinar, 11 am EDT)
- **Thursday, 22 September** – Rotary-Peace Corps Partnership Question & Answer "Drop In" Session with Rotary International, Partnerships Manager, Carrie Golden, and Peace Corps, Office of Strategic Partnerships & Intergovernmental Affairs, Acting Director, Ted Adams (Zoom Meeting, 10 am EDT)
- **Friday, 23 September** – Information Sessions: From Rotary to Peace Corps: Continuing Your Legacy of Service (Webinar, 2 pm EDT)
- **Friday, 23 September** - Deepen Your Impact: Get Started on Your Journey to Become a Rotary Peace Fellow (Webinar, 3 pm EDT)
- **Friday, 23 September** – Virtual Cultural Happy Hour (Zoom Meeting, 4 pm EDT)

You can register for events here. <<https://www.partneringforpeace.org/events/rotary-peace-corps-week-2022>>

My Rotary International Experience

Two weeks of wonder in Colorado Springs

By Yeshimebet Getahun; Special Task Force Rotary Club of East Colorado Springs



Although I'm a Rotary member of District 5470 and the Special Task Force of the Rotary Club of East Colorado Springs, I'm Ethiopian and live in Ethiopia so one of the international pieces of my Rotary adventure was as an attendee at *It's a Party* in Colorado Springs in August.

I serve on the International Service Committee as the liaison between activities in Ethiopia and international activities in Colorado. My wonderful trip host was a great friend of mine and fellow Rotarian, Rebekah Kiser. Of course, during our trip home from the airport Becky and her daughter, Melanie, made our first stop a coffee shop where I enjoyed a good macchiato, my favorite. We had to experience the American way of drinking coffee!

My journey in Colorado Springs continued well. The first week I completed my Red Badge program by attending our club's board meeting with our District Governor, Sam Kevan, and his wife, Lana. Specific issues, activities, successes, and concerns were raised

I also had the opportunity to attend meetings at the Broadmoor Rotary Club and the Colorado Springs Rotary Club. It was interesting to note the differences between clubs and how they conduct their meetings. They all have one thing in common, their hospitality. Our Special Task Force meeting was conducted by Rotarian Nicola Demme who taught on resilience.

The most successful and full of joy event was August 9 *It's a Party*. We met our goal of fun and synergy while uniting in service. We experienced a great vibe. Thank you Colorado Springs Rotarians for making me feel so loved and welcomed. You must be proud of yourselves!

Now, I just hope you will visit me with the D-5470 International Service Committee in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in May 2023!

Global Grants Projects Involving Our clubs

Many of our clubs are the International Partners of Global Grants (GG) Projects around the world.

Our clubs also contribute to projects conducted by other districts.

Whether your club is the international partner in a project or is simply contributing to a project, remember that D-5470 is usually prepared to match your club's contributions from District Designated Funds (DDF).

To request D-5470 DDF, you need to complete a simple request form and send it to the D-5470 Global Grants Chair, **Melanie Phelps** <melaniephe@aol.com>

Contact Us

Do you want to have your International Service project displayed in a future newsletter? Send the story and a few photos to bkiser@aol.com or pjeschofnig@gmail.com



Water & Sanitation Projects Around the World

Global Grants Basics:

- Large, long-term projects
- Sustainable, measurable outcomes
- Alignment with Areas of Focus
- Real community needs (via needs assessment)
- International partnerships (frequent communication)
- Implementation plan
- Proper Stewardship of funds
- Involve Rotary clubs in two districts
- Minimum budget of US\$30,000

For detailed instructions on Global Grants applications, check out David Smith's **GUIDE TO GLOBAL GRANTS:**
<http://www.rotary5470.org/SitePage/global-grants>

If you would like to be the international partner of a Global Grant or simply contribute to an existing D-5470 Global Grant, contact the Global Grants Committee chair Melanie Phelps melaniephe@aol.com