



December 2007

## Inside this Issue:

- ❖ [Gates Foundation Challenge Grant](#)
- ❖ [Monthly Update](#)
- ❖ [AFP Surveillance](#)
- ❖ [Progress Report](#)
- ❖ [Tools & Resources](#)
- ❖ [Media Relations Corner](#)

## What's New?

### December Open Projects List

The PolioPlus Partners program expects to receive over US\$5 million in project requests in 2007-08. The December PolioPlus Partners [Open Projects List](#) (OPL) contains five polio eradication projects in need of a total of **US\$1,293,128**.

### The Rotarian – ROTARY INSIDER

The 'Rotary Insider' section on page 71 of the December 2007 issue of *The Rotarian* focuses how District 6900 has raised a significant amount of funds for PolioPlus Partners.

Read more on page 2 of this newsletter.

### **Need more information?**

Contact the PolioPlus program -  
Phone: 1-847-866-3305  
Fax: 1-847-866-0269  
E-mail: [polioplus@rotary.org](mailto:polioplus@rotary.org)

## Gates Foundation Challenge Grant

**RI and Gates Foundation commit US\$200 million for intensified push to finish polio** On 26 November a worldwide announcement was made about the \$100 million challenge grant to The Rotary Foundation from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.  
[Read more](#)

The Rotary Foundation Trustees and Board of Directors have endorsed the conceptual plan to raise US\$100 million in matching funds over a three-year period and more details will be available in the coming months. In the mean time, the announcement continues to receive media attention around the globe. [Read more](#)

Read the [joint letter](#) from the RI President and the Chair of The Rotary Foundation Trustees

For video and photos go to: [www.thenewsmarket.com/rotaryinternational](http://www.thenewsmarket.com/rotaryinternational)

For more information visit [www.polioeradication.org](http://www.polioeradication.org)

**PolioPlus Partners is counting on individual, club and district fundraising efforts to provide full funding for all project requests this year.** Several questions have surfaced in regards to the status of PolioPlus Partners program funding in light of the Gates Challenge grant. Please note the following:

- Cash and District Designated Funds (DDF) donations to PolioPlus Partners, effective 1 December 2007 through 30 June 2008, will be counted towards matching the Gates Foundation Challenge Grant.
- 2007-08 cash and DDF donations to PolioPlus Partners will continue to be matched US\$.50 for every \$1.00 contributed, up to US\$1.5 million.

We must stay focused on the current needs for PolioPlus Partners in an effort to provide full funding for all the projects on the Open Projects List.

## Monthly Update

### **Advisory Committee on Poliomyelitis Eradication (ACPE) 27-28 November**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ACPE was convened in Geneva, Switzerland to provide the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) with expert advice on:

- program priorities and policies for interrupting wild poliovirus transmission (WPV) worldwide;
- limiting the international spread of circulating polioviruses;
- the GPEI program of work for research and product development for the interruption of transmission and the post-eradication era.

**India and Pakistan cricketers "bowl out" polio** [Read more](#)

**Volunteers travel to Bangladesh to immunize children against polio** [Read more](#)

**Singer Beyoncé Knowles immunizes Ethiopian children against polio** [Read more](#)

**Rotarians travel to Ethiopia to immunize children against polio** [Read more](#)

**Embark on a virtual tour of "Whatever Happened to Polio?"** an exhibit of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History that chronicles the history of the disease and efforts to eradicate it. [Click here](#)

**Oral polio vaccine remains tool of choice in eradication** [Read more](#)



## AFP Surveillance

Poliovirus surveillance is the systematic testing of all identified clinical cases of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP). The role of AFP surveillance is to:

- Identify high-risk areas or groups
- Monitor progress
- Certify a country polio-free

Surveillance is needed for the eradication of polio because it identifies those areas where polio is continuing and where mop-up (house-to-house) immunizations need to take place in order to complete eradication.

Surveillance is also needed for certification so that we can be sure no polio is occurring in the region and finally no polio in the world. We must document by surveillance that there has been no polio anywhere in the world for three years to receive final certification that polio has been completely eradicated.

### The PolioPlus Partners program funds surveillance activities.

Surveillance projects are submitted by Rotarians in polio-endemic, importation, and high-risk countries. These Rotarians are responsible for working with their Ministries of Health, representatives from the World Health Organization, the United States Centers for Disease Control, UNICEF, and other local public health representatives to submit PolioPlus Partners project requests.

#### 2007-08 PolioPlus Partners Surveillance Projects

**Project Name:** 2007 Nepal Surveillance

**Project ID:** P308NPL001

**OPL Funding Deadline:** 1-Dec-2007

**Balance Needed:** US\$103,745

**Status:** PAID

Funds covered the cost of four surveillance vehicles.

**Project Name:** 2008 DR Congo Surveillance

**Project ID:** P308COD001

**OPL Funding Deadline:** 15-May-08

**Balance Needed:** US\$123,257

**Status:** OPEN

Funds will cover the cost of outboard boat motors.

Click [here](#) to contribute to this project

## Progress Report

Visit the Global Polio Eradication Initiative Web site for the most up-to-date progress report information, including:

- ⇒ [Total cases in 2007 compared to 2006, including case breakdown and information by country](#)
- ⇒ [Monthly Situation Report](#)

## Tools & Resources

New! [2007 Facts](#) The Rotary Foundation

### The Rotarian – ROTARY INSIDER

The ‘Rotary Insider’ section on page 71 of the December 2007 issue of *The Rotarian* focuses on how District 6900 has raised a significant amount of funds for PolioPlus Partners.

*Rotarians have been committed to eradicating polio for decades and to date have raised more than US\$633 million to help rid the world of the virus. But in one district, a trip to India for a Subnational Immunization Day was the catalyst for an unprecedented fundraising effort.*

*“There’s no other experience like going over there for a week,” says Robert Hall, past governor of District 6900 (Georgia, USA). He’s been spreading the word about the urgency of the fight against the disease since November 2006, when he and fellow Rotarians traveled to the state of Uttar Pradesh India. “It is now clear that we can eradicate polio,” he says, adding that India PolioPlus Committee Chair Deepak Kapur and others in the country “have their act together.”*

*As of mid-September, District 6900 had raised more than \$430,000 for PolioPlus Partners. [Read more](#)*



Photo by Alyce Henson/Rotary Images.

## Media Relations Corner

Listed below are several recent media stories that have featured or mentioned Rotary’s work with polio eradication. Links to some of these stories can be found on the [Rotary in the News](#) section of the RI Web site.

### Life Science Weekly

December 11, 2007

Rotary International and Gates Foundation Together Commit \$200 to Eradicate Polio

### Associated Press Worldstream

December 8, 2007

Bangladesh starts campaign to vaccinate 25 million children against polio

### Voice of America News

November 29, 2007

20-Year Battle Against Polio Nears End

### Agence France Presse

November 27, 2007

Gates Foundation, Rotary pledge 200 million for polio fight

### The Boston Globe

November 27, 2007

Gates group gives \$100m to polio fight  
Rotary pledges to match grant over next 3 years

### Chicago Tribune

November 27, 2007

Gates Foundation, Rotary pledge \$200 million to fight polio: Gates Foundation puts up a \$100 million for Rotary to match in fundraising

### Los Angeles Times

November 27, 2007

Bill Gates charity to give \$100 million to help polio eradication campaign

### Africa News

November 21, 2007

Polio - Rotary Club Takes Fight to Abuja

### Business Recorder

October 28, 2007

'15 polio cases reported in Pakistan during 2007'

### The Daily Trust

October 16, 2007

Govt to kick off polio immunization campaign