

**World Rotary AIDS Project
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

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Co-Editors
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The World Rotary AIDS Project (WRAP) began as a grass roots movement of clubs from around the world exhibiting AIDS projects at the RI Convention in San Antonio in June 2001. All were interested in the mission of the newly formed WRAP: to encourage Rotary clubs to undertake AIDS related projects and to encourage Rotary International to become a leader in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

This newsletter is a place where Rotary Clubs from around the world can share their stories and build a network which will make a difference. The Rotary AIDS Project of Los Altos, California publishes it three times a year on behalf of WRAP. Our goal is to send a copy of this newsletter to every Rotarian in the world concerned about HIV/AIDS. Please feel free to pass it on. Past copies can be downloaded from www.rotaryaidsproject.org. To be added or deleted from our distribution list, please email newsletter@rotaryaidsproject.org.

Please tell us about what your club, district, or members have been doing in your local community so that we can share it with others. Pictures are welcome. Send your contribution to stories@rotaryaidsproject.org. Submissions for the next issue are due in December 2002.

**Rotary AIDS Project Distributes Book
HIV, Health & Your Community in Barcelona**

The Rotary AIDS Project (RAP) was at the RI convention in Barcelona to distribute copies of the book *HIV, Health & Your Community: A Guide for Action* and the video *The Los Altos Story*. Hundreds of Rotarians from around the world stopped by our booth to share stories of activities in their countries, talk about ways to get Rotary more involved, and take free copies of the book and video back to their clubs and clinics in their communities.

The books, videos, DVD's and the booth itself were paid for as part of a \$60,000 project funded in part by a grant from the David & Lucile Packard Foundation. The booth was manned by Los Altos Rotarians Dude and Barb Angius, Mary Prochnow, Jean Newton, Dick Hasenpflug, Lee Lynch and Marlene Cowan.

In addition to giving out over 300 copies of *HIV, Health & Your Community* and even more copies of *The Los Altos Story*, over 350 Rotarians signed up to become part of the World Rotary AIDS Project. Marlene Cowan reports: "We noted much more interest in receiving HIV/AIDS materials than at the RI Convention in San Antonio, Texas a year ago. All the RAP members were kept busy manning the booth and talking to the many visitors from many countries, including many handsomely-dressed Africans in long robes."



Marlene Cowan talks with visitors to the RAP booth.

In addition to making new friends and distributing free copies of *HIV, Health & Your Community* and *The Los Altos Story*, the RAP volunteers talked about their Project Match program to help clubs from the U.S. and Europe find clubs in developing countries they can work with in the fight against HIV/AIDS, RAP's successful AIDS Symposium Program, and this newsletter. For more information on RAP and its many projects, please contact us at:

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Marlene Cowan, Lee Lynch, Dick Hasenpflug, Jean Newton, Mary Prochnow, Barbara and Dude Angius at the end of a long day manning the RAP booth

Get Your Free Copy of *HIV, Health & Your Community: A Guide for Action*

HIV/AIDS Education Project

Our Goal

- To provide health care workers with practical information about HIV/AIDS
- To motivate community leaders to take action to fight this lethal disease

The Plan

Free distribution to community leaders and healthcare workers of *HIV, Health and Your Community: A Guide to Action* — a comprehensive guide with non-technical language that explains HIV from A to Z.

ASK US how you can help.
 Join us in the global fight against AIDS.

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The ROTARY AIDS PROJECT is distributing free copies of *HIV, Health and Your Community: A Guide for Action*, a comprehensive, easy-to-understand guide to HIV/AIDS. The book is equally welcome in a rural village in southern Africa or a major city in Thailand. Intended by its authors, Dr. Reuben Granich and Dr. Jonathan Mermin, as a manual for people confronting the HIV epidemic in their communities, it is easily accessible to those without medical or technical knowledge and without prior training in the prevention of HIV or the care of people with AIDS.

Topics range from the biology of the virus to designing prevention programs, from the epidemiology of the disease to writing grant proposals. The authors discuss the risk factors for infection and suggest helpful methods for explaining them and assisting people change risky behaviors. Instead of extensive discussions of medical treatments not available to the vast majority of people with HIV, the book focuses on public health interventions possible in less developed settings. An appendix aimed at readers with more health training discusses common HIV-related illnesses and their treatments. Illustrations are used throughout the book to highlight important topics and to make the text more understandable. Bunmi Makinwa of UNAIDS (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS) calls the book “*Clear, concise and accessible.*”

Free copies of the book, along with copies of the award winning video, *The Los Altos Story*, are available to any Rotary club in Africa, Asia, or any other developing country. Free copies of the book are also available to any clinic or other medical facility in these countries which is supported either by a Rotary Club in that country or a Rotary Club in the U.S. or Europe. If you would like a copy, please email us at order@rotaryaidsproject.org or order online at www.rotaryaidsproject.org.

We would also like to talk to Rotarians who are active in HIV/AIDS programs within their region or country and who would like to take responsibility for the distribution of these materials in their area. If you are interested, please contact Richard Hasenpflug at richard@hasenpflug.com. This could be an important project for your club. All costs will be paid by the Rotary AIDS Project.

Rotary Club of Gaborone (DISTRICT 9250) Builds a Day Care Center for AIDS Orphans

The impact of HIV/AIDS on Botswana is staggering. The infection rate of 36% is the highest in the world. It is predicted that life expectancy in Botswana could fall as low as 29, according to a study by the US census department. President Festus Mogae says that his country is facing extinction. However this tiny African nation is a leader in the war against the AIDS epidemic. There is a heroic effort to upgrade the public health infrastructure and anti-retroviral drugs are being provided to the 300,000 infected people in Botswana.

The devastating epidemic has left a heritage of 40 million AIDS orphans in Africa. There is no doubt that in a few years time Botswana will face a catastrophic situation involving AIDS orphans whose parents and other close relatives have died from the disease. For this reason the members of the Rotary Club of Gaborone have decided to direct their efforts in the fight against AIDS into the care of AIDS orphans. The Club has joined hands with the Tirisanyo Catholic Commission to develop a day care center to cater to the needs of 300 orphans. Working together, they have acquired a plot of land with the intention to raise funds for the construction of a day care center.

The Tirisanyo Catholic Commission is the development arm of the Catholic Church in Botswana and presently runs a day care center in Mogoditshane, located in a suburb of Gaborone. The existing center serves a population of 140 children but it is expected that this number will rise to a minimum of 300 children within two years. This is beyond the capacity of the existing facility. The estimated building costs of the center are \$350,000 (US dollars). The costs of the buildings are not eligible for Matching Grants for Rotary International, therefore direct grants are being sought. The Rotary Club of Gaborone has raised substantial funds by sponsoring an International Dinner as well as a Rotary Walk. The Wheel Club of Gaborone has also made a substantial contribution. At this time, the Rotary Club of Minnetonka, Minnesota



Sr. Angela giving drinks to some of the Mogoditshane orphans during a lunch break,

will be contributing to the construction of the toilet block. Help is being sought from other Rotary clubs in the US, Europe, UK and Cyprus. Additional help is being sought from the government of Botswana as well as private business in Botswana.

Rotarian Jim Parton, AIDS Project Coordinator, says *"We realize that this is an ambitious project but with the help of our world wide Rotary family we are confident that we can succeed. We are intending to raise the funds and to complete the project during the 2001/2002 Rotary Year and show that "Mankind is Our Business."*

For more information, please contact:

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Presentation of Christmas gifts to some of the orphan children in December 2001. Presenters are Dympna O'Reilley and Jim Parton, AIDS Committee Chairman.



Some of the "Project Team" who will manage the Mogoditshane construction program.

District 9350 Forms AIDS Committee for Rotarians in Capetown, South Africa Area

Corrine Hudson sends information about the newly formed district 9350 AIDS Committee. Corrine is a Rotarian with the Rotary Club of Newlands and a representative of HIV/AIDS sub-committee to District Public Health within District 9350. She is also the founder and director of the Newlands Club project – a pilot project for developing and capacity building alternative community care for Orphans, as opposed to institutionalized care for children in need.

Corrine writes *"District 9350, which is in Southern Africa, including South Africa, Namibia and up into Angola is a huge district. Therefore the District AIDS committee is made of Rotarians from Clubs in and around Cape Town, South Africa. The distances are too far for other clubs to be involved. The committee has been meeting for about 9 months. In April 2001 the District Governor held the first District AIDS awareness seminar for local Clubs within District 9350 and a sub-committee to District Public Health was set up."*

At this time, the District 9350 Clubs are engaged with the following:

- **Signal Hill:** HOPE project - a dedicated ward at Tygerberg Hospital for rooming in and transition phase from hospital back to home, alliance includes the German speaking Catholic Community and others groups
- **Waterfront:** Massive helium balloon AIDS awareness project.
- **Kromboom:** Home based care training opportunities through the South African Red Cross, AIDS orphans
- **Hout Bay:** Operation Medical Hope – ante and post natal clinic in Hout Bay to counter infant mortality
- **Newlands:** Alternative-care for orphans – a community-based foster parent support programme with UK Club, Ashford
- **Cape Town:** Fund Raising for Kidzpositive with patron/satirist Pieter Dirk Uys

For additional information regarding any of these projects please contact:
chudson@wesbank.co.za

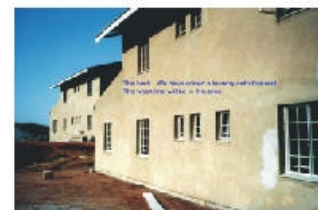
Makaphutu Children's Village Makes Progress!!!

Reg Ling (Itchen Valley, District 1110) reports wonderful progress for the combined efforts of the South Africa-United Kingdom Rotary Clubs in the construction of the Makaphutu Children's Village for AIDS orphans. This story was detailed in WRAP Newsletter #4, but good news is always welcome!

The planning, cost control and supervision of the building has been undertaken by members of the Rotary Club of Hillcrest. Local emerging contractors have been used for all the work to help create employment in the area. The building team is fully engaged on the site and the shells of the first three cottages are built with roofs on two of the buildings. The cottage should be habitable early this month and the final equipping and furnishing will then take place. A lawn and garden will be planted, thanks to donations.

The children will move in mid-September!!

Reg also reports that the Rotary Foundation Matching Grant Application for a vehicle was approved. A Toyota vehicle for the village has been purchased. This was the result of another Rotary matching grant and the good efforts of the Rotary Club of Hamble Valley in England. The Rotary sign-writing has been completed. The Rotary Club of Hillcrest was able to negotiate special terms. The dealership provided the diesel vehicle at cost plus many "free"



extras and the satellite tracking device at half price. The vehicle is to take the young children to school and to help with the grannies outreach project.

For more information, please contact:
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Los Altos Interact Club (DISTRICT 5170) Sells Zulu Badges to Benefit Sandown Clinic



The Interact Club at Los Altos High School has taken on a project in collaboration with the Rotary Clubs of Sandown, South Africa and Los Altos. The Sandown Rotarians have organized friends and relatives of Zulu AIDS patients in the area for the making of "Red Ribbon" beaded badges that represent the fight against HIV. In the picture on the left, Jennifer Hsiaw is selling the badge to another student. The Interactors were quite successful in selling the badges and netted \$760 to be sent to the Rotary Club of Sandown, South Africa. These badges became quite a fashion statement on Campus! The president of the Club, Linette Park, and the Interact District AIDS Coordinator was particularly involved.

If your club would like to participate in such a project to benefit either Sandown or your own associated clinic, please contact Marlene Cowan at Cowantwo@aol.com or stories@rotaryaidsproject.org. This is a wonderful project, easy to do, and can benefit many needy individuals.

Kenya AIDS Intervention/Prevention Project Group (KAIPPG) Seeks Contacts with Rotarians for Collaborative Projects

We have recently been contact by Janet Feldman, the director of the International wing of KAIPPG – Kenya AIDS Intervention/Prevention Project Group – with offices in Rhode Island, USA and headquarters in Mumias in rural Western Kenya.

KAIPPG is a grass roots organization that operates on a bare bones budget funded with grants from international sources. Much of its work is carried on through the generosity of volunteers and in coordination with other programs and organizations. KAIPPG operates or coordinates a variety of programs, as listed below.

1. The “Advocacy through Drama” program uses the medium of theatre to present HIV/AIDS education. This is an effective way to provide education in a culture where storytelling is a tradition and illiteracy is high.
2. Mobile clinics for maternal-child care
3. Home visits for 178 home-based care clients.
4. A Dairy Co-op, sponsored by local couples who have purchased several cows and started a dairy business, is working with KAIPPG to donate milk to AIDS orphans.
5. The Mungu’ngu Self Help Group consists of individuals with a variety of physical and mental handicaps who have organized themselves into a community to provide training in job skills.
6. The Musukoto Joint Farmers Group is working with KAIPPG to learn more efficient farming methods to increase crop yield and improve a mechanism for better nutrition for families.

Janet writes *“Whether we focus on peace and conflict resolution, AIDS, youth and women, or all of the above, we do hope to make connections with Rotary International and Rotary Clubs in the USA and worldwide.”*

If your club has an interest in learning more about the KAIPPG projects please contact:

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**RAP wishes each of our readers a happy and peaceful holiday season.
Newsletter #6 should arrive early in 2003.**