

# 社長文告



## 各位親愛的改變者：

**四**分之一個扶輪年過去了。我確信各位正在協助扶輪更壯大並做更多。我希望各位對於一個帶一個 (Each One, Bring One) 提案已經盡一己之責，將一個人引進扶輪。

各位是否想過你成為扶輪社員的初期？我常常想起——因為發現服務力量的初始時刻塑造我成為今日的我。我剛加入敝社時，我們的行動著重在印度的鄉間社區，那裡的人沒有廁所，從洗澡的池塘取水來喝，把孩子送到樹下的戶外教室上課。最近可以提供醫療的人可能在好幾英里外——而且服務量能又不足。可是在扶輪社推動某些服務計畫後，這些村莊有廁所、乾淨飲水、一間早期學習的教室，以及一間鄰近的衛生所。

扶輪在我內心點燃的火苗，驅動我超越自我，擁抱全人類。它使服務成為一種生活方式，引領我走向一個我今日依然信守的準則：服務是我為佔據地球空間所付的房租。

如果你覺得有必要在你內在及貴社點燃服務的火花，10月——社區經濟發展月——便是理想的時機。當我們努力改善服務不足之社區的居民生活時——舉例來說，透過提供職業訓練及取得財源的管道——我們便協助建立及支持當地的經濟發展。

需求十分殷切。根據聯合國，全世界有9%的人——就是7億人，絕大多數住在撒哈拉以南

非洲——每天的生活費不到1.9美元。藉由支持創業者及蓬勃的社區發展，我們可以協助改善那個區域及其他地方居民的生活情況。

貴社也可以透過當地學校及社區大學來增加職業訓練機會，與金融機構合作改善取得金融服務的管道，或者與提供資源給創業者及為他們尋找企業界人脈的非營利組織合作，來促進你自己社區的經濟發展。

當然，若沒有良好的公共衛生，要發展強健的社區便不可能。在10月24日世界根除小兒麻痺日，我們會慶祝我們在根除小兒麻痺工作的巨大進展。可是我們也知道這場戰爭還沒結束。我們仍然需要各位協助募款及宣導，來確保所有的孩子都獲得對抗小兒麻痺的免疫力。請別忘記在那個重要日子激勵貴社，鼓勵他們到下列網址捐款：[endpolio.org/world-polio-day](https://endpolio.org/world-polio-day)。

在我這一生中，服務對我來說一向是充滿回報。我知道對你們許多人來說也是如此。這個月與我一起，藉由協助他人讓他們及他們社區都變得更好，使我們自己成為地球的好房客。攜手同心，我們便能以服務改善人生。

*Shekhar Mehta*

梅塔

國際扶輪社長

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



GREETINGS, MY DEAR CHANGEMAKERS,

**A** quarter of the Rotary year is now behind us. I am sure you are helping Rotary to *grow more* and *do more*. And I hope you have already done your part for the Each One, Bring One initiative by introducing one person to Rotary.

Do you ever think about your earliest days as a Rotarian? I often do — because those first moments of discovering the power of service shaped who I am today. When I joined my Rotary club, our efforts focused on India's rural communities, where people were living without toilets, getting their drinking water from the same pond they bathed in, and sending their children to outdoor classrooms set up under a tree. The nearest health care provider often was miles away — and the services were inadequate. But after Rotary clubs carried out some service projects, the villages had toilets, clean drinking water, a classroom for early learning, and a nearby health care center.

The spark that Rotary kindled within me forced me to look beyond myself and embrace humanity. It made service a way of life and led me to a guiding principle I still stand by: Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on Earth.

If you feel the need to reignite the spark of service in yourself or your club, October — Community Economic Development Month — is a great time to do so. When we work to improve the lives of people in underserved communities — through, for example, projects that provide vocational training and access to financial resources — we help build and sustain local economic growth.

The need is great. According to the United Nations, 9 percent of the world's population — that's 700 million people, a majority of them in sub-Saharan Africa — live on less than \$1.90 a day. By supporting strong community development as well as entrepreneurs, we can help improve conditions for people in that region and others.

Your club can also promote economic development in your own community by expanding vocational training opportunities through local schools and community colleges, partnering with lenders to improve access to financial services, or working with a nonprofit that provides resources to entrepreneurs and connects them with the business community.

Of course, developing strong communities is impossible without strong public health. On 24 October, World Polio Day, we'll celebrate our tremendous progress in the effort to eradicate polio. But we also know the fight is not over. We still need your help raising funds and awareness to ensure that all children are immunized against polio. Please don't forget to activate your clubs on that important day and encourage them to donate here: [endpolio.org/world-polio-day](http://endpolio.org/world-polio-day).

Service has been rewarding for me throughout my life. I know the same is true for many of you. Join me this month in becoming a good tenant of our planet by helping others to better themselves and their communities. Together, we can *Serve to Change Lives*.

*Shekhar Mehta*

*President, Rotary International*