

歐琦珂在 7 月匹茲堡海盜隊主場舉行的「根除小兒麻痺等疾病」募款活動中穿上了棒球球衣。



需要團隊合作

隨著 10 月 24 日世界小兒麻痺日的到來，我們正攜手合作在全球各地根除小兒麻痺，讓我驕傲地為扶輪加油。

我有幸於 7 月參加了在美國職棒大聯盟匹茲堡海盜隊主場 PNC 球場 (PNC Park) 舉辦的「三振小兒麻痺」活動。該活動由戴蒙特·塞勒姆 (Delmont-Salem) 扶輪社主辦，為根除小兒麻痺等疾病計畫籌集了 130 萬美元。

在夏末，我與我們扶輪家庭的成員，一起支持「多騎幾哩，少些小兒麻痺」的自行車活動。費利佩·梅薩·查維斯 (Felipe Meza Chávez) 和他的團隊為了籌款及提高意識，從墨西哥的華雷斯市 (Juárez) 一路騎行到伊利諾州伊文斯敦的扶輪世界總部。這趟路程花了 12 天，籌集了超過 10 萬美元來支持對抗小兒麻痺的工作。當他們抵達伊文斯敦時，我非常高興能親自迎接他們。

我也很興奮地看到「根除小兒麻痺團隊」(Team End Polio) 在 2024 年巴黎奧運會期間提高了全球意識。這個由世界級運動員、全球領袖及根除小兒麻痺支持者組成的黃金陣容，齊心協力倡導一個沒有孩子必須生活在被小兒麻痺癱瘓恐懼中的世界。「根除小兒麻痺團隊」的一些運動員本身就是小兒麻痺倖存者，讓他們的倡導更有力量。

這些只是扶輪最近為根除小兒麻痺同心協力的諸多方式中的幾個例子而已。我們必須繼續尋

找及招募根除小兒麻痺症的夥伴，尤其是今年我們的根除工作面臨挑戰之後。

世界衛生組織根除小兒麻痺部的主任艾丹·歐利里 (Aidan O'Leary) 在 8 月不幸去世，扶輪世界得知此消息均感到無比痛心。我認識艾丹，並與他直接共事過。他是一位在對抗小兒麻痺工作中孜孜不倦的倡導者，也是個善良、真誠的人。我們將永遠記得他的倡議貢獻及他的溫暖。

但是，有困難之處也有希望。每當我想到扶輪每天支持對抗小兒麻痺的無數努力時，便感到充滿希望。

作為採取行動的人，我們即使面對悲劇，也沒有屈服於絕望的奢侈。紀念艾丹的最好方式就是團結一心，實現我們根除小兒麻痺的目標。

我們對世界各地的兒童及他們的家庭做出了承諾。我們責無旁貸，必須與我們全球的合作夥伴一起，徹底根除此一威脅。

我們有許多方法可以攜手根除小兒麻痺。你可以捐款支持「根除小兒麻痺」運動，加入或成立你們社或地區的「根除小兒麻痺等疾病計畫協會」，或者從我上面提到的募款活動中汲取靈感。

我鼓勵世界各地的扶輪社員繼續尋找新的夥伴，攜手同心，一起根除小兒麻痺。

史蒂芬妮·歐琦珂 STEPHANIE A. URCHICK
國際扶輪社長

加入這個團隊，一起讓小兒麻痺成為歷史，請至 endpolio.org。



Urchick dons a baseball jersey during a July fundraiser for PolioPlus at the home of the Pittsburgh Pirates.



It takes a team

With World Polio Day on 24 October, I'm proudly rooting for Rotary as we team up around the world to End Polio Now.

I had the honor of attending a Strike Out Polio event in July at PNC Park, home of the Pittsburgh Pirates MLB team. The Rotary Club of Delmont-Salem hosted the event, which raised \$1.3 million for PolioPlus.

Later in the summer, I joined members of our Rotary family in supporting the Más Millas Menos Polio (More Miles Less Polio) bike ride. Felipe Meza Chávez and his team rode all the way from Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, to One Rotary Center in Evanston, Illinois, to raise money and awareness. The ride took 12 days, and Felipe and his team collected more than \$100,000 to support the fight against polio. It was a joy to greet them as they arrived in Evanston.

And I was thrilled to see Team End Polio raise global awareness around the 2024 Paris Olympics. This world-class roster of athletes, global leaders, and polio eradication supporters came together to advocate for a world where no child has to live in fear of being paralyzed by polio. Some of the athletes on Team End Polio are polio survivors themselves, adding weight to their advocacy.

These are just a few examples of the many ways Rotary has teamed up recently to End Polio Now. It is vital that we continue to seek out and recruit teammates in polio eradication, especially after the

challenges our eradication efforts have faced this year.

The Rotary world was heartbroken to learn about the tragic passing in August of Aidan O'Leary, director for polio eradication at the World Health Organization.

I knew Aidan and worked with him directly. He was a tireless advocate in the fight against polio and a kind, genuine man. We will remember him both for his advocacy and his warmth.

But where there is hardship, there is also hope. I feel hopeful whenever I consider the countless ways Rotary supports the fight every day to eradicate polio.

As people of action, we don't have the luxury of giving in to despair, even in the face of tragedy. The best way to honor Aidan's memory is by teaming up and reaching our goal to End Polio Now.

We made a promise to the children of the world and their families. It is incumbent upon us, together with our global partners, to end this threat once and for all.

There are so many ways we can team up to eradicate polio. You can donate to the End Polio Now campaign, join or initiate a PolioPlus Society in your club or district, or take inspiration from the fundraisers I mentioned above.

I encourage Rotary members around the world to continue to seek out new teammates, so that together, we end polio.

STEPHANIE A. URCHICK
President, Rotary International

Join the team and help make polio history at endpolio.org.