GUIDELINES FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT GLOBAL GRANT FUNDING

These comprehensive guidelines are for Rotary members who want to apply for a global grant from The Rotary Foundation to support disease prevention and treatment activities. You can use the links below to go directly to the section you're most interested in, but we encourage you to read the whole document for a full understanding of the guidelines before you apply for a grant.

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WHAT ARE THE ROTARY FOUNDATION'S GOALS FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT?

Rotary supports activities that reduce the causes and effects of disease. We enable members to prevent and treat disease and support people's health by promoting projects that limit the spread of communicable diseases, reduce the incidence and effect of noncommunicable diseases, and strengthen health care systems.

A health care system includes the public, private, and nongovernmental organizations that provide health services. The World Health Organization considers a good health system one that "delivers quality services to all people, when and where they need them."

We can accomplish our goals in disease prevention and treatment by:

- Improving the capacity of local health care professionals
- Promoting disease prevention and treatment programs that limit the spread of communicable diseases and reduce the incidence and effect of noncommunicable diseases
- Strengthening health care systems
- Providing clinical treatment and rehabilitation for physical disabilities
- Funding graduate scholarships for career-minded professionals related to disease prevention and treatment

HOW DO I CONDUCT A COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT?

Community assessments identify where our support is needed most and the role Rotary members can have in making a difference. An assessment will illustrate a community's strengths and weaknesses and help you work with local residents on solutions. Project sponsors (often in conjunction with a cooperating organization) need to conduct a community assessment before applying for a grant. If an assessment has already been done, use the relevant data to design your project. **The Foundation will not consider projects without a community assessment.**

Use the community assessment to:

- Gather perspectives from a broad cross-section of the community, including women, young people, and professionals
- Allow community members to identify the needs that they perceive as the most critical
- Ask community participants how they can be involved in the proposed project
- Work with community members to identify long-term goals and expected project outcomes
- Gather baseline data before the project so you can measure your results

The community assessment results need to be incorporated into your project plan. The results should describe:

- How the project will meet the needs identified by the community
- The long-term goals or outcomes and how they'll be met (for example, through training and public awareness campaigns)
- How the community's resources will be used to implement project activities
- How the community will sustain the project after the grant project is complete

When you conduct a disease prevention and treatment community assessment, it's important to:

- Invite health ministers, doctors, nurses, health care administrators, public and community health specialists, pharmacists, laboratory technologists, community health workers, and community members to be part of the discussion. Include a cross-section of public, private, and nongovernmental stakeholders.
- Invite members of the affected population to all discussions about prevention and treatment projects, such as asking people living with HIV to take part in designing a project about HIV/AIDS.
- Help community members identify and articulate their health care needs and goals.
- Understand the current health situation and the goals of local health authorities and community members and explain how Rotary members can help them achieve those goals.
- Find out if other nearby authorities or organizations are addressing similar health needs. Are they working with the proposed technology, expanding similar interventions, or introducing new approaches? Can the project sponsors use their expertise and experience?
- Look for ways to build local health care capacities, increase the skills and knowledge among both professionals and laypeople, or create a new program designed to improve health outcomes.
- Involve national health officials in your planning and use local disease prevention and treatment guidelines whenever possible.

HOW DO I MAKE MY PROJECT IN DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT SUSTAINABLE?

For Rotary, sustainability means providing long-term solutions to community needs that local residents can maintain after the grant funding ends. These solutions need to be relevant to the community and sensitive to cultural and environmental factors. Pay careful attention to the following items to ensure your project's long-term sustainability. **The Foundation won't consider projects without a clear plan for sustainability.**

Materials and technology

Involve community members when you select technology or equipment, and train them to operate, maintain, and repair it on their own. Involve all stakeholders — not just the local elite, but the actual users or people who'll benefit — in all aspects of the project implementation, including site selection, training, and maintenance. Purchase equipment and new technology from local sources when possible, and make sure that replacement parts are readily available.

The grant application should:

- Describe the equipment being purchased or donated and the plans for training people to operate and maintain it.

- Explain why for any equipment that's not being purchased locally, and provide plans for training, operation, and maintenance in the community, including how replacement parts will be obtained.

- Describe the physical environment where the equipment or technology is to be kept, identify who owns it, and provide security protocols.

- Explain how this equipment or technology is essential or related to the project's objectives.

- Include the long-term financial plan for updating any software you need to purchase.

- Explain how the technology or equipment will be used to directly improve health outcomes. Training in how to use and maintain the equipment, on its own, is not sufficient for a global grant.

Financial planning

Ensure that your project will have sustainable funding from local organizations, the community, or the government to integrate your project into the community and support its long-term success. Confirm that local funding sources are available to pay for long-term operational costs, maintenance, training, replacement equipment, or updated technology. Compensate project participants appropriately for their work to ensure continued service.

The grant application should:

- Describe the fundraising activities that the community, government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, or private entities have planned to generate future funding. (The Rotary Foundation and clubs cannot provide indefinite support.)

- Document the available support for the project, if applicable, from the relevant government ministry or authority, including funding for current or recurring costs, advocacy, policy implementation, training, education, allocation of personnel, or materials.

- List foundation or private-sector partners that support, or may support, the project and will continue to do so after the global grant is complete.

- Describe any fee-for-service, insurance, or revolving funds that may provide sustained revenue for the project.

- Describe a two- to four-year plan for how the community will replenish funds after the global grant is complete.
- Include details on how the community will raise additional funds, if necessary. For many disease prevention and treatment global grants, Rotary members work with public or private facilities on tight budgets. The project shouldn't make any additional demands on the hospital or health care facility's budget unless officials in charge of those facilities agree to that at the start.

Training and education

Training should make the most of local resources, people, skills, and expertise to ensure sustainable change to the local health care situation. It shouldn't be a standalone course or one-time intervention. It's an opportunity to provide training, education, and community outreach to the people who will benefit from the project as well as to service providers and technicians.

Training should be conducted in the local language about topics that were determined by the community assessment. A clear understanding of how training will affect health care outcomes is important. Work with local governments, private and public agencies, and other organizations to supply expertise as needed.

The grant application should:
- Describe your training plans, if relevant, for service providers and technical project workers. Indicate whether training is in the project budget or funded externally.
- Describe plans, if relevant, for training the people who will benefit from your project. List the materials and other resources you need or have obtained to conduct the training as well as your educational goals. Identify the trainers and describe who will benefit from the project.
- Describe the public health campaigns, if relevant, that you'll use to educate the local population about the project's goals and strategies. Specify a timeline and target population and provide an overview of the educational materials. Confirm that funds have been allocated for these activities.

WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR GLOBAL GRANT FUNDING?

The Foundation considers the following activities to be within the scope of disease prevention and treatment:
- Decreasing the spread of communicable diseases and increasing testing for them
- Reducing the incidence and effect of noncommunicable diseases
- Improving access to higher-quality health care

Global grants commonly fund the following types of disease prevention and treatment projects, and for

each type the outcomes need to be quantifiable. Please pay close attention to the eligibility requirements and the information that needs to be submitted with your application.

The Foundation assesses each project individually. If your project type isn't among those described below but is clearly linked to the outcomes listed above, contact your regional grants officer, a member of the Cadre of Technical Advisers or one of the Rotary Action Groups that specializes in disease prevention and treatment, or your district international service chair early during your planning for help designing the project and applying for a grant.

Prevention and control of communicable diseases

A communicable disease is an illness caused by an infectious agent or its toxic products that arises when the agent or products is transmitted from an infected person, animal, or reservoir to a susceptible host. Despite a global decline in the percentage of deaths due to communicable diseases, they remain a challenge, primarily in low- and middle-income countries, according to the WHO. Although the world is on the brink of eradicating polio, communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and malaria are still leading causes of death in these countries, and WHO reports decreasing or plateauing progress. And according to WHO, a billion people suffer from neglected tropical illnesses, such as dengue fever, Chagas' disease, sleeping sickness, and river blindness.

These projects should focus on treating communicable diseases using an approach that also helps prevent disease, improve the training of medical professionals, or enhance public health education to promote a community's long-term well-being. Your specific approach might be:

- Working to prevent and control illnesses transmitted by mosquitoes and other vectors, which should prioritize the identification of environmental hazards specific to these diseases

- Testing for specific diseases through projects such as health fairs, which need to include patient education, counseling, and referrals to link patients to care

- Educating community members and health care professionals about intervention strategies to prevent disease transmission, such as "train the trainer" initiatives

- Providing equipment for health care services to remote populations that lack access to the local primary care system

- Supplying medical equipment and training in how to use it to facilities that provide health care

- Providing surveillance systems, along with training, to track and monitor the diagnosis and treatment of disease

- Addressing environmental hazards related to infection and disease containment, such as the disposal of medical waste in health care facilities

For your project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Use available local, state, and national data to gather information about the incidence and prevalence of communicable diseases in the community. Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of local residents. Use the community assessment along with existing national, regional, and international strategies to determine the gap in services. Use proven interventions and those based on data.

- Proof that the cooperating organization has experience providing the services for which its support is being sought, along with any official certifications that may be required.

- Documentation (for projects that involve screening or testing) that people will receive referrals and have access to treatment.

- A training plan for health care professionals, community health workers, and the people who'll benefit from the project (where applicable, in a topic identified by the community assessment).

- A comparison of the health services the community currently has with what it will have after the project is complete.

- A beneficiary needs assessment for any project that provides services, devices, or treatment to a subset of the eligible population, indicating what criteria will be used to determine eligibility and how the people who benefit will be selected.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame, and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases

Noncommunicable diseases, also known as chronic diseases, result from genetic, physiological, environmental, and behavioral factors. According to the WHO, noncommunicable diseases accounted for seven of the world's top 10 causes of death in 2019. Each year, more than 15 million people age 30 to 69 die prematurely as a result of noncommunicable diseases, with 85% of those premature deaths occurring in low- and middle-income countries.

These projects should address chronic conditions such as diabetes, cardiovascular health, cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and dementia. Drug and alcohol addiction prevention and treatment programs and projects that address all forms of mental illness are also in this category. Your specific approach might be:

- Providing prevention, screening, and treatment services for physical and mental illnesses and

related disabilities

- Developing community education and early screening and treatment programs designed to reduce the incidence and prevalence of chronic diseases, such as through "train the trainer" initiatives

- Providing equipment for health care services to remote populations that lack access to the local primary care system

- Supplying medical equipment and training in how to use it to facilities that provide health care

- Providing surgeries that save lives and address congenital conditions (this needs to include an assessment before surgery and adequate postoperative education and care)

- Preventing traffic- or vehicle-related injuries, if you can demonstrate that your project would lead to measurable reductions in such injuries

- Supplying vehicles, personnel, and equipment to provide emergency medical services

For your project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Use available local, state, and national data to gather information about the incidence and prevalence of noncommunicable diseases in the community. Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of the community.

- Proof that the cooperating organization has experience providing the services for which its support is being sought, along with any official certifications that may be required.

- A training plan for health care professionals, community health workers, and the people who'll benefit from the project (where applicable, in a topic identified by the community assessment).

- A comparison of the health services that the community currently has compared with what it will have after the project is complete.

- A beneficiary needs assessment for any project that provides services, devices, or treatment to a subset of the eligible population, indicating what criteria will be used to determine eligibility and how the people who will benefit will be selected.

- Documentation (for projects that involve screening or testing) that people will receive referrals and have access to treatment.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame, and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Vaccination

Immunization is a key component of primary health care, and vaccines are critical to prevent and control outbreaks of infectious disease. However, many people around the world lack sufficient access to vaccines. In some countries, progress has stalled or even reversed, and complacency risks undermining past achievements.

Vaccination via injection is a medical procedure. Members cannot vaccinate people without the appropriate qualifications and licenses for the country where they are working. Members can work only in ancillary health care activities that are typically provided by volunteers.

For your project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Use available local, state, and national data to gather information about vaccination coverage and the incidence and prevalence of vaccine-preventable diseases in the community. Consult with local health authorities to provide the existing vaccination schedule and assess the gaps in vaccination coverage. These gaps may be caused by deficiencies in infrastructure, national programs, types and numbers of vaccines available, distribution, awareness and education, or available workers. Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of the community.

- Documentation that the local health care system takes full responsibility for any issues related to providing health care services to minors.

- Confirmation that vaccines will be delivered directly to the implementing partner, because Rotary members should never have direct possession of the vaccines.

- Proof of a quality vaccination infrastructure, including a cold chain network such as refrigerators and space to store additional supplies, within the cooperating organization, hospital, health centers, or university hospitals.

- An educational campaign to accompany the project, because vaccination requires community knowledge and trust.

- A formal commitment of support from national health officials before new vaccines are introduced to ensure that they'll be accepted, and a plan specifying who has the financial and operational responsibility for continuous vaccination programs.

- A training plan for health care professionals, community health workers, and the people who will benefit from the project (where applicable, in a topic identified by the community assessment).

- A comparison of the vaccination services that people in the community currently have with what they will have after the project is complete.

- A beneficiary needs assessment for any project that provides services, devices, or treatment to a subset of the eligible population, indicating what criteria will be used to determine eligibility and how the people who benefit will be selected.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame, and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Mental health and substance abuse

Mental illnesses are health conditions that involve changes in emotion, thinking, or behavior (or a combination of these). They're associated with distress or difficulty functioning in social, work, or family situations. Substance abuse refers to excessive use of a substance — legal or illegal — in a way that harms the person using it, society, or both. It includes both physical and psychological dependence.

Eligible project types are those that address:

- Alcohol or drug abuse awareness and prevention among high-risk populations. These prevention, treatment, or rehabilitation efforts need to establish baseline measurements, develop indicators of impact, and incorporate clinical referrals and treatment for people with addictions. Projects that don't target high-risk populations are usually ineligible.

- Clinical depression, bipolar disorder, and other mental health disorders that can be addressed within the health care system. Activities should include diagnostic and treatment services.

- Dementia and Alzheimer's disease, through interventions that measurably slow the progress of these diseases or lessen the clinical effects. With the introduction of pharmaceutical treatments, clinical intervention-based projects will become more common and easier to assess and measure.

- Post-traumatic stress disorder, including treatment and rehabilitation services. Eligible projects that contain medical or therapeutic interventions must include those that are clinically accepted by local medical authorities. Projects that involve therapeutic animals may be eligible if you can obtain baseline measurements and develop indicators of impact.

- Suicide prevention, including outreach, referrals, and treatment services.

For your project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Use available local, state, and national data to gather information about mental illnesses and substance abuse in the community. This should include the prevalence of the specific issue and any risk factors that are unique to the community. Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of the community.

- Proof that the cooperating organization has experience providing the services for which its

support is being sought, along with any official certifications that may be required.

- A training plan for health care professionals, community health workers, and the people who will benefit from the project. The topic should be chosen from issues that were identified by the community assessment.

- A comparison of the mental health support or services that the community currently has compared with what it will have after the project is complete.

- A beneficiary needs assessment for any project that provides services, devices, or treatment to a subset of the eligible population, indicating what criteria will be used to determine eligibility and how the people who benefit will be selected.

- Documentation that any project that includes medical interventions is supported by the health care system and includes referral and access to medical treatment.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame, and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Mobile health vehicles and clinics

Less than half of the global population has access to essential health services. Major disruptions such as the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, and high-conflict situations could reverse decades of progress in fighting both communicable and noncommunicable diseases by decreasing people's access to health care professionals, health facilities, and other services. Mobile health clinics or medically equipped vehicles that provide health care services can address some of the barriers.

The intent of these projects is to extend health care to remote regions, not to provide emergency services or serve as a transport system for regular care. To be eligible, vehicles need to:

- Have built-in medical equipment to provide specific primary health care services at community and outreach sites other than fixed health care centers

- Transport health service providers and the field equipment and supplies they need to provide specific health care services at community and outreach sites

For your project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of

the community.

- Data on the prevalence or incidence of any specific diseases or illnesses that are being addressed by the mobile clinic.

- A comparison of the access to health care the community currently has with what it will have after the project is complete. This should include the types of services, schedule of services, geographical distribution of services, and the number of patients who will directly benefit from the mobile unit.

- Proof of enough full-time staff members to provide services to the community using this method.

- A training plan for health care professionals, community health workers, and the people who'll benefit from the project. The topic should be chosen from issues that were identified by the community assessment.

- A description of the treatment or referral system for treatment that mobile health clinics dedicated to outreach screening and testing will provide.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame, and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Emergency services support

Distinct from mobile health vehicles or clinics, projects of this type do provide vehicles, personnel, and equipment to help communities provide emergency medical services. Ambulances must be linked to an emergency department that can provide emergency treatment. They also must be new and purchased locally.

For your project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of the community where you're providing support for emergency services.

- Documentation for the ambulances from the appropriate health care facility that addresses ownership, operation, maintenance, repair, and security systems.

- Documentation attesting to the availability of personnel to operate as emergency care providers.

- A training plan for emergency service providers, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, or any other personnel providing services.

- A comparison of the emergency services support that the community currently has with what it will have after the project is complete. Include information about the current geographic reach of emergency services and other baseline data to describe the use of these services and how your project will address the gaps.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Medical equipment projects

Many hospitals in developing countries lack the medical equipment they require to diagnose, monitor, treat, and rehabilitate patients. It's one of the main challenges that front-line health care workers in developing countries report. These projects should take into account who will use the equipment, what skills they have to do so, and what training and support they'll need. These projects also need to consider who will maintain the equipment, what skills they have to do so, and what training and resources (such as tools and test equipment) they'll need to keep it operating. Remember to be aware of cultural differences and expectations on both sides of any donation.

For your project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Use available local, state, and national data to gather information about the health conditions in the community that the medical equipment will address. Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, the primary and end users of the equipment, community health workers, and other community members so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of the community.

- Documentation showing that the equipment is appropriate for the level of service currently offered in the health care facilities. Explain whether it's compatible with current clinical practices within the facility or would require that significant changes be made.

- An explanation of who'll be using and maintaining the equipment, their skills, and the training you plan to offer them. Describe the local technical expertise, either in the hospital or outside it, to provide maintenance and say how the ongoing use and maintenance of the equipment will be funded.

- A description of whether the equipment is compatible with the electrical supply and meets other infrastructure requirements (such as for ventilation or water use). Say whether spare parts and materials such as tubing, adhesive, and sealants will be available locally and how they'll be purchased.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame, and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Health fairs and general health screenings

Health fair projects need to provide targeted and measurable services in prevention, screening, and treatment of a specific illness or infection. They can focus, for example, on preventing diabetes or hypertension, testing for HIV and STDs, or screening for cervical cancer. Health fairs need to refer patients to primary health care systems and ensure access to continuing care. The goal cannot be to provide a one-time service.

For your project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Use available local, state, and national data to gather information about the incidence and prevalence of the disease the health fair is addressing. Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials to identify gaps in local testing so you can design a project that meets the specific needs of the community.

- Proof that the cooperating organization has experience providing the services for which its support is being sought, along with any official certifications that may be required.

- Documentation that an adequate amount of supplies and auxiliary materials are available or are included in the project budget.

- Proof that participants will be referred to health care providers and receive follow-up treatment.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Disability-related projects

A disability is a physical or mental condition that limits a person's movements, senses, or activities. A billion people experience some form of disability, according to the World Bank, and the prevalence of disability is higher in developing countries.

For your project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Use available local, state, and national data to gather information about the prevalence of disability in the community. Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of the community.

- A beneficiary needs assessment for any project that provides services, devices, or treatment to a subset of the eligible population, indicating what criteria will be used to determine eligibility and how the people who benefit will be selected.

- An indication that it contains a prevention and training component based on the beneficiary needs assessment if prosthetics or orthotics are part of the project. This component could be continuing education or training for the professionals who produce and fit the prosthetics and provide physical therapy to recipients. Training for the people who benefit and their families on how to use and maintain the prosthetics is also a sustainable strategy.

- Documentation that all therapies seek to prevent further injury or disease and will be performed by clinically certified therapists, and that all project interventions are clinically accepted by local medical authorities. Wheelchairs are eligible if the primary purpose is to prevent further injury or disease. Wheelchairs used primarily for mobility, social, educational, or vocational outcomes aren't eligible for a disease prevention and treatment global grant.

- Beneficiary assessments describing the high-risk population, baseline information on the condition of the people who will benefit from the project, and customization of the wheelchairs to the specific physical or clinical conditions being addressed. High-risk groups who need continual wheelchair assessment and modifications include children experiencing growth spurts, people with cerebral palsy and other neurological diseases, people who have suffered injuries from accidents, and people with congenital or degenerative illnesses.

- Proof that the cooperating organization has experience providing the services for which its support is being sought, along with any official certifications that may be required.

- A training plan for health care professionals, community health workers, and people who will benefit from the project (where applicable, in a topic identified by the community assessment). Training should also involve the people who will benefit from the project or their caregivers. Include a plan for maintenance, repairs, spare parts, and the wheelchair's operation and replacement.

- A comparison of the support the community currently provides for people with disabilities with what they will have after the project is complete.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the

project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame, and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Note that alternative therapies for treating physical and mental disabilities are usually not eligible for global grant funding. These include health care practices that are not fully integrated into the dominant health care system.

Autism spectrum disorder projects

More than 75 million people have an autism spectrum disorder, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and that number may underestimate the true prevalence because these disorders feature a wide range of symptoms and vary in severity.

For this type of project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Use available local, state and national data to gather information about the prevalence of autism spectrum disorders in the community. Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of the community.

- Individual beneficiary assessments and individualized therapies, as well as documentation that the therapies are clinically accepted by local medical authorities.

- An explanation of how any multisensory room is integrated into the health care system and how sensory therapies are integrated into patient care. This cannot be a standalone therapy, but included in a series of therapies being administered.

- A description of the ongoing training that health care professionals will receive, if it's deemed desirable or essential by the licensing health care authorities.

- A beneficiary needs assessment for any project that provides services, devices, or treatment to a subset of the eligible population, indicating what criteria will be used to determine eligibility and how the people who benefit will be selected.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame, and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Vision and eye care projects

Global grants support many aspects of eye health, including screening for disease, referring people to care providers, and ensuring access to treatment. These projects often include cataract and corneal implant surgeries and procedures. Eye care projects may also include mobile outreach, as well as health camp and hospital-based services. Projects that focus on eye disease prevention, identification, and treatment need to target a specific priority group or eye disease.

For this type of project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Use available local, state, and national data to gather information about the prevalence of eye disease in the community. Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of the community.

- A beneficiary needs assessment for any project that provides services, devices, or treatment to a subset of the eligible population, indicating what criteria will be used to determine eligibility and how the people who benefit will be selected.

- Documentation (for projects that include screening or testing) that people will receive treatment or be referred for treatment.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame, and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Medical devices and lifesaving surgeries

Medical devices, particularly for surgeries, are usually eligible as part of a project. The primary purpose of the medical devices must be to treat disease or prevent further morbidity or mortality. Medical devices requested for cosmetic purposes aren't eligible.

For your project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Use available local, state, and national data to gather information about the need for medical devices and surgeries in the community. Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of the community.

- Documentation from a health care system in the country that the devices are appropriate and

acceptable in the planned environment and that qualified personnel are available to install, implant, or operate the device. Apply any necessary technology standards. Document a plan to service, maintain, or provide spare parts for the device, or to replace it. Some examples of these devices are:

- Hydrocephalus valves to use in surgeries to reduce mortality and morbidity, when the grant helps fund the valve and the health system funds and carries out the surgery

- Hearing aids, when the grant funds the devices and a collaborating organization provides qualified staff to offer the services

- Intraocular lenses for cataract surgeries, when qualified surgeons from a collaborating organization provide the services

- A beneficiary assessment of the people who the project will help, prioritizing the patients and ensuring follow-up care.

- A training plan for local physicians and care providers to build capacity, where applicable, and training for family members and caregivers in follow-up care.

- A beneficiary needs assessment for any project that provides services, devices, or treatment to a subset of the eligible population, indicating what criteria will be used to determine eligibility and how the people who benefit will be selected.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame, and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

Establishing independent Rotary health care facilities

Fewer than half of the world's people have access to essential health services, and even fewer have access to specialized services. Many countries don't have enough medical specialists and services in their public health systems to adequately address people's needs. The intent of projects that establish Rotary health care facilities is to extend outpatient services, not to replace or duplicate existing hospital-based services. You should use every available opportunity to support existing health systems and infrastructure before trying to establish a new facility.

Rotary health care facilities need to be established with the full approval of both local health authorities and the appropriate licensing officials. A facility needs full-time, professional staff members who are licensed by local health authorities, and cannot be staffed solely by Rotary members who volunteer to provide health care. All services, procedures, medical treatment, and therapy at these facilities need to comply with national protocols and guidelines.

For your project to be eligible, you need to provide:

- The community assessment: Speak with national health officials, health care facility administrators, health care professionals, doctors, nurses, community leaders, community health workers, and other local officials so you can design a project that will meet the specific needs of the community.

- Data on the prevalence or incidence of any specific diseases or illnesses that will be addressed by the facility.

- Details about country's licensing process for health care facilities and either an explanation of how the requirements have been met or a clear plan to meet them.

- A comparison of the access to health care that the community currently has with what it will have after the project is complete. This should include the types of services, schedule of services, geographical distribution of services, and the number of patients who will directly benefit from the facility.

- Documentation that any equipment requested as part of the grant is appropriate for the level of service being offered at the facility and that it meet the guidelines for medical equipment projects.

- A sustainability plan: Project sponsors should develop this plan with stakeholders to show how the project will continue after the grant funding ends. When possible, include a written acknowledgement from the institution that will maintain the project. Projects cannot rely on Rotary, either through Foundation grants or club funding, for their continuing operational costs.

- A monitoring and evaluation plan: This is the specific plan to track, measure, and learn from the project. The desired outcomes need to be realistic for the project's time frame, and key performance indicators should inform how the project is implemented and evaluated.

WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES AREN'T ELIGIBLE FOR GLOBAL GRANT FUNDING?

The Foundation considers these activities to be outside the scope of the disease prevention and treatment area of focus and therefore **not eligible** for global grant funding:

- Projects that consist exclusively of the purchase of furniture, supplies, consumables, and nonmedical equipment

- Medical missions or surgical team trips that don't provide educational outreach programs or significant capacity-building in the country, with the exception of lifesaving surgeries and surgeries to address congenital conditions

- Wheelchairs used primarily for mobility, social, educational, or vocational outcomes

- Alcohol or drug abuse awareness and prevention projects that don't target high-risk populations

- Medical devices requested for cosmetic purposes

- Eco-stove or indoor stovetop projects

- Alternative treatments or therapies for treating physical and mental disabilities

- School-based feeding programs, nutrition or nutrition education interventions not specific to

malnourishment, and general gardening and feeding programs

- The introduction of new technology without documentation that the technology has been successfully used before in the project or a similar area

- General health education and public safety programs

- Playgrounds and general childhood exercise and wellness projects

HOW DO I MONITOR AND EVALUATE A PROJECT IN DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT?

Your community assessment, which contains baseline data about the local needs and capacity, will be the foundation of how you measure and evaluate your project. Develop clear and measurable objectives and decide how you'll collect the data. Include in your measurements only the people who'll receive an immediate benefit from the project activities. Select at least one standard measure and explain whether you have baseline data for it and how you'll use it to compare the results. Describe the data collection plan and who will collect and compile the information.

For Foundation-supported disease prevention and treatment projects, the overall objectives are to:

- Strengthen health care systems

- Limit the spread of communicable diseases

- Reduce the incidence and effect of noncommunicable diseases

Gather data based on those objectives and your specific project type to inform how the project is implemented and evaluated. Include these indicators:

- The number of people who directly benefit from the project

- How many people received a disease-prevention intervention

- The number of communities that reported decreases in cases of the targeted disease

- How many health facilities benefited

- The number of communities that reported an increase in access to health care services

- The incidence of the targeted disease

- The prevalence of the targeted disease

- How many health care workers, community health workers, or community members report more knowledge about the targeted disease

How you gather this data can vary. It can be collected by Rotary members, cooperating organizations, or other stakeholders such as hospitals or health care systems. Some common methods to measure disease prevention and treatment projects include:

- Grant records or reports

- Direct observation

- Public records

- Questionnaires or surveys

Evaluating a project is important so you can understand if the implementation is going well, if you need to make any changes, if the project is ready to expand or be replicated, and more. Work with your cooperating organization and other stakeholders to develop an evaluation.

An evaluation of disease prevention and treatment projects focuses on the change measured from before the project to afterward. For some projects, the change in health outcomes extends beyond the implementation time frame. Even so, following up, collecting data, and performing an evaluation is important to what we learn from the project and your ability to share the sustainability plan and impact of your project.

HOW DO I SUPPORT A SCHOLAR IN DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT?

Global grants support graduate-level scholarships for professionals who want to pursue careers in disease prevention and treatment. The Foundation considers these factors for global grant scholarship applications:

- The person's previous work experience in the field of disease prevention and treatment

- The academic program's alignment with disease prevention and treatment (e.g., public health or advanced degrees in nursing or medicine)

- The applicant's career plans and how they relate to disease prevention and treatment

Health professionals have many different kinds of degrees and a wide range of experience. Global grant scholars do, too. Each scholar is considered individually. Typical degrees for scholars planning to work in disease prevention and treatment include:

- Public health

- Medicine

- Nursing

- Public health education

- Maternal and child health

- Community health

- Epidemiology

- Biostatistics

- Pharmacy

- Laboratory technology

- Medical research

- Biomedical engineering

- Nutrition

Atypical degrees that may be acceptable:

- Project management

- Nonprofit management

Career plans are a major consideration when the Foundation determines the eligibility of a global grant scholar. Potential future careers include positions in hospital settings, public health administration, health policymaking, research, or working for a nongovernmental organization that's focused on health.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

One of the best resources available to grant applicants is the [Rotary grants staff](). In addition to their professional expertise and education, grants staff members draw on The Rotary Foundation's long experience in funding effective projects to make sure your global grant projects are eligible for funding.

Rotary has an array of other [project planning resources]() to help members find answers at various steps of the process. These resources can help you plan a successful project, find support for your efforts, promote your work, and evaluate its impact.

You can also find information to help you plan for your disease prevention and treatment global grant in:

- [A Guide to Global Grants]()

- [Terms and Conditions for Rotary Foundation Global Grants]()

- [Areas of Focus Policy Statements]()

- [Six Steps to Sustainability]()

- [Global Grant Monitoring and Evaluation Plan Supplement]()

- [Global Grant Lifecycle]()