



扶輪基金會主委文告

1987-88 年度我擔任地區總監，那一年的國際扶輪社長是凱勒 Charles C. Keller。我以地區總監的身分參加 1988 年在費城舉辦的國際扶輪年會。在那裡，我聽到當年估計全球在 125 個國家總計有 35 萬個小兒麻痺病例。可是我也聽到一些令人振奮的消息：我們已經超越我們為根除小兒麻痺募集 1 億 2,000 萬美元的目標。我們募集到 2 億 1,935 萬 449 美元（後來，在會計作業完成後，將此數字修改為 2 億 4,700 萬美元）。我們大肆慶祝。我們向自己及世界證明扶輪的力量，證明我們能夠承擔一項全球的健康挑戰。

接下來 30 年，我們連同我們的夥伴——世界衛生組織、美國疾病防制中心、聯合國兒童基金會、以及比爾及梅琳達蓋茲基金會——已經募集更多資金，舉辦全國免疫日，並和世界各國政府一起宣導。我們的目標一向都是遵守我們給兒童一個沒有小兒麻痺世界的承諾，而在 2017 年，全球只有 22 個病例。

我們已經完成驚人的工作，可是我們知道這工作尚未完成。一旦我們將病例數降低為零，環境中偵測不到病毒之後，我們還必須等待世界衛生組織證實，正式宣佈小兒麻痺已從世界根除。按規定要在至少三年的期間，全球任何人身上或環境中都沒有發現小兒麻痺病毒。在這三年期間，我們仍然必須持續讓兒童服用疫苗，透過疫情監視確認病毒沒有捲土重來。

扶輪社員一直以來都站在這場戰役的最前線——至今也一樣。因此，你可以做什麼？跟你認識的每個人談論扶輪及小兒麻痺。捐款。讓你的扶輪社瞭解最新進展，探索你們要如何一起直接參與這場戰役。

在 10 月 24 日，我們將在一切的發源地——費城，舉辦第六屆一年一度世界小兒麻痺日 World Polio Day 活動，並慶祝全球根除小兒麻痺提案開辦 30 週年。舉辦一項世界小兒麻痺日募款活動或觀片派對，並透過 endpolio.org/promote-your-event 告知我們。詳情請參見 endpolio.org。

我需要各位的協助。我仰賴各位幫我們兌現承諾。

Ron D. Burton 朗伯騰
基金會保管委員會主委



A Message from The Foundation Chair

I was a district governor in 1987-88, the year that Charles C. Keller was the RI president. As district governor, I attended the 1988 Rotary International Convention in Philadelphia. There, I heard that there were an estimated 350,000 cases of polio in 125 countries. But I also heard some exciting news: We had surpassed our goal of raising \$120 million for the eradication of polio. We had raised \$219,350,449 (and later, after the accounting was done, that figure was revised to \$247 million). What a celebration we had. We proved to ourselves and the world the strength of Rotary and that we could take on a global health challenge.

In the ensuing 30 years, we, along with our partners – the World Health Organization, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation – have raised even more funds, organized National Immunization Days, and advocated with world governments. Our goal has always been to keep our promise to give children a polio-free world, and in 2017, there were only 22 cases.

We've done incredible work, but we know the job isn't over. Once we reduce the number of cases to zero and no viruses are detected in the environment, we must wait for WHO to certify the world officially polio free. That requires at least a three-year period without a single detection of the wild poliovirus in a person or the environment. During that three years, we will still have to vaccinate children and ensure through surveillance that the virus never regains a foothold.

Rotarians have always been on the front lines of this effort – we still are. So, what can you do? Tell everyone you know about Rotary and polio. Make a donation. Update your club and explore how together you could participate directly in the fight.

On 24 October, we'll celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's formation at our sixth annual World Polio Day event, in Philadelphia, the city where it all started. Host a World Polio Day fundraiser or watch party, and tell us about it at endpolio.org/promote-your-event. For more inspiration, check out endpolio.org.

I need your help. I'm depending on you to help us keep our promise.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron D. Burton". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Ron D. Burton
FOUNDATION TRUSTEE CHAIR