

# THE ROTARY FOUNDATION CENTENNIAL

The Rotary Foundation marks its centennial in 2017, 100 years after Arch C. Klumph proposed creating an endowment “for the purpose of doing good in the world.” From the first gift of $26.50, the Foundation's assets have grown significantly and more than $3 billion has been spent on programs and projects.

Today, our Foundation stands at the forefront of humanitarian service, having transformed millions of lives around the globe. It has supported thousands of projects to fight disease, provide clean water, save mothers and children, boost basic education, grow local economies, and promote peace — and one historic initiative that is on the brink of helping eradicate polio worldwide. Our centennial is the perfect time to share this impressive record of success with the world.

**TRUSTEE-APPROVED CENTENNIAL GOALS**

* Increase awareness of Rotary and its Foundation
* Recognize major achievements related to Foundation programs
* Celebrate by staging activities at both the 2016 and 2017 RI conventions and at all zone, district, and multidistrict meetings in 2016-17
* Achieve a comprehensive $300 million fundraising goal for 2016-17, including contributions to the Annual Fund, Endowment Fund, and PolioPlus Fund.

**WHEN WE’RE CELEBRATING**

Rotary and its members will celebrate this milestone throughout 2016-17. The centennial year will kick off at the [2016 Convention near Seoul, Korea](http://www.riconvention.org/en/seoul), and culminate in a celebration at [the 2017 Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, USA](http://www.riconvention.org/en/atlanta).

**HOW THE ROTARY NETWORK IS BEING ACTIVATED**

* Information will be provided at the president’s-elect training seminars to activate Rotarians and encourage participation.
* District governors-elect received training during the International Assembly in January 2016.
* The centennial will be included in the Regional Leaders Training Institute in March 2016.
* Resources are available for use at other events throughout the year.

**HOW CLUBS AND DISTRICTS CAN PARTICIPATE**

Clubs and districts should begin planning in early 2016 to celebrate this milestone in 2016-17, and are encouraged to:

* Plan an event in your community to raise awareness of Rotary and its Foundation.
* Promote projects your club or district is involved in that are funded by the Foundation.
* Empower The Rotary Foundation to support the good work of Rotary clubs around the world by [making a special contribution](https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/take-action/give).
* [Apply for a grant](https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/take-action/apply-grants) from the Foundation to fund a project.
* Attend the Rotary Convention near Seoul, 28 May-1 June 2016, and in Atlanta, 10-14 June 2017. [Register for the Korea Convention](http://www.riconvention.org/en/seoul).

**RESOURCES**

* A tool kit, the centennial logo, and other materials, along with ideas on how Rotarians can celebrate and fundraise at the club and district level, are available at [rotary.org/foundation100](https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/rotary-foundation/foundation-centennial).
* Doing Good in the World, a book on the history of The Rotary Foundation, is available on [shop.rotary.org](http://shop.rotary.org/).

**FIND OUT MORE**

Learn more about [The Rotary Foundation Centennial](https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/rotary-foundation/foundation-centennial).

More information on our Foundation is available on [rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/rotary-foundation).

* The Secretariat’s contacts on the Foundation Centennial are Heritage Communications Manager [Stephanie Giordano](mailto:Stephanie.Giordano@rotary.org) and Account Executive/Donor Relations [Maura Duffy](mailto:Maura.Duffy@rotary.org).
* Send general questions to [rotarysupportcenter@rotary.org](mailto:RotarySupportCenter@rotary.org).