

ROTARY CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA CHARITABLE PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Local Community Programs and Projects

Foster Children Holiday Gift Giving Program – Throughout the year the Committee raises funds for the purpose of providing holiday gifts to Foster Children in Santa Barbara County. A gift buying field trip is then scheduled and Rotarians gather at a local store to purchase the gifts identified by the Foster Children.

Foster Children Scholarship Program – Funds are raised through a variety of avenues to provide funding for extra curricular activity for the Foster Children of Santa Barbara County that otherwise likely would not have been available the Children,

Salvation Army Bell Ringing – Each holiday season Rotarians team up to ring the Salvation Army bells in front of Borders Books. All Saturdays beginning after Thanksgiving up until the weekend before Christmas are manned by at least 2 Rotarians for 2 hour shifts.

Teen Court – This program provides teens who are first time offenders with an opportunity to be judged by a jury of their peers. RCSB provides monetary support.

Teacher Recognition Program – a quarterly award given to a deserving teacher in the Santa Barbara School District as identified by their Principal and supervisor.

Annual Blood Drive – RCSB teams up with Fess Parkers Doubletree to give the gift of life. Typically scheduled during a regular Friday meeting.

Meals On Wheels – RCSB manages two routes every Saturday delivering fresh meals around town.

4 Way Test Essay Contest – Santa Barbara students. Grades 4-12, are encouraged to participate in this contest which asks the question, “What does the 4 Way Test Mean To Me.” Prizes are awarded and winners are invited to read the winning essay at a Rotary meeting. (2011)

Santa Barbara Rotary Club Foundation – Members provide monetary gifts to the Foundation and 3 times per year the grants are awarded to deserving organizations who apply.

Literacy Programs – Various projects identified by the Literacy Committee including book drives, Read Across America and 4 Way Essay Contest. (2011)

Rotaract – A service, leadership and community service organization within the Rotary family for young men and women 18-30 years of age. Rotaract focuses on the development of young adults as leaders in their communities and workplaces. In addition to organizing fundraisers and volunteering for local charities, Rotaract collaborates with Group 8 Rotary Clubs on annual events such as Rotary Family Day at the Zoo, Fiesta and Rose Parade floats and Rotarians at Work Day.

International Programs and Projects

Past International Special Projects including: raising funds for special needs of underprivileged Russian children, ambulance to Mexican Village, wheelchairs for handicapped children and adults in India. Rotary year 2011-12 saw several new projects:

- Supporting a SEE International Clinic in Honduras
- A water well project in Africa
- A third project to provide better sanitation in an underserved region of Brazil has qualified for a Rotary International matching grant due to the generous donations of two Santa Barbara Club Rotarians.

End Polio Now Campaign – On-going opportunities for Club members to donate to this campaign to end Polio in the remaining 4 countries where it is still prevalent.

Rotary Youth Exchange - Each year the Group 8 Clubs collaborate to send a local youth on an international mission of fellowship and good will to study in an identified country and that country in turn sends to our area to our area for the same purpose and is hosted by local Rotarians in their home.