

Rotary
Club of
Erin

WORLD POLIO DAY 24 OCTOBER



A Brief History

- 1979 - Rotary International started an multi year project in the Philippines
- 1985 - Polio Plus – first and largest internationally coordinated private sector support of a public health issue
- 1988 – WHO launched the Global Eradication Initiative - Rotary is a founding partner with Unicef and US CDC
- 1994 – Polio was eliminated in Americas

A Brief History

- 2000 – 550M children received the vaccine and Western pacific region was declared polio free
- 2006 – only four polio endemic countries remained
- 2009 – Rotary had raised \$800M. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation pledges \$355M plus \$200M challenge to Rotary
- 2014 – Polio cases are down by 99% since 1988
- 2020 – Africa is certified as polio-free

Impact

- Today, only two countries remain polio endemic - Pakistan and Afghanistan
- Rotary has contributed \$2.7B U.S. and countless volunteer hours to fight polio since 1979

Going Forward

- Rotary International has committed \$50M U.S. annually with the Gates Foundation matching 2 to 1 equaling \$150M
- Rotary Club of Erin does its part with members making personal contributions to the Polio Plus fund

Why this Matters to Erin

- Despite the incredible success, polio can return and polio anywhere is a threat everywhere
- Increased public awareness is key ensure that eradication efforts can continue
- Rotary Club of Erin supports the worldwide efforts through supporting World Polio Day
- Council's support of World Polio Day contributes to the strength of movement

What Council Can do

- Proclaim October 24 as World Polio Day in Erin
- Raise the World Polio Day flag at Town Hall on October 24, 2024

