

THANK YOU ROTARIANS FROM THE CHILDREN OF MIGORI KENYA

GLOBAL GRANTS FOR MIGORI WATER AND SANITATION PROJECT \ GLOBAL GRANT 1635487

For the past two years the Rotary club of Downtown Los Angeles has been the international sponsor for two Global Grants from the Rotary Foundation to provide clean water and sanitation to schools and clinics in Migori, Kenya. This has been possible through the generous support of twelve other clubs in 5280 and three clubs in other districts and through the support of District 5280 and District 9212. Through their support we obtained a \$41K grant in 2013/14 and a \$48K grant in 2014/15. We provided clean water and sanitation to 1,500 students in the first year and 4,500 students this year. It is the intent of the Downtown Los Angeles and the Suna Migori clubs to continue this project for two more Global Grants in 2015/16 and 2016/17. At the end of this time we will have provided clean water and sanitation facilities to over 15,000 students and at least two rural clinics in Migori Kenya.

We are asking that you commit your club to support this great program for the next two Rotary years.

THE PROJECT

Three years ago, the president of the Rotary Club of Downtown Los Angeles, Peter Lattey received a plea for help from the President of the Migori, Kenya Rotary club on the club's facebook page. The Migori club was failing and he needed some advice. After some discussion it was decided that the club should find a service project that would raise their profile in the community. Thus was born a water and sanitation project that will ultimately provide clean water, latrines and hand wash stations to over 15,000 school students at 28 rural schools and two rural clinics in Migori county, Kenya.

The Suna Migori club is now a vibrant, active club and is recognized as a group that gets things done for the community. When we started this project, the county government wanted no part of it. Rotary was seen as just another NGO that was probably corrupt and almost certainly incompetent. Phase one was a success and now, in phase two, the county politicians are providing half the water tanks and insist on meeting with Rotarians. We think that some county officials will be joining Rotary this year.

This part of Kenya gets plenty of rain twice a year, but the groundwater is often of poor quality. We decided that the best solution to the water issue was to collect rainwater

from the iron roofs of the schools and store it in above ground tanks. Most schools receive two, 10,000 liter tanks, a handwash station and a two door, wheelchair accessible latrine. Rotary provides the tanks, the plumbing and any skilled labour. The community digs the 25 ft deep latrine and provides the bricks for the latrine. They also provide materials for the base of the tanks and unskilled labour. The bulk of the money comes from the clubs and district funds in District 5280, Los Angeles. District 9212 and the Suna Migori club also provide funding.

In 2013/14 the Suna Migori Rotarians identified four schools and a rural clinic that had either no water or very poor water and poor latrines. With a Rotary Global Grant we provided each location with two tanks, a latrine and wash station. This immediately benefitted the 1,500 students. Enrollment jumped. Absenteeism due to disease fell. The local Rotarians finished the project in four months and the Grant was closed out two months later.

To see what your project means to the people in Migori, take a look at the video on Youtube. www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ad54H49MsZU

The project was such a great success that we decided to turn it into a four year program. Global Grant 1527272 was approved in June 2015 for the second year to service eight primary schools with over 4,500 students and one rural clinic. One of the schools with 600 students was on the verge of being closed due to their poor latrines but can stay open because of our project.

The current grant has an interesting bonus to it. The headmaster of one of the schools asked if we could do something to provide sanitary pads for the girls so they wouldn't have to miss classes every month. We didn't want to donate a big box of pads that would be used up in a month or two. We wanted to do something sustainable, so we explored the alternatives. The grant includes funding for a group of women in Migori to start a business manufacturing and selling low cost, washable sanitary pads. The pads will last several years but the cost is less than the cost of a six month supply of disposable pads and they won't clog up the latrines or be thrown into the bushes.. School canteens will get a discount. Once the business is established, there will be permanent jobs for at least a dozen women and a sustainable supply of washable sanitary pads for the girls and women of Kenya.

PROJECT SUPPORTERS

This program has received financial and material support from the following Rotary clubs and other organizations.

Rotary Club of Downtown Los Angeles
Rotary Club of Suna Migori

Rotary Club of Beverly Hills
Rotary Club of Carson Gardena Dominquez
Rotary Club of Crenshaw Watts
Rotary Club of Glendale
Rotary Club of Greenspoint (Houston TX, District 5890)
Rotary Club of Hawthorne / LAX / Lennox
Rotary Club of Inglewood
Rotary Club of Lomita Torrance
Rotary Club of Los Angeles (LA5)
Rotary Club of Monmouth (England, District 1100)
Rotary Club of Redondo Beach
Rotary Club of San Pedro
Rotary Club of Slinger –Allenton, (WI, District 6270)
Rotary Club of Westchester
Rotary Club of Woodland Hills
Ministry of Water, County of Migori, Kenya
SPEAK, Kenya

Please contact Peter Lattey, at 310-968-3252 or peter@peterlattey.com with your commitment or if you have any questions. He is also available to present this project to your club meeting.



Clean Rotary water for the students. Many of these children had never had water coming from a tap before.



Water tanks at Osingo Clinic with a happy doctor and patients. The raised tank provides water pressure so that mothers can have a shower when delivering their baby.



A student gets drinking water from a polluted water source. This was the sole source of water for Adugo Primary School and is a 30 minute walk from the school.



Suna Migori Rotarians inspect the water tanks at Kokach Primary School.



An old latrine.



A hand wash station on the new latrine at Osingo Primary School.



The ladies of the Juakali Coop ready to make the "Tumia Tena" sanitary pads.