



RESULTS OF THE COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR A GLOBAL GRANT

Use this form to inform The Rotary Foundation of the results of your community needs assessment when applying for a global grant.

Assessing the strengths, weaknesses, needs, and assets of the community you plan to help is a critical first step in designing an effective and sustainable global grant-funded project. See the Community Needs Assessment Resources for complete instructions and helpful tips.

This form will help you report the results of your community needs assessment, which is a requirement for grant applications for humanitarian projects or vocational training teams. Complete a separate form for each beneficiary community (e.g., school, health system, or population), using current and specific information for each. Remember that you cannot use global grant funds to cover the cost of this assessment, but you can use district grant funds.

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

Describe the characteristics (such as geographic information, main sources of income, population size and access to education/health services) of the specific community where this project will be carried out.

The Colombian Pacific Region such as the Departments of Cauca, Nariño and Valle del Cauca base their economy on artisanal fishing and as agricultural workers in crops such as African Palm, livestock and coconut cultivation. The Pacific region is home to slightly more than 1,100,000 people, representing 2.7% of the national total. The largest population concentrations are located in the capital of Chocó and in the ports of Buenaventura and Tumaco. Access to quality education is inadequate, as well as to health services, due to the fact that they are vulnerable populations with scarce economic resources, where transportation to the populated centers is costly and treatment requires several visits in order to be attended with quality and be effective.

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT DATA COLLECTION

When you conducted the assessment, who did you talk to in the community? At least two different community representatives and beneficiaries who are not involved in Rotary (such as teachers, doctors, or community leaders) should be included in the discussions.

Access to health care in the Pacific Region is poor to non-existent for Families who have Children with MICROTIA. Initially, we knocked on the doors of the Departmental Health



Secretaries of the Departments of Cauca, Valle and Nariño, who corroborated this situation and have repressed the attention to many children due to the non-attendance to the Health Centers, all this for purely economic factors on the part of the Families. At the medical level, according to Dr. Jorge Escamilla, the attention remains in the Evaluation Consultation, since the economic condition of the Families is very intermittent; and the Treatment of the Microtia requires several analyses, from a Hearing Test to detect the Level of Microtia of the patients, the installation of bony Hearing Aids for the education of the sounds up to the Reconstruction of the little ear. We are part of the Community in Facebook of MICROTIA COLOMBIA, where the need for help in different states of the Children makes our Project viable. The above is ratified in the study conducted in 2022 by the Institute of Human Genetics of the Pontificia Javeriana University in Bogota, where MICROTIA Congenital Anomaly ranks first in Colombia, with a rate of 74.13 per 10,000 live births. Bogotá, the capital of the country, is even pointed out as the city with more reports of MICROTIA in the whole world.

At what point in the past year were the talks held?

Discussions with the Departmental Secretary of Health of Valle, Cauca and Nariño over the course of 2023, as well as with the Medical Sector and the Microtia Colombia Community.

What methods did you use to gather information from community members (such as community meetings, interviews or focus groups)?

Microtia Colombia is a Community and/or Opinion Group on Facebook, where children with Microtia from Colombia and other countries, parents, relatives of children with Microtia, ENT Doctors, Audiologists, Audiology Schools are present. The Project for the Treatment of Children with Microtia in the specified areas was launched, however, we were invited to a WhatsApp Chat to talk specifically about the Project, where it was detected that the needs at Colombia level are high, especially in the provision of quality hearing aids and help in travel, accommodation and food to the population centers for proper treatment and help in the procedures before the different health systems.

POBLACIÓN OBJETIVO

¿Quién se beneficiará directamente del proyecto? Indica los grupos que se beneficiarán (como escuelas, hospitales, centros de formación profesional, cooperativas o poblaciones). Con base en la Investigación realizada por la Universidad Javeriana en el año 2022, donde se detectaron 391 casos de MICROTIA, el Proyecto beneficiara el 6.39% de la Población con esta Anomalía Congénita, es decir, a 25 Niños con Microtia y de esta población a 5 Niños se les reconstruirá el Pabellón Auricular. Este proyecto tiene como objetivo beneficiar a estos niños en un (1) año.



Describe el proceso utilizado para identificar a los beneficiarios.

El primer método utilizado, fue a través de la Secretaria Departamental de Salud del Valle del Cauca, con quien se adelanta una Alianza Gubernamental. El segundo método es a través de Convocatorias en las zonas que se van a beneficiar, y el tercer método a través de la consulta de la Investigación realizada por la Universidad Javeriana.

STRENGTHS, NEEDS, COMMUNITY PRIORITIES, AND PROJECT DESIGN.

Describes what community members said they cared about during the assessment.

The needs detected were the following: 1) Lack of economic resources on the part of the families to travel to the Health Centers, food and lodging. 2) The procedures before the entities and/or Health Systems to obtain an adequate attention and approval of the therapies. 3) The lack of Control and Follow-up means that the Treatments do not give the results in the Habilitation of the patients, 4) The installed hearing aids do not comply with the technical requirements and/or have a short useful life.

Describe the strengths and resources of the community.

Strengths: 1) Availability of time for their children's treatments, 2) Knowledge of disease management and technological resources through the Internet and 3) Support through the Microtia Colombia Community in consultations and/or new treatments.

Describes the challenges and deficiencies in behaviors, skills and knowledge of the community.

Microtia is a congenital condition characterized by the absence or malformation of the pinna. The Microtia community faces several challenges and deficiencies in terms of behaviors, skills and knowledge.

In terms of behavior, the Microtia community often faces discrimination and harassment due to their physical appearance. This can lead to problems with self-esteem and self-confidence, as well as more serious psychological problems, such as depression and anxiety. In terms of abilities, people with Microtia may have difficulty hearing and communicating due to the lack of an external ear. This can affect their ability to learn and socialize, which can have a negative impact on their quality of life.

In terms of knowledge, many people are unfamiliar with Microtia and may have misconceptions about the condition. This can lead to stigmatization and discrimination, which can worsen the psychological and social problems faced by the Microtia community. It is important that steps are taken to address these challenges and deficiencies. This includes increasing public awareness of Microtia, providing emotional and psychological



support to those affected by the condition, and ensuring that they have access to the resources they need to learn and socialize. Hence, Trainings, not only to professionals on how this anomaly should be managed, but also on Awareness to the Community at large and thus lowering the incidence of Bulling.

What problems will the project address and how does the community currently address these problems?

The Project will focus on the problems that the Community has, and they are: 1) Lack of Management and/or Processing Capacity before the entities and/or Health Systems. 2) To provide economic resources for transportation, food and lodging to Microtia patients and their companion, so that they can have an attention with human quality in health to 25 children in the consultations of evaluation, specialists and therapies. 3) Supply of 25 bone hearing aids to the selected patients and 4) Reconstruction of the Auricular Pavilion to 5 children who fulfill the technical requirements to be operated.

Provides specific details on the project design and how it will solve these problems.

Specific details: 1) 25 children with Microtia will be detected through calls for proposals in the selected areas, through the Microtia Colombia Community and through the Departmental Health Secretaries of Cauca, Valle and Nariño. 2) The chosen children will have the traceability from their origin and the orders of evaluation will be processed to be attended directly in the Hospital Universitario del Valle. 3) The children that require Diagnostic Exams, Hearing and Laboratory Tests, the orders will be processed to Allied Laboratories. 3) Bone Hearing Aids will be provided to the 25 children. 4) All the children with Microtia will have therapies with Speech Therapy and Psychology, as well as the parents and 5) Virtual trainings will be given to the community in general, especially to the children's schools of origin in order to sensitize the community in the management of children with Microtia.

Describes the long-term plan for the project (such as monitoring, financial responsibilities and expected behavioral change) after Rotary's involvement ends.

In Colombia, MICROTIA, according to research by the Institute of Human Genetics of the Javeriana University, is the No. 1 Congenital Anomaly in terms of Population (391 cases), with Bogotá being the city in the World with the most cases of Microtia. In the long term, we will concentrate in Bogota with the help of other Rotary Clubs; and our projection is to increase year after year the help to this population. The Rotary Club Nuevo Cali, has created an Organigram to attract Professionals that will be assigned to the project with the motto: "Rotarians for a Cause", as well as Committees that will make the Traceability to the Patients, the Control and Follow-up after the Evaluation, the Operation and the therapies that are required during the Year of the Project and two months after the end of the Project.



FREQUENCY OF CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS IN COLOMBIA

Type of Malformation	Total	Rate x 10,000
1. Anomaly of the ear (Anotia / MICROTIA)	391	74.13
2. Talipes (Clubfoot)	132	25.02
3. Polydactyly (Pre axial / Post axial)	112	21.23
4. Down Syndrome	94	17.82
5. Nevus	90	17.06
6. Cleft Lip and Palate	84	15.92
7. Heart disease	83	15.73
8. Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip	60	11.37
9. Neural Tube Defect (Spina Bifida)	58	10.99
10. Hypospadias	51	18.85

Source: Institute of Human Genetics, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana School of Medicine.

Our Program "**LISTENING, NOW AND ALWAYS**", is only addressing 6.39% of the total population of children with **MICROTIA** in Colombia.

As **CLUB ROTARY NEW CALI**, who will coordinate, select this 6.39% of the children who will be present in the Southwest of Colombia; it will be a work where sustainability is based on the great alliances that our organization, as **ROTARY INTERNATIONAL** has made, with:

1. Departmental Secretary of Health of Valle del Cauca,
2. Departmental Secretary of Health of Nariño,
3. Departmental Secretary of Health of Cauca.
These alliances guarantee that the selected and evaluated children have a Health System and at the same time, they can be operated in the different hospitals of the Public Health Network in these Departments.
4. University Hospital of Valle
Operator where the Children Selected for Reconstruction of the External Pavilion will be operated.
5. Santiago de Cali University
6. School of Audiology of Colombia
Educational entities that are ready to collaborate with the therapies in Phonoaudiology and Audiology at a national level.
7. MICROTIA COLOMBIA Facebook Community
*Population of Children with **MICROTIA** in Colombia, many present in the Departments to work, with whom we will have a lot of time to give **SUSTAINABILITY** to the Program "**ESCUCHANDO, AHORA Y SIEMPRE**" of Children with **MICROTIA**.*