

**District Grant Report**

Rotary Club: Rotary Club of Villa Park

Project Title: A Case For Kids

Progress Report

Final Report

1. Briefly describe the project. What was done, when and where did project activities take place, and who were the beneficiaries?  
The Villa Park Rotary Club hosted a suitcase-packing service project during a recent meeting at the Villa Park City Hall. Debby and Joe Thraikill provided all the necessary supplies for the activity, including clothing, hygiene items, bedding, books, and notes of encouragement. Rotary members worked together to pack suitcases for 20 orphaned boys in foster care, ensuring that each suitcase was thoughtfully prepared with essentials tailored to the boys' needs. This meaningful event aimed to bring dignity and hope to foster children in Orange County, directly benefiting the 20 boys who received these personalized suitcases.

2. How many Rotarians participated in the project? 30

3. What did they do? Please give at least two examples.

**Packed Suitcases with Essentials:** Rotarians worked together to fill suitcases with clothing, hygiene products, bedding, books, and personalized notes of encouragement. Each item was carefully selected to meet the specific needs of the 20 orphaned boys, ensuring they received practical and thoughtful support.

**Fostered Community and Teamwork:** Rotarians demonstrated teamwork by organizing the materials provided by Debby and Joe Thraikill, sorting items by age and size, and assembling the suitcases efficiently. Their collaboration turned the project into a meaningful and impactful experience for everyone involved.

4. How many non-Rotarians benefited from this project?

This project directly benefited 20 orphaned boys in foster care, who received personalized suitcases filled with essential items and notes of encouragement.

5. What are the expected long-term community impacts of the project?

**Restoring Dignity to Foster Youth:** By replacing trash bags with thoughtfully packed suitcases, the project helps foster children feel valued and respected, which can boost their self-esteem and provide a sense of care during a difficult time.

**Strengthening Community Engagement:** The project fosters a culture of service and collaboration within the community, inspiring others to support foster children and address their needs through similar initiatives.

**Breaking the Cycle of Trauma:** Providing essential items and personalized notes can offer emotional support and stability, contributing to the long-term well-being and development of the foster children who benefit from these efforts.

6. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was its role?

Debby and Joe Thraikill, representing "**My Own, A Case for Kids,**" played a crucial role in the success of this project. They provided all the supplies needed for the suitcase packing, including clothing, hygiene items, bedding, books, and handwritten notes. Their organization also guided the process, ensuring that each suitcase met the specific needs of the 20 orphaned boys in foster care. Additionally, their leadership and expertise inspired and empowered Rotarians to make a meaningful impact on the lives of these children.

**Financial Report – Be sure that Income equals Expenditures!**

7. Income Amount

1. District Grant funds approved by the District	\$2,000
2. Club contribution	\$2,001

3. Other funding (specify)	
<b>Total Project Income</b>	<b>\$4,001</b>

8. Expenditures - please be specific and add lines as needed - receipts must be attached

1. Bedding/Sheets	\$1,176.34
2. Duffle Bags	\$1,007.92
3. Toiletries/Hygiene Products	\$185.64
4. Fleece Blankets	\$485.90
5. T-Shirts/Joggers/Socks/Boxers	\$1,037.90
6. Zip Locks/Stapler/Storage Container/Name Tags	\$139.87
<b>Total Project Expenditures</b>	<b>\$4,033.57</b>

9. By signing this report, I confirm that to the best of my knowledge these District Grant funds were spent only for eligible items in accordance with Trustee-approved guidelines, and that all of the information contained herein is true and accurate. Receipts for all grant-funded expenditures have been provided to the district. I also understand that all photographs submitted in connection with this report will become the property of RI and will not be returned. I warrant that I own all rights in the photographs, including copyright, and hereby grant RI and TRF a royalty free irrevocable license to use the photographs now or at any time in the future, throughout the world in any manner it so chooses and in any medium now known or later developed. This includes the right to modify the photograph(s) as necessary in RI's sole discretion. This also includes, without limitation, use on or in the web sites, magazines, brochures, pamphlets, exhibitions and any other promotional materials of RI and TRF.

Certifying Signature Charlie Gallagher Date: 01/28/2025

Print name, Rotary title, and club Charlie Gallagher, Assistant District Governor, Rotary Club of Villa Park