



CONNECT FOR GOOD

GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE



When you join a Rotary club, your potential to make a difference in the world grows exponentially. That's because you're joining a network of over 1.2 million people who take action — volunteers from all over the world who share a goal of improving others' quality of life.


In fact, the top two reasons people join Rotary are to connect with and give back to their communities. These are the same reasons members stay in Rotary year after year. But simply joining isn't going to change lives or make those connections. That happens when you get involved. You'll shape your own experience and decide how to get the most out of your membership.

This short guide is full of ways you can get involved in Rotary to connect with your club, your community, and the world. Get involved in ways that align with your passions, and you'll get much more from your experience.





CONNECT WITH YOUR CLUB



Membership in a Rotary club offers you opportunities to connect with other professionals who aren't afraid to lead and are dedicated to making a difference. Spending time with your fellow club members — whether to attend a meeting, plan a project, exchange ideas, or just have fun — can lead to lifelong friendships. When you get involved and make connections, you will inevitably grow as a person and develop new skills. Here are some ways to connect within your club.

> **SHARE YOUR IDEAS** with club leaders to help your club achieve its goals, enhance its projects, and improve the member experience. Your suggestions could become the next big initiative in your club or community. See *Be a Vibrant Club* and learn more about club flexibility.

> **FIND A MENTOR** or mentor another member to share professional expertise, community knowledge, and Rotary information.


> **ORGANIZE A CLUB EVENT** or service project and gain new skills and experiences like event planning, public speaking, or managing volunteers.

> **TRY A NEW ROLE.** Broaden your knowledge and apply your experience and skills in a club leadership role. Take the first step by asking where your club needs help. If you've already been in a club leadership role, try serving in a district role. Ask your district governor and governor-elect where your expertise and talents could be useful.

> **BECOME A LEADER IN ACTION.** Participate in your club's leadership development program. If it doesn't have one, talk to your club leaders and help develop one for the members of your club.



CONNECT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY



Through your club, you can connect with your community by learning about its needs and working on long-term solutions. When you work with local leaders and beneficiaries, you'll strengthen both your community and your ties to it. Participating in a project that positively touches someone else's life can be life-changing for you as well. Here are some of the many ways your membership can help you connect to your community.

> **VOLUNTEER TO HELP** with your club's service projects. If you know of a need in your community, propose a project that addresses it. You can use Community Assessment Tools to evaluate your community's needs, and then use the resources in the Project Lifecycle Kit to design and implement a project. You can join your club service projects committee, browse other projects on Rotary Showcase, crowdsource the resources you need on Rotary Ideas, and learn how to apply for a Rotary grant to improve and help fund your project at rotary.org/grants.



> **BRIDGE GENERATIONS** by supporting local Rotary youth programs. Find out if your club supports an Interact or Rotaract club. If not, form one! You can build the future of Rotary and your club by connecting with Rotaractors and inspiring them to join your Rotary club. Show Interactors the impact they can have in their communities by supporting their service efforts.



> **CREATE STRONGER COMMUNITY TIES** with a Rotary Community Corps (RCC). RCCs are groups of non-Rotarians who share our commitment to service. RCC members plan and carry out projects in their communities and support local Rotary club projects. By working with RCCs, you can boost community engagement and your projects' sustainability by positioning local leaders to pioneer change. Learn more at rotary.org/rcc.

> **PARTICIPATE IN TRAINING EVENTS** offered by your district and connect with other members in your area. Districts hold a variety of training and informational events that are open to all members. Attending one can help you learn more about Rotary and what other clubs in your community are doing. Visit your district's website or contact your club leaders to find out when your district's next event will be held.



> **COLLABORATE WITH OTHER CLUBS** in your area on a joint service project or event. Rotary Ideas can make finding and collaborating with partners easier.



CONNECT WITH THE ROTARY WORLD

Rotarians make a difference on a global scale. Your membership gives you access to a global network of professionals and leaders who share a passion for applying their collective expertise and resources to make a positive change. Here are some ways to connect with the Rotary world.

➤ **MEET OTHER MEMBERS** with similar interests by joining a Rotary Fellowship or a Rotarian Action Group. Rotary Fellowships are formed around hobbies, interests, or vocations, and Rotarian Action Groups are formed around dedication to a particular cause. View lists of Rotary Fellowships and Rotarian Action Groups and contact one directly using the Rotary Fellowships directory or the Rotarian Action Groups directory.



➤ **PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS.** Many clubs partner with clubs in other parts of the world to address a need in one of their communities. Together, they leverage Rotarian and Rotary alumni expertise to build long-term partnerships for sustainable projects. You can find clubs that need partners, more volunteers, or other support on Rotary Ideas.



➤ **HELP ERADICATE POLIO** either by volunteering for a National Immunization Day (NID), contributing to the cause, or helping to spread the word. Email polioplus@rotary.org to connect with Rotarians leading upcoming trips. Post about polio on your social media pages, contribute to the PolioPlus Fund, or include a link to endpolio.org in your email signature.

➤ **ATTEND ROTARY EVENTS** to exchange ideas and meet people. Attend the Rotary International Convention, which is held in a different international city each year, with friends from your club or district. You'll enjoy inspiring talks from global leaders, celebrities, and activists, meet members from around the world, and learn how to expand our impact. Learn more at rotary.org/events.



➤ **SHARE INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALITY** and learn about another culture when you participate in a Rotary Friendship Exchange, host a Rotary Youth Exchange student, or explore other Rotary clubs. Friendship exchange participants take turns hosting and visiting one another, often developing friendships that last a lifetime. Youth Exchange hosts open their homes and hearts to create a memorable learning experience. Learn more at rotary.org/empower-leaders and rotary.org/youthexchange.

> SUPPORT ROTARY'S CURRENT WORK by giving to the Annual Fund, which sustains thousands of projects that are being conducted in your community and around the world. The Rotary Foundation supports projects and programs that transform lives by tackling poverty, disease, conflict, and lack of education and water. Go to rotary.org/give to make a donation.



> JOIN ROTARY DISCUSSION GROUPS on My Rotary. Hundreds of discussion groups allow members to connect and share diverse perspectives about all kinds of topics. If you have a My Rotary account, you can join an existing discussion group or start a new one. Rotary also has official pages on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, Flickr, and more.



> SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE. Join a Rotarian Action Group or area of focus discussion group and use your expertise to enhance the projects that Rotarians are working on. Check the Rotarian Action Groups directory and contact the one you're interested in. Read about the projects that Rotarian Action Groups have recently supported in the Rotarian Action Groups annual report. You can also share your expertise in the areas of focus and project planning by serving other clubs as a consultant on international projects or as a moderator in discussion groups. Contact your district international service chair or district governor to make your technical skills or experience known, and find out how you can become a part of your district's network of experts. Finally, if you have professional expertise in one of Rotary's areas of focus, you can serve on The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers and advise members carrying out grant projects around the world.



> ATTEND A PROJECT FAIR and find partners, meet people, and get ideas for projects. Fairs typically last two to three days and may include visits to project sites as well as opportunities to experience the local culture. These activities help visitors learn about the community and build long-lasting relationships with their international hosts. Learn more at rotary.org/project-fairs.



HOW WILL YOU GET INVOLVED?

When you get involved, it's not just your club and community that benefit. You benefit, too. As an active Rotarian, you'll make connections and develop skills while Doing Good in the World. You'll meet community leaders and tackle local and global issues that are important to you and your fellow club members. You'll feel the shared sense of purpose that comes from working together to better your community. When it comes to being an active Rotarian, the opportunities are endless.



There are countless ways to engage with Rotary and your Rotary club. You choose how — and how much — to get involved.