

WCS Report 2019 – 2020

There are currently 27 members on the WCS committee, almost all of whom are actively involved in projects. In 2019-20 we received an allocation of CAD210,000 from the Club, which is the 25% of discretionary funds the club has committed to provide to WCS on an annual basis. In addition we had directed donations of CAD14,182. Therefore this year's total for allocation was CAD224,182 to which was added matching funds where possible.

As in all years, we have continued to work on a number of projects from prior years as projects often take many years to complete. One of these was the development of a rural satellite university by the Medical Sciences Faculty in UNAN Managua to train medical students, dentists and optometrists locally in northern **Nicaragua**. This has just been implemented and a picture of the initial group of students is attached. This amazing project will, in addition to training the health care professionals and the new faculty who will sustain the program long-term, ensure that approximately 300,000 people will have improved local access to health care. The model is being planned for four more similar satellite universities in underserved areas of Nicaragua so

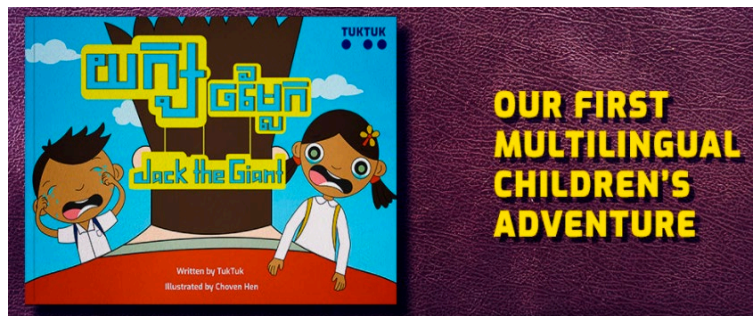


NUEVOS ESTUDIANTES DE UNICAM

that the total potentially impacted is about one million people who currently have limited access to care. The model is also being promoted in similar areas in Latin America. Sonny Belenkie initiated this project and has worked tirelessly on it for several years now. This has included several visits to Nicaragua (one requiring an extended period of recuperation from an infection). We contributed USD20,000 to this project in prior years' commitments plus an additional USD9,612 in directed donations. The total amount raised through contributions and matching was USD212,400.

Funds from this year went to the following projects:

1. **Belize – Mayan Villages Project** to help the very poor in a rural area set up businesses and thereby become able to support themselves and their families. This project is a Global Grant led by the Cochrane Club. We contributed USD5,000. The project is still under development. Barb Young is the club champion.
2. **Cambodia – Tuk Tuk for Children** – The project was for USD11,154 and allowed for the creation (writing, illustrating and digitizing) of 7 Kindergarten books which will be made available to all teachers and kids in Cambodia. The direct impact (Tuk Tuk is working in 8 schools right now) is for about 400 kids & 8 teachers but this is growing every year and it's also on their open source platform (i.e. free on the internet). This is done in cooperation with a club from Australia. Manon Mitchell is the main champion and has copies of the book.



3. **Cambodia Literacy** – CAD48,500 has been allocated to the second phase of this very successful project in rural schools in Cambodia. The Global Grant is currently being worked on. Manon is the main champion. Lori Forand and Cathy Freer-Lyszczenski are also involved.
4. **Cambodia – Water and Education Project with Sustainable Cambodia** – We have committed to contribute USD1,000. This is a WASH and empowerment program which assists the poor families living in four Cambodian villages to improve their standard of life through access to clean water, sanitation, sustainable incomes, and training. The project will benefit more than 500 families with more than 2,500 people. The Host club is the Rotary Club of Pursat and the International Club is the Rotary Club of Gainesville, Florida. Garth Toombs is the champion.
5. **Ghana – Ultrasound Equipment for Pregnant Women** – A project of Doug McMillan’s (Al’s brother) who is in the Halifax Rotary Club. Walley Temple is the champion and has provided CAD5,000 in directed donations for this project. The project involves teaching ultrasound to physicians to improve the safety of child birth in Ghana by funding obstetrical simulators. 100 healthcare persons will be trained each year with an estimate that it will improve the safety of pregnancy and delivery for at least 1000 women per year.
6. **Guatemala** – Latest year of the **Literacy Project** – USD10,000 – A global grant. With matching of our funds by the Canadian government and The Rotary Foundation, our contribution was raised to USD25,000 and the total project was USD631,247. This project will impact 7,667 students and teachers. Sponsoring club this year was from Ontario. Barb is the main sponsor from our club.
7. **Guatemala – Save Lake Atitlan Project** – in cooperation with Calgary Heritage Park – USD5,000 – we are still working on the matching. This project will provide water and sanitation to several communities around Lake Atitlan and insure that sewage is not pumped into the lake from these communities. Barb, Walley and Garry Moyes are championing.
8. **Guatemala – Cervical Cancer Project.** This is a project currently under development to diagnose and treat Cervical Cancer among the poor in rural Guatemala. It will screen 5,000 women over two years, preventing cancer in at least 500 women. This will continue and expand after the grant as the equipment provided will increase the number of rural clinics that can screen and treat at point of care. This is a lead-in project to the Cervical Cancer conference we will host in Calgary, hopefully in 2022. We are also working on developing a similar program in Nicaragua. We allocated USD10,000 toward a Global Grant in Guatemala this year. The total project is expected to be USD80,000. Walley is the primary champion and Sonny and Barb are supporting champions.
9. **Guatemala Fire Truck** – Payments were made to establish the value of the vehicle (CAD300) and to cover the cost of insurance (CAD482) while it is here and in transit. Madeleine, Barb and Dave Macdonald are the champions. Bill Redmond has also joined the team and is storing the truck at Bucars while we wait for the border with the US to open.
10. **Guatemalan COVID Relief** – CAD1,670 in directed donations were sent to our partner club in Guatemala City for a program in the Lake



Atitlan area to feed people impacted by Covid. Barb was the champion and most of the money came from our committee members who have connections in Guatemala. We had a donation as well from the leader of the Save Lake Atitlan project in the Heritage Park Club.

11. **Guyana – Cardiac Care** – USD8,000 – Sonny Belenkie is the champion. This request came from our District Governor Elect and is being led by the Olds Rotary Club.
12. **India – Mothers’ Milk Bank** – This project is developing a new Human Milk Bank by modifying designated space at the Government Medical Hospital, Aurangabad, and providing the required equipment and consumables. Our contribution was USD10,000 plus USD500 for TRF administration which is required in India. The total project, a Global Grant lead by this club, is \$59,979. It is estimated that 1,200 to 1,500 babies who are admitted annually to the hospital’s neo-natal ICU, unable to be fed with their mother’s milk or formula, and whose lives and/or development outcomes are at risk, will benefit from this facility. Champions are Madeleine King, Bob Taylor and Barb Young.
13. **India – Health Care** in a rural area where we helped build a hospital – USD7,350 in cooperation with Calgary Centennial Rotary Club. This was a Global Grant sponsored by Centennial. The total project is USD66,000 and has the potential to impact 50,000 people. Bob is the lead champion from our club.
14. **Kenya Kajjado Girls School** – USD8,000 this fiscal year plus CAD482 (and USD10,000 from a prior year). This is a school for girls, many of whom enter as part of the Bride Rescue Program. These girls come from families where there is a threat of early childhood marriage and/or female genital mutilation. They currently have to go into a field as there are no toilet facilities. The program includes the building of toilet facilities. There was a kitchen of sorts but it was in terrible shape and we are fixing it. In addition to Rotary funds the project has also received USD27,956 from a non-profit society. Dave and Diane Macdonald are the champions and she visited there recently. The total project is USD57,000. Total people affected 700 per year.
15. **Philippines School Project** – USD5,000 for a USD73,000 Global Grant which we sponsored. The project includes computer equipment and training to assist approximately 400 local students in being employable. Gerard D’Mello was the main champion with support from Sonny.
16. **Philippines** – Ann Haessel contributed CAD1,220 toward school supplies in a future project that is still under development.
17. **South Pacific Islands, Give Every Child a Future Project**. This is a project run by Australia as their anniversary project. Clubs in Australia were started by a past member of our club (see picture in the Palliser Hotel lobby). We contributed USD5,000 to the Global Grant which was for USD218,400. It will benefit up to 2,500 children per year. Lori Forand is the champion for this project.
18. **Uganda – Kamwewa Water Project**. We contributed USD14,000 for a Global Grant that we are sponsoring and the District contributed a grant of USD15,000. The project will provide water via



water harvesting to 10 schools, and will provide water from a borehole to the larger community. Ten thousand people will be impacted in all. About 3,500 of these are school children. Other elements of the project include three new latrine complexes for the neediest schools. There will also be an extensive training program. Garth is the primary champion with David Bromwich (Brom), Garry, and Bev.

19. **Uganda – Village Project** – We have funds from a number of years as this is an ongoing project of Michael Broadhurst to help a village in rural Uganda with education and farming initiatives. This year we contributed USD2,000 plus CAD700 toward project management and USD2,352 toward the building of a kitchen for a school that is part of the project. Michael Broadhurst and Gerard are championing.
20. **Uganda – Educating African Youth** (previously Curly Galbraith Global Memorial) – CAD10,500 this year. Garth and Brom are the champions and the sub-committee is chaired by Greg Stevenson. This project funds post-secondary education for Ugandan youth who would not otherwise have the means to obtain this education. The program has helped 49 students graduate, with an additional 13 in the process of completing their education. Virtually all graduates obtain employment and are able to support their families and help siblings obtain higher education.
21. **Venezuela - Diagnostic Center** – CAD10,000 – Tom Loucks is the champion. This USD44,000 project will annually impact over 2,000 people directly and many more indirectly. It represents the first and only specialized diagnostic center in Venezuela offering high-end molecular testing at very low cost. The project supplies medical and lab equipment and reagents, necessary for the clinical triage and subsequent low-cost molecular diagnosis, and nucleic acid sequencing of infectious agents in vulnerable populations of Venezuela.
22. **Vietnam – Education Project in the DMZ** – We are the host club in cooperation with a club in Washington State. We are putting in USD1,000. Our funds will be matched 50% by TRF. The total budget is USD89,000. It is expected that the project will impact 1,200 students and 40 teachers. This is a great project that will involve new Rotarian Ginny Sparks-Kellough as well as John Seigner. Barb, Lory and Lynn are also helping.
23. **CAWST Recognition** - WCS contributed CAD1,500 to the Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology (CAWST) to cover speaker recognition pledges. We have a current project with CAWST in Uganda and Kenya that was funded for CAD25,000 last year. This was matched by an equivalent amount from the David O'Brien and Geoffrey Cumming matching program. Bev is the champion for all work with CAWST.
24. **Travel Expenses** – net cost to the club CAD5,567 or 2.5% of the annual WCS budget. Travellers covered all ground costs plus many paid for their own air travel. This was in addition to donating their time. This is a tremendous donation on the part of members!

Provision had been made in the past for USD exchange commitments. A new USD account has now been set up. All previous commitments in US dollars have been transferred into this account and addition funds will be transferred to this account as new commitments are made.

Older Projects Still Active During 2019/20

- **Ecuador - Cervical Cancer screening and hip dysplasia screening** in infants in urban and rural Ecuador where there is minimal medical care, with Ian MacPhail from the Port Moody club.

2,665 infants and 1,460 women have been screened. So far 100 women have had Cervical Cancer prevented. This is a sustainable project and will continue after our grant expires, so at least 1,000 women will be screened per year going forward. The screening for hip dysplasia has prevented 178 children so far from losing the ability to walk in their late teens as a result of severe hip arthritis. Walley and Sonny are the main champions from our club.

- **Guatemalan Literacy** – completed over the summer – Barb, Walter Haessel, Manon and Garry.
- **Nicaragua - Unicom** – As outlined in the introduction, a huge medical education project that has the potential to impact up to a million people. We have a District and Canadian Government grant and have just received approval for the Global Grant.
- **Uganda – Breaking the Silence** – Working with Days for Girls to provide training and education of community members (leaders, men & women, girls & boys) with respect to menstruation hygiene management and establish two fully certified Days for Girls enterprises to produce washable reusable menstrual hygiene products. The Global Grant has just been approved. The total expenditure will be USD89,950. Our contribution of USD5,000, committed in 2017/18, initiated the project along with a directed donation of CAD1,250. Manon started this project and Lori Forand has taken over as champion.
- **CAWST** - Our contribution of CAD25,000 is going to expand CAWST's global Water, Expertise and Training (**WET**) Centre capabilities in Africa. Our contribution was matched by a fund set up by David O'Brien and Geoffrey Cumming, the total contribution going toward the establishment of long-time partner Aqua Clara Kenya (ACK) as CAWST's eighth global WET Centre. CAWST and ACK estimate that their partnership since 2017 has resulted in training for over 490 implementers, enabling more than 246,876 people to have improved access to safe drinking water, proper hygiene and sanitation. Bev Blair is the champion.
- **Columbia – Safe Water** – A project completed with the Stampede Park Club. Jan Damery and Bob Taylor championed. This was drilling wells and has taken a sometime as drilling water wells often faces challenges. The project was successful and has just recently been completed.
- **SE Asia – Cerebral Palsy** – Lori was to travel to SE Asia with this project but the trip was delayed by partners and eventually cancelled due to the Covid crisis. We are continuing to pursue.

Changes to Matching Funding

As the result of COVID the Canadian Government has expended all of its funds for Rotary projects. We were fortunate to get a lot of support in this regard but are having to regroup on funding arrangements for some projects where we were hoping to get this matching. In addition, The Rotary Foundation has also allocated the majority of its available funding and is cutting back on matching amounts to only matching District funding after the end of June 2020. While we believe that this is a temporary set-back, it is causing a year-end rush on projects and recalculation of funding on many others. We rushed like mad and have currently 10 Global Grants either operational or pending. This is the maximum allowed by TRF. Going forward, our contribution to projects can still be the start of great programs that we fund working in cooperation with many clubs to raise the amount to impressive levels.

Barb Young et al
October 2020