

Contact:

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January 14, 2011

Rotary Launches Grant Program to Fight Family Homelessness in Northwest Washington.

Rotary International District 5050 announced a new partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that will fund local efforts to end family homelessness. Rotary 5050 will use a \$100,000 grant from the Gates Foundation to match contributions from Rotary Clubs across northwest Washington in our District. (This is a requirement of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation)

“It is a tragedy that right here in Washington state, thousands of people worry about where they will sleep at night—and nearly half of our region’s homeless are children and their parents,” said Larry Jubie, Past District Governor of Rotary District 5050. “This partnership gives us the opportunity to work with our communities to help to dramatically reduce family homelessness in this region.”

Rotary District 5050 will serve as the intermediary for the money—providing sub-grants to their 27 local clubs located in Northwest Washington who will raise matching funds and provide grants directly to local nonprofits working to meet the needs of homeless families. Each local club can apply for grants between \$2,500 and \$10,000. They will give priority to organizations that address one or more of the critical steps to end family homelessness:

- Early intervention and prevention before people lose their housing;
- Coordinated access to determine exactly what support each family requires to stabilize themselves;
- Programs tailored to meet the unique needs of individual families;
- Rapid re-housing into permanent homes, not temporary shelter; and
- Increased economic opportunity to help parents reduce the gap between income and rent.

Clubs in Northwest Washington will also support organizations working to develop or improve technology that would provide meaningful data on family homelessness—such as the number of homeless families with children, what they need, what services are being provided to them and by whom, and whether families become homeless again. Advocacy organizations that aim to build support among community leaders and educate policymakers are also eligible for local Rotary grants.

The application process consists of a letter (sent by email attachment) to PDG Larry Jubie with the following information:

1. The legal name of the organization that you are working with, certifying that they are a 501-c-3. The name and title of the individual(s) that you are working with.
2. The amount of the grant that you are requesting (must be a one to one match with club funds and meet guidelines shown above).
3. How this satisfies the requirements of the "Eligible Activities" guidelines. (A copy is located on the District 5050 website)

We are now in the process of working with organizations in Snohomish County to provide pre-approved programs. We would like to do this with other organizations located in the remaining parts of our district in Washington.

They will be made available to clubs as they are approved. Clubs are under no obligation to use these programs and are encouraged to work with local organizations in their area that are 501-c-3's.

Thank you for your help in addressing this very serious situation.

Questions may be addressed to PDG Larry Jubie by email lwjubie31@hotmail.com or phone 425-327-1555.