

Interact District Council 5160

Sponsored by Rotary District 5160

5716 Highland Ave Richmond CA 94804 | interactdistrict5160@gmail.com | 510-672-4693

Rotarians, community leaders, friends,



Our names are Darla Chavez and Julia Phalen. This year, we have the incredible privilege of serving Interact 5160 as its District Governors. Our council is composed of 25 dedicated and passionate members, all rooted in the same philosophy that has driven the unparalleled success of Rotary as a global volunteer organization for over a century: service above self. With this philosophy in mind, and in the spirit of collaboration, our council embarks on a district-wide service project every year. This service project encompasses over 60 Interact clubs throughout Northern California, all working together in an effort to make the world a better place. This year's project is particularly exciting, and we believe has the potential to be one of the most successful and impactful ever: Rotary International's PolioPlus.

Polio, also known as poliomyelitis, is a highly infectious disease caused by a virus. The virus can be transmitted from person to person, or by a common vehicle such as, contaminated water or food. It invades the nervous system, and can cause total paralysis in a matter of hours. Initial symptoms are fever, fatigue, headache, vomiting, stiffness of the neck, and pain in the limbs.¹ 1 in 200 infections leads to irreversible paralysis.¹ Among those paralysed, 5% to 10% die when their breathing muscles become immobilized.¹ Over 350,000 people have been affected by Polio and while incurable, there are vaccinations to prevent the disease from spreading.

With the ability to prevent the spread of Polio, Rotary began their campaign to eradicate Polio in 1979. Thanks to programs such as Rotary International's PolioPlus, polio cases have decreased by over 99% since 1988.¹ Over the last 25 years, Rotary has immunized over 2.5 billion children in 122 different countries.¹ With just two countries left, Rotary hopes to complete their mission of eradicating Polio worldwide by the end of this Rotary year. Each one of these immunizations only costs 60 cents which can prevent a child from getting a disease that can affect them for the rest of their life. Interact District 5160 hopes to help the Rotary family achieve this goal through awareness, education, service and fundraising.

This year, District Council 5160 is asking you and your local Rotary Club to join our efforts to raise funds for PolioPlus. Your support will provide Polio immunizations to children and families around the world and help eradicate Polio. If financial donations are not feasible, raising awareness about the PolioPlus would be appreciated. Our hope is that you will take the pledge and match funds alongside your Interact Club to donate at the end of the year. For doing any of these things, we offer you our deepest gratitude.

To learn more about District Council 5160, feel free to visit www.interact5160.org. For more information about PolioPlus Fund visit <http://www.endpolio.org/>. Please contact us at interactdistrict5160@gmail.com with any questions or inquiries about pledging.

Yours in Service,

Two handwritten signatures are shown. The first signature is in cursive and appears to be "Darla Chavez". The second signature is also in cursive and appears to be "Julia Phalen".

Darla Chavez and Julia Phalen
District Governors of Interact District Council 560
E: interactdistrict5160@gmail.com

¹ <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs114/en/>

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Interact District Council 5160 Pledge Form

Name: _____

Name of Rotary Club: _____

Name of Interact Club: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Are you matching funds with your local Interact Club? Yes No

Desired Pledge Amount: \$ _____

Additional questions about pledging?

*All checks are to be made out to **Interact District 5160** by Friday, May 12th, 2017 and attention to **Rebecca Phuong** at the above address.