

I have alerted Mary Kessens and the Foundation Committee about several Matching Grant requests that were declined by TRF due to lack of funding this year. The Foundation Committee in turn reviewed all RECENTLY non-funded Matching Grants for 2009 and decided to take some kind of action at the District level to help encourage these worthy projects along. We are opening up the opportunity for ALL clubs in our district to **"adopt a grant"** to assist in moving projects forward. WE are in the midst of some challenging times, but we all know from experience that Rotarians can be very generous if given an opportunity to assist people in need. We feel strongly that all the matching grant requests turned down this year are projects that need some attention.

Please take a moment to read about some of these grants and **contact the primary contact** to see how your club can assist another in true Rotary fashion!

Thank you,

Theresa Carroll, DGSC #6250

**Members of the Madison Breakfast Rotary club** collect books from Wisconsin schools and libraries, sort and pack them, make up pallet loads and fill 18-wheel semi trailers for shipment to Houston, Texas. Our cost is \$2,000 per truckload from Madison to Houston, Texas. In Houston, our books are combined with shipments from other collection centers in the U.S. and repacked in sea containers that are then sent to distribution centers in South Africa. To date, our club has shipped over 130 tons of books to Houston valued at approximately \$2.6 million. Our processing center now has just over three semi-loads of books to ship, but unfortunately our budgetary resources have been depleted for this year. Our challenge is to ship this inventory before we start our next text book collection cycle from schools in April of 2010. We need an additional \$6,000 to ship the remaining book inventory.

Many children in southern Africa have never held a book, while many schools in southern Wisconsin discard used books every year. Our club sponsors a program that keeps these books out of landfills and instead puts them into classrooms and needy children's hands. Since literacy, child welfare, world understanding, and saving the environment are areas of Rotary interest, this is a project District 6250 should consider. Your grant will be matched generously by hundreds of hours from Rotarian volunteers from our club, by in-kind gifts of storage space, cartons and pallets, and by individual financial contributions. Importantly, your gift will also be matched by the efforts of Rotarians in Houston, Texas who get the books loaded onto containers to be sent by sea freight, and by other volunteers in Africa who set up and staff the store rooms where teachers and librarians can select books for their students.

For additional information, I encourage you to check our websites at [www.madisonbreakfastrotary.org](http://www.madisonbreakfastrotary.org) and [www.rotarybooksfortheworld.org](http://www.rotarybooksfortheworld.org). We look forward to your reply, and thank you for considering this request.

Fe' C. Semira  
Treasurer, Madison Breakfast Rotary  
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**The Rotary Club of Janesville Morning** is supporting a project to expand to two new locations a school for beggar's children, called The Wheel School. This projects benefits children and families in Lagos, Nigeria. The hundreds of children who will attend these schools do not now have the means to finance their primary school education and must beg daily on the streets to support themselves and their families. Their parents are many times victims of disease, religious and ethnic discrimination, lack of educational opportunity and high unemployment. Children who attend these schools are frequently the first in their families to be educated and then have an opportunity of leading their families out of poverty. Future plans after the establishment of the primary and secondary schools include vocational training for students and parents.

To donate to this project, contact PDG Mary Kessens, [kessens@gdinet.com](mailto:kessens@gdinet.com), 608-516-1306

### **From Districts 6250 and 6420 to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in District 3450**

The Rotary Club of Ottawa Sunrise recently submitted a Matching Grant to Rotary International for \$19,300. Over the past eighteen months Ottawa Sunrise members have helped a shelter in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, with the purchasing of bedding and supplies for Desert Rose, a shelter for homeless girls. This is the only shelter of its kind in the whole country of Mongolia. The shelter was founded in 2007 by Mary Patterson, a United States citizen, working for non-profit organizations in Mongolia. Desert Rose provides shelter, food and clothing to the girls. In addition to the basic necessities, the shelter has classes to learn cooking, English, and has recently started a food business to help with finances. Through the efforts of four Rotary clubs in three districts, this application was made possible. Clubs involved are the Rotary Clubs of Ottawa Sunrise and Streator in Illinois, plus Beaver Dam in District 6250, and Bayanzurkh 100 in Ulaanbaatar, District 3450 in Mongolia. Rotary Districts 6420 and 6250, also donated funds. The grant will cover the purchase of a 12-passenger van plus pay for the insurance and fuel for one year.

If any clubs are interested in a program about the Desert Rose Shelter in Mongolia, contact:

Jane Goetz @ 815-343-7655 or [goetz\\_jane@yahoo.com](mailto:goetz_jane@yahoo.com).