



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
Distretto 2110 - Sicilia e Malta

Gaetano Lo Cicero
Governatore



Palermo, 1 novembre 2012

Dear Rotarians

November is the month in which we recognise the Rotary Foundation which this year celebrates its 95th anniversary.

Unfortunately, when we speak of the Rotary Foundation, we talk about it as something made and run by a few insiders and a thousand miles away from the activities of our clubs.

This is probably due to the complexity of the procedures for receiving funding compared to the ease with which it is possible to make contributions and also possibly due to the fact that this interaction is undertaken by the Presidents or Treasurers of our Clubs in the name of all the members.

With *Future Vision*, the new structure which the Foundation has initiated as of this year, although realistically these will take effect on the 1st of July, the Foundations disbursements will be notably simplified. 50% of funds will be directed to the District which will be able to assign these under its own responsibility and that of the Clubs to cover the financing of the year's projects. The remaining 50% will be directed towards the funding of the District's and Clubs' international projects. That's it, but we will discuss this at length in Enna on the 17th November with Maurizio Triscari.

Within my letter I would like to remind you all that Rotary Foundation is *our* foundation. Through it we sustain the fund for projects which are carried out by Rotary throughout the world. Through it we finance the battle against the terrible disease which is Poliomyelitis. The risk that we running is to believe that the battle against Polio is now a problem of the final 3 countries which have so far not eradicated it and that it is not our problem. Many of the young Rotarians are not even aware of what it is like to be effected by Polio or of the indelible consequences scaring one's life. Ten years ago, the battle against Polio was slowed down and the following year the cases of Polio in those countries in which Polio was found quadrupled. We cannot let down our guard while we are not sure that there will not be one other single case of Polio in the world. But above all I would like to remind you that through the donations to the Programmes Fund of the Foundation, we deposit money that after three years return back to finance the projects of our Clubs and District.

So as to create that direct link between Rotarians and their Foundation, which to me is still missing, during my visits to the Clubs I shall continue to promote the EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR campaign. Through our personal donations, each of us participate in the funding of various foundations: AIRC, AISL, FAI etc. why not also of our own foundation which surely supports very noble causes.

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If you can start with modest donations, even of a few Euros, the important thing is to initiate this process and then, if you would like to, to continue donating in the years to come. Our own personal contributions will further strengthen the Foundation and will help to increase the credibility and image of Rotary.

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