



# Rotary HealthRays UPDATE



Bringing digital x-ray technology to those in need

April 10, 2015

## Dear Friend:

Welcome to the latest edition of *Rotary HealthRays Update*, an electronic newsletter that provides you with news and developments from the [Rotary HealthRays](#) initiative - Rotary District 6440's effort to bring digital x-ray technology to needy populations in Guatemala -- and eventually, around the world.



We have many exciting news items to share!

To date we have installed three machines -- which are already making it possible to improve the lives of thousands of patients -- and we have recently received funding commitments for two more machines, bringing our total to five!

So far, we have raised or received commitments for more than \$425,000 in funding for our initiative. And we are confident we will reach the half million mark soon.

Please read the various news items in this edition of *Update*, and help us spread the word to interested Rotarians and to other organizations throughout the world. If you would like to learn more right now, visit [www.healthrays.info](http://www.healthrays.info).

We will keep you posted as momentum continues to build!

Sincerely,

**Pamela Kerr and Carlos Früm**  
Past Governors, Rotary District 6440  
Co-Chairs, Rotary HealthRays

**Why you are receiving this newsletter**

If you are receiving this newsletter, you are one of many people who have been selected based on your relationship to our project -- this ranges from being a financial supporter or a Rotary leader to being a representative of one of our partnering organizations. **Please note that if you do not want to receive future issues, you can easily unsubscribe** -- just click on the "unsubscribe" button at the bottom of this page. If you know of others who might want to receive our newsletter, please forward it on to them and ask them to subscribe.

## Rotary districts in Taiwan have joined HealthRays!

We are delighted to announce that four districts in Taiwan have generously contributed funding to the HealthRays initiative. The participation of these districts helps underscore the international impact of our projects. Funding from Taiwanese Rotarians will be applied to our fourth unit, which is slated to be installed soon in Villa Canales, Guatemala (see story below).

Taiwan districts participating, and their funding levels, are:

- \* **District 3470:** \$10,000
- \* **District 3500:** \$10,000
- \* **District 3510:** \$5,000
- \* **District 3520:** \$10,000

We thank these generous Rotarians in Taiwan for joining our project!

## Villa Canales: Our latest installation is moving forward

Financing has been confirmed and planning is now moving forward for our fourth digital x-ray unit, which will be installed at a health clinic in [Villa Canales, Guatemala](#).



The **Rotary Club of Guatemala de la Asuncion** is the host of the grant for this unit. Two members of that club are also members of the HealthRays central planning committee - **Jurg Egli**, who serves as Co-Chair of planning efforts, and **Isabelly Chow**,

who has played an instrumental role in helping develop the fourth unit.

Other members of the planning group from Guatemala include PDG **Jorge Aufranc**, PDG **Rodolfo Bianchi**, and **Franky Viau** - all members of the **Rotary Club of Guatemala Sur**.

With financing from four Rotary districts in Taiwan (3470, 3500, 3510, and 3520), from District 4250 in Guatemala, and with \$36,500 in matching funds from the Rotary Foundation, installation plans are now moving forward.

The Villa Canales clinic offers health services to more than 80,000 people in the

surrounding region. Because the clinic does not currently have x-ray equipment, it sends patients to Amatitlan, about an hour away. Installation of a digital x-ray unit will significantly improve the diagnostic capability of the clinic and bring much-needed travel relief to injured and ill patients in the region.

Planning is also underway for our fifth unit, to be installed in the Livingston region of Guatemala. We will provide updates about progress with both the fourth and fifth units in future editions of *Update*.

## **Thank you, Glenview Sunrise and Dundee Township!**

Support for HealthRays continues to grow in District 6440 (Illinois, USA) - including, most recently, substantial contributions from the **Glenview Sunrise** and **Dundee Township Rotary** clubs.

Glenview Sunrise contributed \$5,000 and Dundee Township contributed \$2,500. These contributions provide a great example of how donations to HealthRays can be leveraged for impact using Rotary matching funds.

As an example, bundling Global and District Designated matching funds with the Glenview Sunrise and Dundee Township donations will boost the original donation of \$7,500 to a total of \$26,250! The additional \$18,750 comes totally from the availability of matching funds through Rotary International.

The Glenview Sunrise Rotary Club has a history of supporting Rotary projects in Guatemala, including playing a role in the [Guatemala Literacy Project](#).

Other Rotary clubs and districts that are active in Guatemala are encouraged to join HealthRays as we seek opportunities to connect with locals in Guatemala to help spread awareness of our initiative. Being able to network with local contacts is a big help as we prepare to install units in regions all over Guatemala.

We thank the Glenview Sunrise and Dundee Township Rotary clubs for their contributions to our effort!

## **NU joins HealthRays effort, with donation of equipment**

Rotary HealthRays is delighted to announce that [Northwestern University](#), in Evanston, Illinois, USA, has generously agreed to donate a digital x-ray unit for installation in Guatemala as a part of our initiative.



**NORTHWESTERN  
UNIVERSITY**

A planning team is now reviewing location and usage options and logistical requirements for shipping the unit from the United States to Guatemala.

We thank Northwestern University for its participation!

## Fundraising News

### Rotary districts: We need your help

Financial support from Rotary districts is integral to the future success of Rotary HealthRays. We are looking for funding districts who would like to join in on this effort.

Please contact Pamela Kerr at [gov.pam@rotary6440.org](mailto:gov.pam@rotary6440.org) or Carlos Früm at [gov.carlos@rotary6440.org](mailto:gov.carlos@rotary6440.org) to learn how your district can be part of the project.

The districts providing funding support currently include:

- \* Districts 3470, 3500, 3510, and 3520: Taiwan
- \* District 4250: Central America
- \* District 5420: Utah, USA
- \* District 6440: Northern Illinois
- \* District 6600: Northern Ohio, USA
- \* District 7150: Central New York, USA
- \* District 7610: Northern Virginia, USA

Thank you to all!

Special thanks to the **Rotary Club of Guatemala Asuncion** for its participation.

### District 6440 clubs show their support

Thirty-three Rotary Clubs from District 6440 -- which launched the Rotary HealthRays project -- have provided or pledged financial support for the project to date. Thank you for your commitment!

**Algonquin - Lake in the Hills**  
**Arlington Heights - Noon**  
**Batavia**  
**Bloomington - Roselle**  
**Cary Grove**  
**Central DuPage AM**  
**Chicagoland Korean**  
**Crystal Lake**  
**Deerfield**  
**Dundee Township**  
**Evanston Lighthouse**  
**Evanston - Noon**  
**Glenview Sunrise**  
**Grayslake**  
**Highland Park/Highwood**  
**Lake in the Hills**  
**Lake Zurich**  
**Lincolnshire**  
**Mount Prospect/Arlington Heights**  
**Mount Prospect/Prospect Heights**  
**Mundelein-Vernon Hills**  
**North Chicago**

**Northbrook  
Palatine  
Park Ridge  
Richmond/Spring Grove  
Schaumburg - Hoffman Estates  
Skokie Valley  
Waukegan  
Wheaton  
Wheeling  
Wilmette Harbor  
Winnetka - Northfield**

## **Read our new concept paper!**

The Rotary HealthRays team has written a [comprehensive concept paper](#) that explains in detail how our project works and what it is intended to achieve. Please download this resource to learn more about the project.

The paper explains:

**The vital need for this project and why digital x-ray technology is so important**

**How HealthRays evolved and background information about the major partners**

**Background information about health and poverty in Guatemala**

**Operational and cost details**

## **Rotary HealthRays in brief**

As many as four billion people around the globe - basically two-thirds of the entire population -- have little or no access to simple x-ray technology, which is taken for granted as a basic health tool in most industrialized nations.

Rotarians in [Rotary International District 6440](#) - near Chicago, Illinois -- have launched an effort to address this problem, with a new cross-sector model for action that we have introduced in Guatemala and hope to replicate eventually in countries around the world. Our primary goal is to install 29 digital x-ray units in underserved areas throughout Guatemala.

Eventually, our project will impact more than one and a half million people in that country, where health care outcomes are among the worst in Central America.

### **About Rotary**

Rotary International is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world. In more than 200 countries worldwide, approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 34,000 Rotary clubs. To learn more, please visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

CONTACT US!

**For more information about becoming a partner:**

Pamela Kerr, [gov.pam@rotary6440.org](mailto:gov.pam@rotary6440.org)

Carlos Früm, [gov.carlos@rotary6440.org](mailto:gov.carlos@rotary6440.org)

Jorge Aufranc, [jaufranc@corporacioninstatec.com](mailto:jaufranc@corporacioninstatec.com)

**Media inquiries:**

Paul Larson, [larsonpw@gmail.com](mailto:larsonpw@gmail.com)

**General inquiries:**

[support@healthrays.info](mailto:support@healthrays.info)

Rotary District 6440 | [infocenter@rotary6440.org](mailto:infocenter@rotary6440.org) | <http://www.rotary6440.org>

3513 Central

Evanston, IL 60201