



Bringing digital x-ray technology to those in need

September 30, 2018

## Dear Friend:

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



Guatemalan child at clinic with HealthRays digital x-ray unit

## IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE!

HealthRays continues to move forward to complete the **long-term goal of 29 digital x-ray units** in health clinics across Guatemala. Although we are not yet "this close," there is much pride in being able to say that this project is over one third of the way to completion. When completed, District 6440 will have helped improve the health care available to millions of people with this unique project model.

## Accomplishments to date:

- **Completed 10 out of 29 individual global grants** - two more on the way
- **Eight clinics up and running w/ digital x-ray equipment** - two more in process
- **Over \$875,000 pledges made** - 65 clubs and 18 districts in US and around the world, as well as individuals
- **In October issue of *The Rotarian*, page 30 highlights Taiwan's continued interest and pledges for HealthRays** - read [full article](#) by Nancy Shepherdson, an assistant governor in District 6440

As noted in Nancy's article, we want to once again thank our sister district 3481 for pledging the donation of a complete unit. **When all 29 units have been installed, 3 to 4 million Guatemalans will have access to digital x-ray technology for the first time!**

HealthRays now needs one person (or more), as District Governor Julie describes in her Q & A response below, to help connect us with a private or corporate foundation that would support this type of health-related initiative and be excited to help an entire country in Latin America. "Who do you know" that could help us get a foot in the door and get this close to the end of our project goal?

In the meantime, we hope each of you will join us to celebrate all that has been accomplished and look forward to all the exciting news to come.

Sincerely,

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

## THANK YOU

Since the inception of the HealthRays concept in 2011 and the development of formal working agreements with its major partners, great achievements have been made possible by all of the [supporting partners and contributors](#) highlighted on the HealthRays website, as well as many other individuals. Thank you, thank you, thank you to the clubs, districts and individuals that have so generously contributed to the funding and/or provided support for this project in a multitude of other ways.



## NEW WEBSITE

Check out our new, refreshed website at [healthrays.info](http://healthrays.info) for up-to-date news and to learn more about the project - don't miss the Video Gallery by scrolling all the way down in the Media tab.

## 2018 RI CONVENTION RECAP

HealthRays reached large audiences in Toronto thanks to everyone who helped spread the word - visit the [News & Update](#) section of our website for a recap of both the breakout session and booth experience, including a list of district volunteers and more photos.



PDG Pam Kerr, PRIP Gary Huang PDG  
Carlos Früm

## Q & A -- DISTRICT 6440 GOVERNOR JULIE CLARK

Thank you to DG Julie for answering the following questions:

1. *When did you learn about and become involved with the HealthRays project?*

The first time I heard of the HealthRays project is when I was a co-trainer the year Mike Yesner was going to be district governor and he introduced it at PETS to all of the presidents-elect. The presidents-elect at that time were very receptive to the idea. The partnership idea was fairly new at the time and I remember that the goal was to have more clubs partnering in projects. This was a project that all the clubs could support at whatever level they felt was comfortable for their clubs.

*2. Why do you feel it is important, in your role as District Governor, for our district and others to continue to support the HealthRays project until its completion?*

We made a commitment to the project with the support of the presidents during Mike Yesner's year. If we make a commitment, we need to honor it. Over 30 years ago Rotary made a commitment to eradicate polio, and we are not going to stop until we honor that commitment. To me HealthRays is a commitment our district made and we need to honor that. We have received a lot of recognition for this project from Rotary leaders, such as Past Rotary International President John Germ in Atlanta and Past Rotary International Director Jorge Aufranc at the International Assembly. Now is the time to stay strong and finish the project.

*3. What are ways you would like to see our district and others around the Rotary world help support the HealthRays project?*

We have been so fortunate in financial support from our district and other districts around the world and that is awesome, but now I would love to see a corporate sponsor help us bring this project to another level. It was one person who connected us to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and that partnership has been strong ever since with the same goal in mind. If one Rotarian introduced us to the right foundation or organization that has the same mission as this project, we could perhaps have the funding to support the rest of the units needed for this project.



District 6440 Governor  
Julie Clark

## Funding for Additional Clinics

HealthRays needs your help to bring this critical health tool, digital x-ray technology, to the remaining remote clinics in Guatemala. Besides continuing to receive support from Rotary clubs, districts and individuals, please help provide us with leads to gain the support of those outside of the Rotary world -- corporations, foundations, or individuals that are not affiliated with Rotary would be extremely beneficial.

Donations from corporations, foundations or non-member individuals receive a 50-cents-per-dollar match from The Rotary Foundation and depending on a Rotary district's policies can receive an additional district and Rotary Foundation match if the donations are received through a Rotary club.

Contributions may be made one of the following ways:

- Online through the [Rotary District 6440 Charitable Fund](#), with **credit card or PayPal account**.
- Through the [Rotary District 6440 Charitable Fund](#), by completing a downloaded form and submitting it with a **check**.
- Through the [Donor Advised Fund for HealthRays, established at The Rotary Foundation](#) with "Guatemala Digital X-Ray DAF 466" noted in the memo field.
- Through the existing Club Foundation of any Rotary club in District 6440, with designation of the contribution specifically for "HealthRays."

## 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 35,000 Rotary clubs. To learn more, please visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

## 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.

## CONTACT US

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