Rotary – What's in it for me?

When we hear the word Rotary as a service organization, we often think of volunteers giving of their time, talent, and treasure to create lasting change, whether across the globe or in their own communities. But often people ask, ***"Why should I get involved"***, or ***"What's in it for me?"*** Let's look at the many benefits that you can receive by being a part of the family of Rotary.

1. **Leadership Development** – One of the great offerings of Rotary, particularly valuable to young people, is their leadership development, skills development, and a plethora of online courses and programs that you can take, **all at no cost!** One example is the Rotary partnership with **Toastmasters International**. You can take many Toastmasters courses through Rotary International, again at no cost. If your employer were to sign you up for these programs or courses, it would be in the 10s of thousands of dollars, and **Rotary offers it for free**.

2. **A Living Resume** – Working alongside other professionals in service to others exposes your work ethic, attitude, and willingness to help to all of those around you. Whether it is to the organization receiving your assistance, or a fellow volunteer working side by side, your actions become a living resume. I know several people who landed very lucrative and senior roles through the serendipitous introduction of a fellow volunteer serving their community. They didn't read a resume; they saw the person in action and knew they would be a great fit for their team.

3. **Building Your Network** - one of the great benefits of being in the family of Rotary is the fellowship and lifelong friends you gain while serving your communities. Rotarians come in all shapes and sizes and every profession; from doctors, lawyers, business owners, trades people, educators, or engineers, you will build a network of diverse and connected community leaders, not only in your own community but around the world. No matter where you travel, there is a Rotary Club waiting to welcome you with open arms and introduce you to their members.

If you are a young professional looking to expand your network, build leadership skills, and give back to your community, Rotary is the way to go. If you would like to learn more about Rotary, please contact us at office@rotary.org and I will personally follow up with you.

