

September 2015 PolioPlus Update

Wild Polio Case Counts (as of 23 September 2015)

Country	2014 (calendar year)	2015 (to date)	Date of last case
Pakistan	306	32	22 August 15
Afghanistan	28	9	7 August 15
Somalia	5	0	11 Aug 14
Nigeria	6	0	24 July 14
Cameroon	5	0	9 July 14
Equatorial Guinea	5	0	3 May 14
Iraq	2	0	7 April 14
Syria	1	0	21 Jan 14
Ethiopia	1	0	4 Jan 14
Total	359	41	

Circulating Vaccine-Derived Polio Cases (as of 23 September 2015)

Country	2014 (calendar year)	2015 (to date)	Date of last case
Ukraine	0	2	7 July 2015
Madagascar	1	9	7 July 2015
Mali	0	1	20 July 2015
Nigeria	30	1	16 May 2015
Total	31	13	

Rotary Program Updates

Highlights

- Nigeria was removed from the list of polio-endemic countries on 25 September at the Polio Oversight Board Meeting in New York in which Rotary was represented by IPPC Chair Mike McGovern. PolioPlus Director Carol Pandak was also at the meeting.
- Rotary International President-elect John Germ traveled to Beirut, Lebanon to participate in events in District 2452, including a Polio Conference on 6 September. The event was attended by Rotarians from 27 countries as well as the World Health Organization, UNICEF, vaccine producer Sanofi Pasteur, government officials and UN-ESCWA. Rotary International provided a grant of US\$95,000 to Lebanese Rotarians to raise awareness about the need to continue vaccinating children against polio. Sanofi Pasteur also provided financial support for the event.

- Outbreaks of vaccine-derived polio have occurred in Madagascar, the Ukraine and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). A case in Mali has also been reported from a child who traveled into the country from Guinea, where vaccination rates are low due to the Ebola outbreak. Outbreaks of vaccine derived polio are very rare, but can result in spread in at risk populations with low immunity rates. Rotarians have been engaged in all of the affected countries, and are working with partners and government officials to address the issues and ensure outbreak activities get underway quickly.
- Jacksonville business leaders and philanthropists Wayne and Delores Weaver donated \$250,000 to Rotary in support of polio eradication efforts. Together with matching funds from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, a total of \$750,000 will be available to support upcoming polio campaigns.
- Type 2 Polio Certification – In an important step towards a polio-free world, the Global Commission for the Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication (GCC) has concluded that wild poliovirus type 2 (WPV2) has been eradicated worldwide. With WPV type 3 not being seen anywhere in the world for nearly three years, the program is seeing exciting strides towards ending polio for good.

Country Updates

Afghanistan

- The vehicle of a polio vaccination team was hit by an IED in Takhta Pul district. One vaccinator died and another lost both legs in the attack. The driver is also in serious condition. The World Health Organization is collecting information on the attack and considerations of support for the family of the vaccinator who was killed and the wounded are underway.

Nigeria

- President Buhari inaugurated immunization activities in his home state of Katsina and a high level advocacy group, including National PolioPlus Committee Chair Dr. Tunji Funsho, visited him at the Presidential Villa in Abuja, where he vowed full support for ending polio in Nigeria.
- Rotary provided three mobile health clinics to the National Primary Health Care Development Agency to help deliver basic health care services to rural populations as well as to enhance immunization coverage in underserved populations living in high-risk states. The project was made possible through a Global Grant from The Rotary Foundation
- In strengthening social mobilization in polio high-risk states, the Nigeria NPPC has launched a one megaphone per ward project. This intervention is intended to bridge megaphones gaps in the critical states. 500 megaphones have so far been provided in Kano and Sokoto.

Pakistan

- A polio camp was arranged by the Rotary Club Of Lahore Shalimar, and several dignitaries joined in support of the polio eradication effort, including Former President of Pakistan Muhammad Rafiq Tarar, Senior Journalist Ajmal Niazi , Rana Muhammad Arshad (MPA)/Parliamentary Secretary IT Punjab , Haroon Sb SP HQ Police Lines, Pakistani Star Cricketer Wahab Riaz and Umar Akmal.
- National PolioPlus Committee Chair Aziz Memon and PolioPlus Director Carol Pandak attended the Association of Pakistan Physicians of North America's 38th Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida to advocate for their support of the polio eradication effort in Pakistan.
- Dr. Jewat Sunder is a tireless and dedicated member of the polio eradication effort in Pakistan. He meets with children in his own community and in adjacent villages to share information about polio and encourage parents to vaccinate their children. He utilizes the Rotary Speaking Book and other resources to share his message, often visiting schools and holding events that address basic health issues beyond polio.

General Program Updates

- **PolioPlus History Book:** Volume One of Rotary's Three Volume History, *Rotary and the Gift of a Polio free World* is now available online for US\$10. It is an excellent resource for Rotarians and makes a great gift for PolioPlus donors, Rotary friends, and all those who share Rotary's commitment to a polio free world. Please click on the following link to watch a short video that includes information on how to purchase the book: <https://vimeo.com/123962780>. Volume Two is expected to be available by the end of the year.

Fundraising Goals & Progress for 2015-16*

Fundraising Goals	Fundraising Progress
US\$1,500 per club/US\$35 million total	Total Contributions (as of 20 August 2015) US\$3.9 million
20% or more DDF from all districts/US\$7 million total	DDF raised: US\$744,257
US\$3.5 million in Major Gifts	Major Gifts: US\$504,292

Miles to End Polio

- On 21 November, a team of Rotary staff and the General Secretary will join Arizona Rotary members in El Tour de Tucson to raise funds for polio eradication. The 104-mile race, which attracts more than 9,000 cyclists a year, is one of the top cycling events in the United States. The team's Miles to End Polio fundraising goal is \$10 million. For additional information about the ride please visit <http://www.endpolio.org/miles-to-end-polio>.
- Districts are encouraged to help us reach this goal with a special Miles to End Polio DDF donation. The district that contributes the most DDF will receive a visit from President-elect John Germ. The DDF form is available for download here:
http://www.highroadsolution.com/file_uploader2/files/miles+ddf+form.doc
The top five giving districts will be announced on stage at the Rotary Convention in Seoul.

Advocacy Update

- European Union: Partner meetings were held with key Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) on 2 September to discuss the budget amendment language that was proposed for one of the EU funding sources. National Advocacy Advisor Hildegard Dressino represented Rotary at these meetings. 80% of the MEPs who signed the Written Declaration earlier this year were contacted to encourage their support and on 3 September all three amendments were adopted providing the opportunity to pursue funding within the budget process.
- President Ravindran will speak at the People's Forum, the civil society meeting held in conjunction with the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting (CHOGM) taking place in Malta during the last week of November. He will participate in a panel discussion on Health and Resilience. The theme of the People's Forum is *What makes resilient societies?* and the theme of the summit is *Adding Global Value*. Both themes connect well to Rotary International's work on polio eradication, which will be the focus of President Ravindran's participation.

Communications Update

- In October, Rotary will announce actress Kristen Bell has joined the "This Close" campaign as Rotary polio ambassadors. She has contributed video messages to be played during the 23 October World Polio Day kick-off event in New York City.
- Preparations continue for Rotary's World Polio Day kickoff event on 23 October. A toolkit of resources to help Rotarians get involved with World Polio Day – including messaging, social media posts and graphics – was distributed to Rotarians in mid-September. Find these



resources at <http://www.endpolio.org/docs/default-source/world-polio-day/world-polio-day-toolkit-en15.pdf?sfvrsn=2>

- On 20 October, Rotary will launch a joint campaign with global development platform Devex entitled “How to end a global disease.” The campaign will include news stories by the Devex editorial team; op-eds by Rotary, partners and others; social media content; and more.

*If you want specific club or district fundraising information, please contact Clare Monroe in PolioPlus at polioplus@rotary.org.