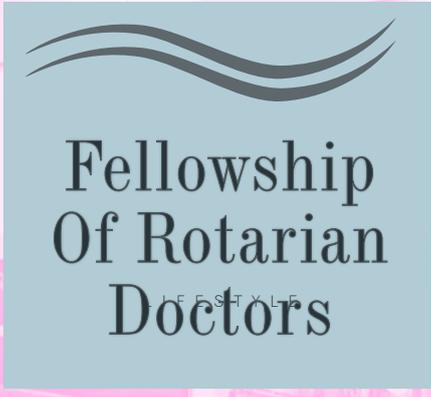


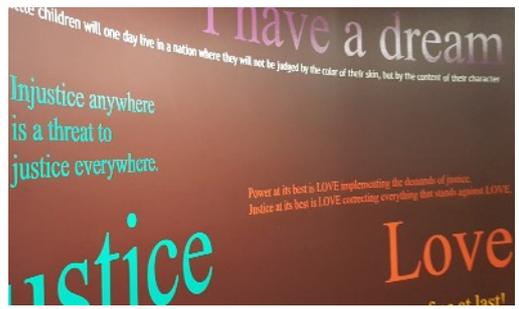
ROTARIAN DOCTORS



ATLANTA RI CONVENTION A NEW BEGINNING FOR US

healthprofessionalsinrotary.org

A DREAM COME TRUE

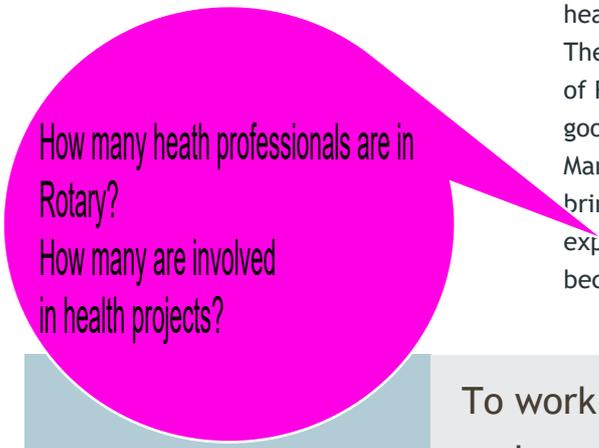


In the Martin Luther King museum in Atlanta, I was reminded most powerfully of the famous words ‘I had a dream’.

I had a dream for the Doctors’ Fellowship when I planned the trip to Atlanta.

My dream was to do something to enable the health professionals in Rotary to channel their energy into reducing health inequalities that exist between communities.

I’m delighted to report that in Atlanta we took a step in the right direction.



OUR VISION

To work together to reduce inequalities in health care and to reduce suffering, by utilising to the maximum the skills and resources at our disposal.

THE FELLOWSHIP FACED a big challenge before the Convention as our application for a booth space in the House of Friendship was initially rejected. A booth space in the House of Friendship was a must for many of our activities. After some serious canvassing with the help of local Rotarians we were awarded a booth space that worked well.

HOUSE OF FRIENDSHIP



OUR BOOTH DISPLAY was very colourful and eye catching. It attracted hundreds of delegates and we engaged with many. Our primary aim was to raise the profile of the Fellowship. This we did extremely well with the help of a number of our

members and supporters.

We were there also to listen. It was clear from the comments we heard that we are unique within RI as we are truly multidisciplinary and represent all health care disciplines.

There are hundreds of thousands of health care professionals in the family of Rotary and beyond, whose collective input could be a powerful force for good.

Many health professionals feel underused by Rotary and found it difficult to bring their vocational skills and expertise into Rotary. Many hope and expected our Fellowship to provide opportunities to serve others and to become part of global health initiatives.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THE FELLOWSHIP'S PRIMARY focus has been networking and dissemination of medical information. Our members initiated and carried out many amazing projects but the Fellowship is unable to take any initiatives. There are no resources to support or initiate any service projects.

The Annual General meeting gave your Board of Directors the authority to explore and change our Fellowship into an Action Group if it appears to be a good idea.

Our members undertake a variety of projects - mostly localised at club and district level; some also internationally. But, as a Fellowship we have limited input and get little recognition. We do not have the ability to organise, implement and monitor service projects. Furthermore, we do not have funds to engage in and get involved in meaningful advocacy, networking or training events. We also have little scope of opening doors for our members who wish to undertake voluntary work.

Getting recognition as an Action group may be difficult as there are already at least 15 Action groups engaged in health projects such as Addiction Prevention, AIDS and Family Health, Alzheimer's and Dementia, Blindness Prevention, Blood Donation, Clubfoot, Dentistry, Diabetes, Health Education and Wellness, Hearing, Hepatitis, Malaria, Mental Health, Multiple Sclerosis, Preconception Care.

It is one of our strengths that we have members from many medical and allied professions. Most want to endeavour to reduce the gap in the standard of health care between communities and human suffering due to inadequate or inappropriate health services.

Our new RAG can therefore aptly be named Rotarian Action Group which will try to reduce health inequalities in a variety of ways.

By sharing good practices, encouraging local protocols and quality systems, offering training and management skills.

Working alongside the leaders of the profession in selected countries, we hope to hold workshops and training events in health care management and quality improvement.

THE AGM AUTHORIZED the Board to explore the possibility of the Fellowship becoming a Rotary Action Group, and or a nonprofit making corporation like the Rotarians for Family Health & AIDS Prevention.

IF APPROVED, THE current Fellowship members will become members of the Action Group and the current Board will have all transitional responsibilities.

THE ASSETS OF the Fellowship will be transferred to the new Action group.

There are many outstanding issues for us to consider if we succeed in becoming an Action Group. Some are:

- Membership - all current Fellowship members will automatically become members of the Action group.
- All funds held by the Fellowship will become that of the Action group.
- The composition and responsibilities of the Board will need to be agreed with RI.

DINE WITH THE DOCTORS

OUR 'DINE WITH the Doctors' event seems to be becoming increasingly popular. This year the response exceeded all expectation. It was challenging to accommodate 90 people - some had to be turned away - in a restaurant which served traditional Georgia food.

Although there were logistical problems the overall atmosphere was most enjoyable. We were pleased to have the company of CDC/Emory Rotarians - one of the youngest club in RI and be welcomed by the President Yamin Farhart.

We also surprised CDC/Emory RC member Allan Janssen by awarding him a Paul Harris Fellowship his amazing support for us resulting in the amazing clinical seminar with world renowned experts.

Our ticket for the CDC tour said 'VIP Tour' and it was a truly so. This CME accredited meeting left us inspired beyond words.

To hear from the professionals that 'without Rotary Polio would not be eradicated' and also to hear their impassioned plea for a legacy programme left us convinced that CDC Rotary partnership is here to stay.



ALAN JANSSEN RECEIVING PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIP



THE VIP TOUR TO CDC

We are in conversation with CDC and the local Club to see how we can translate our friendship and mutual trust into action.



A Good Cause for Good Care

**A FREE Vocational Service Project Sponsored by
Rotarian Healthcare Professionals to Promote
Dignity and Comfort in Case of Serious Illness**

A turnkey program for Rotarians to
engage their clubs and communities in
this work

FREE access to *Five Wishes* living will

Available in 29 languages

Customizable presentation and
promotion materials



www.HealthProfessionalsInRotary.org

Rotary  International
Rotarian Doctors

A GOOD CAUSE FOR GOOD CARE - OUR FIRST SERVICE PROJECT

OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH Aging with Dignity now offers all Rotarians an opportunity to help themselves and others in facing up to some tough questions about our lives. The Fellowship is now offering all Rotarians resources to discuss this not so easy topic in their club. We believe that all of us deserve control of our lives which can only happen if we are prepared to grab the bull by the horn and ask some tough questions.

THIS IS A FREE VOCATIONAL SERVICE WE ARE OFFERING TO ROTARIANS.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
DR JOHN E DUGAW MD, FAAFP,
VICE CHAIR, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, OCEAN SPRINGS MS USA**

goodcauseforgoodccare@gmail.com

OR GO TO OUR WEBSITE

<https://www.rotary-site.org/health-professionals>