

DISTRICT 5300'S NEW Cleft-Lip/Palate Project MISSION

Saving Smiles...Changing Lives
Cebu City, Philippines
2 weeks - January/February 2024
[Mission Flyer](#)

VOLUNTEERS

We have eight (8) non-medical volunteer positions for this mission with Rotaplast open to Rotarians and Rotaractors. The cost: non-medical volunteers are responsible for travel costs that include roundtrip airfare with the group from San Francisco, insurance, VISA and a background check.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| -Quartermaster | -Medical Records Keeper |
| -Sterilizer | -Mission "historian" (photographer/bloc) |
| -Ward Coordinator | -Recovery Room Helper |
| -Patient Transport | -Recreation Therapist |

Applicants need to:

- Complete the [Rotaplast Mission Interest Form](#)
- Submit a short personal statement addressing: "Why you might be interested in joining a Rotaplast team and what skills you would bring to the team."
- Review the Rotaplast website: www.rotaplast.org about various positions.

Email the interest form and personal statement to: dls@drexcecg.com BY **September 15th, 2023**

CONTRIBUTIONS

Help us fund this mission with club and individual contributions. Any amount is appreciated. Your donation will change children's lives.

Donations should be made out to:

"Rotary District 5300"

Please indicate "***Cleft Lip Project***" on the memo line.

Send donations to:

Rotary International District 5300
10624 S. Eastern Ave. Ste. A-16
Henderson, NV 89052

QUESTIONS

Questions or to schedule a club program, contact (or any member of the committee):
Drexel L. Smith Tele: 951.202.2012 email: dls@drexelcg.com

District 5300
Cleft Lip
Committee

Drexel L. Smith, Chair, dls@drexelcg.com, 951-202-2012

Robin Smith, Co-chair, redzlife2@yahoo.com

John Chase, Jchase5300@gmail.com,

Bonita Ramos, bramos@abilityfirst.org,

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Rotary District 5300 Cleft Lip/Palate Project

ROTAPLAST

Saving Smiles....Changing Lives



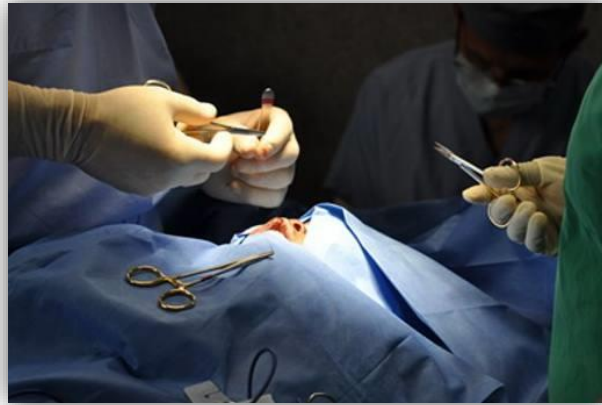
PROGRAM

Purpose: To provide free reconstructive surgery and ancillary treatments for cleft lips, palates, burn scarring and other deformities.

Where: In developing countries throughout the world.

Who: Volunteer medical professionals and District 5300 Rotarian non-medical volunteers.

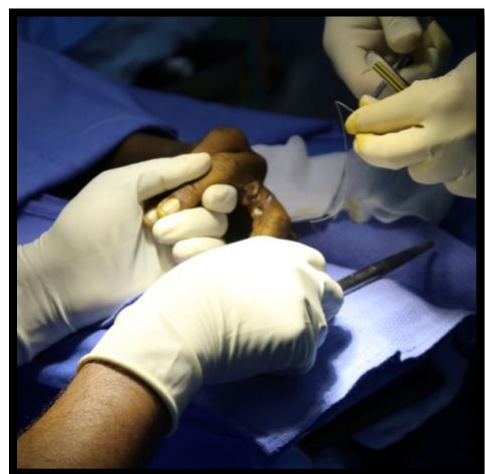
ROTAPLAST



District 5300 works with Rotaplast International, Inc., to provide life-changing surgeries to those with cleft lips and/or palates, burn scarring and other deformities.

- Rotaplast was started by Rotarians and the Rotary Club of San Francisco.
- It has been in existence for 28 years.
- It traditionally carries out 12 two week missions a year and has worked in 26 developing counties.
- It relies on local Rotarians as support and outreach for patients in surrounding communities.
- It recruits highly skilled volunteer medical staff, and most missions utilize Rotarians as non-medical support.
- It is a 501(c)3 non-profit, humanitarian organization and has received a 4 Star Rating from Charity Navigator (the highest and the same as TRF.) It operates with very low overhead and does no advertising.

DISTRICT MISSIONS



A typical mission will be two weeks long and include a full team of 30+ volunteers, 2/3 of which are medical staff. District 5300 has sponsored 7 missions.

- 2011: Retalhuleu, Guatemala
- 2013: Monrovia, Liberia
- 2015: Retalhuleu, Guatemala
- 2017: Lima, Peru
- 2019: Arusha, Tanzania
- 2020: Agra, India
- 2022: Medellin, Colombia
- 2023: Medellin, Colombia

Through these surgical missions District 5300 has impacted the lives of many families:

- 477 Patients Treated
- 634 Procedures Carried Out

The 2022 mission to Colombia was supported by five non-medical volunteers:



CLUB INVOLVEMENT



Volunteers: The district reaches out to clubs for non-medical volunteer applicants. These volunteers should be active Rotarians from the district, available for the full two-week mission, travel with the team out of San Francisco and be comfortable traveling/working in a developing country. The non-medical volunteers are responsible for their own travel costs and miscellaneous minor expenses that may include VISA fees, insurance and other direct costs. Assistance with travel expenses may be provided, please inquire with a committee member. For our eight past missions the District has provided over 40 non-medical volunteers in various roles.

- Mission Director
- Recovery Room Helper
- Assistant Mission Director
- Recreation Therapist
- Quartermaster
- Interpreter
- Medical Records Keeper
- Ward Coordinator
- Equipment Sterilizer
- Mission Historian
- Patient Transport



Contributions: To support these seven missions, our Rotary clubs and individuals have generously contributed over \$400,000. Often, the district co-sponsors a mission with another entity, this year, District 5300 will be the sponsor the Cebu City, Philippines 2024 Mission.

Because of the Rotary Club of Las Vegas, our Cleft Lip/Palate Program has been the fortunate beneficiary of major gifts from Welles Family Foundation. The District will be forever grateful for the donations as it will allow us to provide mission support on an annual basis going forward.

FUTURE MISSIONS

The Cleft Lip/Palate Committee has recommended, and District Governor (RY23/24) Mike Soden has agreed to be the sponsor of the upcoming Rotaplast mission to Cebu to be January or February 2024. A two-week mission is planned, exact dates of the Cebu mission are not yet available. In communicating with local Rotarians, there continues to be a significant need related to cleft lip and palate surgeries and burn scars surgical reconstructions.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The District 5300 Cleft Lip/Palate Committee is composed of the following individuals:



Drexel L. Smith
dls@drexelcg.com



Robin Smith, Co-Chair
redzlife2@yahoo.com



John Chase, PDG
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Bonita Ramos
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Arzoo Salami, MD

dr.salami007@gmail.com



Tony Scheppmann

tncscheppmann@gmail.com

QUESTIONS and ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Club Presentations: We can arrange for one of our non-medical volunteers from a past mission to give a club presentation about their life-changing experience serving on a Rotaplast mission. Contact one of the committee members to schedule a presentation.

Rotaplast Website: Photo blogs of past missions, job descriptions for non-medical volunteers, and extensive general information is available on Rotaplast's website: <https://rotaplast.org/>

District Office Contact Information

Rotary International District 5300
10624 S. Eastern Ave. Ste. A-16
Henderson, NV 89052

702.274.0660

Email: office@district5300.org