



Volunteering in Panama

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The first question :

What to do with my free time left?

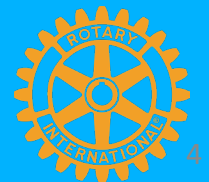


Realizing that you are alive, full of energy and willing to do things and, almost certainly, with the knowledge of how to do it!



Question Two: **Dedicating yourself to a social cause:**

- **Charity** tends to be a short- term, emotional, immediate response, focused primarily on rescue and relief
- **Philanthropy** is much more long-term, more strategic, focused on rebuilding
- There is charity, which is Good, and then there is **problem- solved social service** which lead to generate a permanent change and problem solution.



Question three : **With whom should I be associated with ?**

Opting for long-lasting commitments and results

- **Social Clubs**



- **Not-for-Profits**

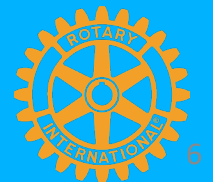


- **Local communities and cooperatives**



Social / Service Clubs

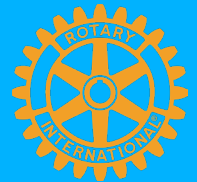
- The most known in Panama are Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis and 20-30 Clubs
 - Comparable aims and governance structures
 - More and more focused on long terms goals
 - Funding “pooling” efficient mechanism to increase Project funding
- Three Rotary Clubs in Panama that are 100 % English speaking
 - Playa Coronado
 - Boquete – Chiriquí
 - Bocas del Toro





Life inside a Club

- Networking: making new acquaintances
 - Being new in town
 - Finding people
 - Getting advice
 - Being among peers

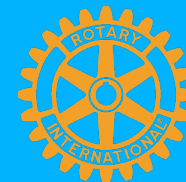




Life inside a Service Club



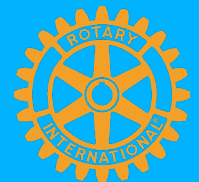
- **Social work:** multiplying your own contributions
 - Participate in the decision-making process to bring good to others
 - Find the right forum to share some of your experiences feeling part of something bigger





Life inside a Club

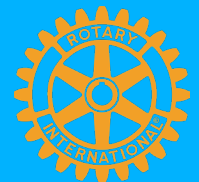
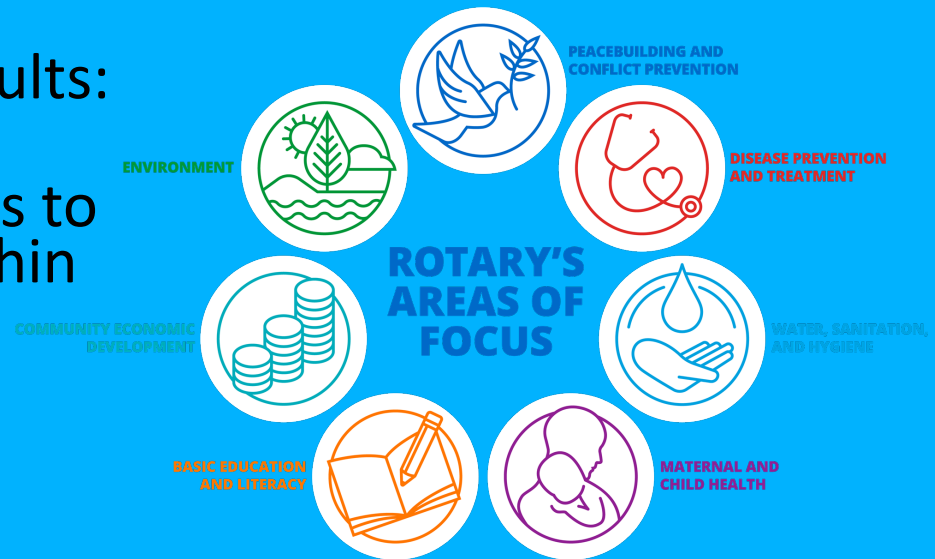
- Information gathering :
 - Permanent access to speakers on different fields or about current events
 - Feely Exchange of ideas or concerns
 - A faster venue to understanding the local culture





Life inside a Service Club

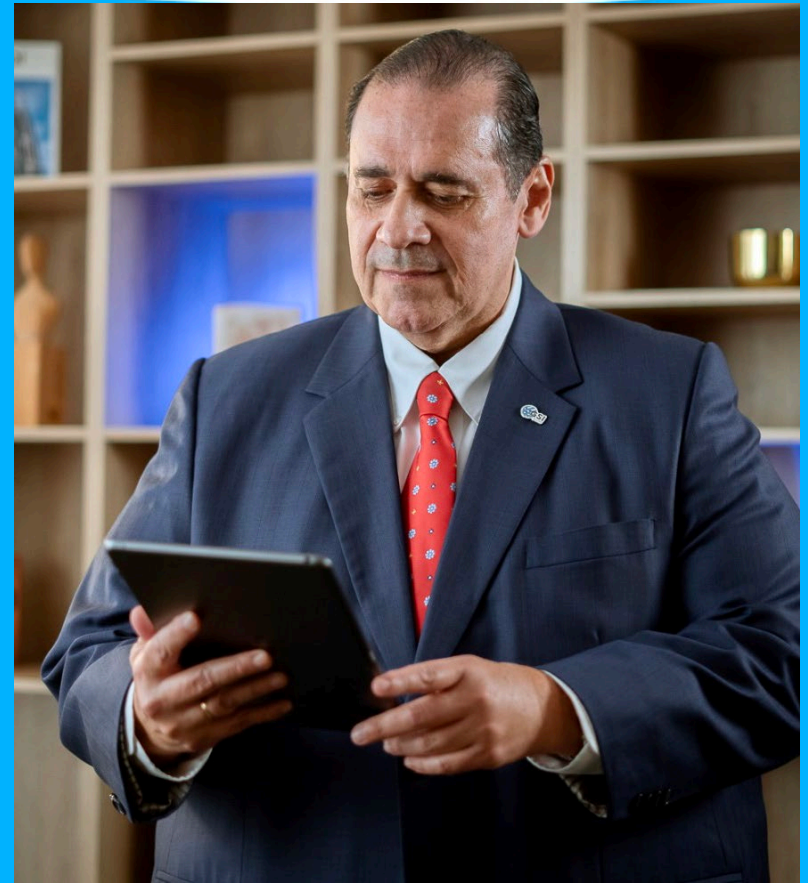
- Service Projects : The main pillar for your participation
 - Assessing needs and resources, raising funds, implementing activities and evaluating results:
 - Promoting peace. Rotary encourages conversations to foster understanding within and across cultures
 - Fighting disease
 - Providing clean water, sanitation, and hygiene
 - Saving mothers and children
 - Supporting education
 - Growing local economies





My own story (and sales pitch)

- Became a Rotarian in Costa Rica in 1991
- Came to Panama in 1993 as a IBM International Employee
- Join the Panamá South Rotary Club in 1994 and since dedicating some of my time to social causes.
- In Rotary I have made very good friends in Panama and excellent business relations
 - Rotary is celebrating its 117 Th anniversary and in 2019 celebrated it First Centennial in Panamá.





A sample of projects :

- Casa Providencia – Colon Province
 - An orphanage for abandoned children with severe mental or physical special needs
 - Unique in its King in Panama
 - First world standards of facilities and attention
 - Totally donations funded – no cost for children
 - Long Term sustainability

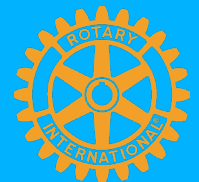




Rural Water Supply :



- Communities in real need approach
- Technical assessment made with full community participation
- Fundraising starts as soon as estimated known (Cost Sharing with other Rotary Clubs
- Local authorities 'participation from day 1 due to regulations
- Formal commitment from community to :
 - Provide Manpower for construction
 - Undertake maintenance of facility
 - Ensure subsequent financial resources for operation





Water

(In pictures)



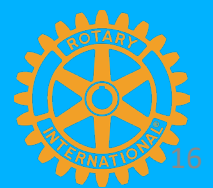


Please Get involved !!!

- Social work is the missing piece of the puzzle for a fulfilling life being accomplished
- Panama is giving this opportunity



So many things to do!!





Contact Information

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Welcome to Panama

