

polio+

Pakistan National PolioPlus Newsletter | SNIDs April 29 - 05 May, 2024

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19 Rotarians from RI District 1710 in France, participated in the Feb - March 2024 Polio NIDs in Karachi, with their District Governor Alain Bouvard and his wife Annie Caroline. (story on page 04-06)



On the occasion of Pakistan Day, 23rd March 2024, Trustee, Rotary Foundation Aziz Memon was awarded the prestigious National Award **Sitara-e-Imtiaz** (Star of Excellence) by the Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori at the Governor House in Karachi.





Dear Rotary Leaders,

World Immunization Week end of April

Every year from April 24 - 30, the world celebrates 'World Immunization Week.' The aim is to highlight the collective actions of all health related programs to raise awareness on the value of vaccines to protect people of all ages against vaccine preventable diseases. The theme this year is "Vaccines Work for All."

The heroes in this mission are the people who develop and deliver these vaccines, which save millions of lives every year and are widely recognized as one of the world's most successful and cost effective health interventions. Yet millions of children in the world are deprived of this basic health initiative in the world today in getting the vaccines they need.

National Immunization Days (NIDs) Feb 26 - March 03, 2024

In the Feb/March NIDs, more than 45.8 million under five years of age were vaccinated in Pakistan's second polio campaign of 2024 across the country with children given Vitamin A supplements to boost their immunity. The Polio NIDs had some 400,000 health workers across the country delivering house2house vaccination to safeguard our children in the nationwide campaign.

Challenges in polio campaigns still persist with people who refuse to vaccinate their children based on misconceptions and false information about the vaccine. We also bear the burden of poor Routine Immunization, influx of migrants with unvaccinated children coming from the Pak-Afghan border and the natural disasters that hinder the polio program.

Against all odds, we have made significant progress in the polio eradication initiative. Concerted effort has been made to improve Routine Immunization, prompt action by the Outbreak Response (OBR) teams take shape when positive environmental samples are reported and changes in the planning and delivery of immunization trends play a key role in taking measures to stop transmission of the polio virus.

Rotarians from RI District 1710 France take part in Polio NIDs

The Rotary French delegation was led by their District Governor (1710) Alain Bouvard and his wife Annie Caroline, and 17 Rotarians from the same district, but different clubs, took the time to participate in the second NIDs of 2024, by visiting Karachi during campaign days, from Feb 26th - 3rd March. (Full story on pages 4/5/6)

Rotarians from RI District 2790 & 5420 Japan

Another delegation from Japan arrived in Karachi in early February 2024, to inaugurate a solar water filtration plant in Mirpur Sakro, Sindh. The Rotarians from Japan had contributed funds to install a solar water filtration plant in 2021 for the poor and needy community that lacked clean drinking water in close proximity. Efforts to alleviate their difficulties in water collection prompted this gift to this community. (Story on page 08)

We are grateful to all Rotarians worldwide, for taking an interest in polio eradication efforts. It is a matter of great pride for the people of Pakistan, to see Rotarians coming in from distant shores, to support our Polio Eradication Initiative. It impacts not just the Rotarians, it encourages and inspired the people of the country, to see how Rotarians come forward and take a personal interest, accompany frontline workers in the house2house campaigns, get a stronger understanding of the immunization trends within this review, that play a significant role in refusals and recognize the challenges that the front line workers face, in campaign rounds.

Last but not least, let me congratulate all the WHO South-East Asia Region's 11 member states on the 10th anniversary of being certified polio-free. This gives us hope, and we are optimistic that Pakistan will achieve a Polio-free status very soon.

Let us join hands and End Polio Together

Aziz Memon
Trustee, The Rotary Foundation
Member, International Polio Plus Committee
National Chair, Pakistan PolioPlus Committee

Briefing on polio eradication in Pakistan

Meetings in Islamabad on Thursday, 18th April, 2024

Report by: Trustee/Chair PNPPC Aziz Memon

A meeting of GPEI Donors & Partners was held in Islamabad presided by Dr. Malik Mukhtar Ahmad Bharath, Advisor on Health and Nadeem Mahbub, Federal Health Secretary NHSR&C.

Dr. Shahzad Baig presented a detailed plan for the way forward.

I spoke on behalf of IPPC Chair Mike McGovern and Rotarians from across the world, highlighting our 44-year journey and the \$2.7 billion contribution to the polio eradication initiative worldwide with US\$427 million in Pakistan alone. Expressing confidence that we can overcome the current security challenges along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, I praised the dedication of frontline workers and our committed partners including the Prime Minister, Federal Health Secretary, Advisor Health and NEOC Coordinator emphasizing the need for the government to prioritize polio eradication and foster better relations with Afghanistan for the sake of both countries' children. In conclusion, I conveyed my appreciation to partners for their support and assured of Rotary's unwavering commitment until our job to eradicate polio in Pakistan is completed.

Meeting at NEOC

Prior to the donors meeting I met with Dr.



Panel of speakers at the donors meeting in Islamabad

Shahzad Baig to discuss the recent influx of migrants from Afghanistan, emphasizing the need for new mapping efforts, address security challenges along the Afghanistan border and spread of the polio virus in Karachi Districts.

Meeting Dr. Malik Mukhtar Ahmad Bharath, Advisor on Health and Nadeem Mahbub, Federal Health Secretary NHSR&C.

Both government officials are committed to the Polio program. I stressed donor fatigue in the future by exploring innovative solutions. Both of them acknowledged their responsibility assigned by the Prime Minister and assured me of their dedication to the cause.

The key issues were to focus on advocacy, building trust of partners, and improving routine immunization, which remains a significant challenge.



With Coordinator to PM and Federal Secretary

WHO Director Dr Luo Dapeng

Poliovirus Outbreak Response Training session in Karachi 1-4 April, 2024

Report by: Asher Ali / Alina A, Visram - PNPPC

An Outbreak Response (OBR) training workshop was held on April 1st, 2024 in Karachi. Trustee/National Chair Aziz Memon was Chief Guest at the inauguration ceremony. It was attended by Dr. Arshad Qudus – Coordinator Polio WHO HQ, Dr. Rana Safdar, Senior Advisor CDC, Dr. Altaf Bosan Focal Person BMGF and virtually by NEOC team that included Dr. Shahzad Asif Baig, Dr. Zainul Abedin TL WHO, Melissa Corkum TL UNICEF, and Dr. Hamid Jafari, Director of Polio WHO EMRO.



Panel of speakers at the OBR

Group photo at participants at the OBR

80 participants from across the country participated. The key objectives were: Build capacity of district, provincial, and national teams and to create a pool of experts that can be mobilized rapidly to adequately respond to poliovirus outbreaks; equip participants with knowledge, skills, and tools necessary to conduct thorough investigations, prepare quality reports, and effectively respond to poliovirus outbreaks; enhance the quality of OBR and standardize tools, procedures, and practices; develop workforce deployment plans in outbreak emergencies.

The keynote speakers spoke on the importance of the training and strategies to overcome outbreaks. Trustee Aziz Memon spoke on strengthening surveillance, improving immunization and ensuring effective response during polio outbreaks.

Rotarians from France participate in Feb/March NIDs 2024 in Karachi

Report by: Chief Editor, Polio+ Alina A. Visram

Merci beaucoup to all the 19 French Rotarians from District 1710 spearheaded by District Governor Alain Bouvard accompanied by his wife Annie Caroline and 17 other Rotarians from different Clubs of District 1710. The French Rotary delegation participated in the Feb 26 - 03 March, 2024, National Immunization Days (NIDs). Their aim was to garner support to the Polio eradication program in Pakistan, one of two Polio endemic countries in the world today (the other is Afghanistan).

The Rotarians exuded enormous enthusiasm and were always spontaneous during their brief visit to Karachi. With a back to back agenda, one can only admire their resolve and unwavering commitment in making a trip to personally visit Pakistan to administer OPV to children under the age of five years. The delegation participated in the House2House campaign in communities that lacked basic civic amenities and vaccinated children in polio high risk areas with nomadic settlements living in makeshift houses.

This was primarily to understand the myriad challenges that impact the polio eradication initiative. Their visit encouraged and motivated all front line workers, field staff, Polio partners and Rotarians who lauded their determination to travel thousands of miles to participate in our NIDs.

An agenda designed by the Pakistan National PolioPlus Committee to ensure optimum participation in the field during the NIDs at the behest of District Governor (1710) Alain

S. No	Last Name	First Name
1.	Audrand	Brigitte
2.	Bécavin	Jean-Michel
3.	Bouvard	Alain
4.	Duytsche	Philippe
5.	Favre	Muriel
6.	Fernandez	Agathe
7.	Geffroy	Olivier
8.	Godet	Michel
9.	Guinand	Stephane
10.	Gutierrez	Claudine
11.	Legendre	Philippe, Antoine, Joseph, Gérard
12.	Masciotra	Michelle
13.	Chaumard Nanterme	Jacqueline, Renée
14.	Perrin	Eric
15.	Piron	Jean, Christian, Georges
16.	Cuadros Pouget	Marie
17.	Prunevieuille	Annie Caroline
18.	Verzier	Hélène, Marie, Anne, Gabrielle
19.	Vigneron	Marie-Gabrielle

Bouvard and Dr. Michel Zaffran - a Rotarian from France who served as the former Director, Polio Eradication at WHO.

Adhering to the request, we planned visits and vaccination accordingly.

Day 1 - February 26 (Monday)

After an early morning arrival, check-in and breakfast with a change in clothing, they were whisked away in a coaster to the Karachi Cantt Railway station by the afternoon. The railway station is the perfect spot where transit passengers with children can be vaccinated as they are either leaving or coming in from other cities. The credit of overseeing teams work diligently goes to the Supervisor/AIC of Cantt Station Arshad Sardar and his team. The children were vaccinated by the Rotarians, which fascinated the locals who expressed their sentiments with kind gestures and big smiles. They even allowed Rotarians to take videos and pictures of their children. The gracious visitors also took several photographs with the security staff as well as the Polio frontline workers working 24/7 in 3 shifts of 8 hours, covering all incoming and outgoing trains leaving Karachi.

The smooth implementation of the planned itinerary would not have been possible, without the help of our Polio partners, who collaborated with Pakistan National PolioPlus Committee to flawlessly execute the program put together for the delegation. PNPPC conveys their deep appreciation to all the partners for making it possible to achieve their outreach at grass roots and mingle freely within the communities, providing the visitors leverage and security to enable maximum participation in the field.

We sincerely appreciate Dr. Zain-ul-Abidin - TL WHO, Pakistan for delegating responsibility to WHO partners in Sindh. We are also very indebted to Dr. Asif Zardari - TL WHO Sindh, Dr. Ahmed Ali Shaikh Focal Person, Sindh EOC, Dr. Muhammad Aamir PEO WHO, Sindh, Dr. Wasif Ali Arae Incharge (AIC) SITE Town and Mir Ahmed, UCPO, Ibrahim Hyderi, our PNPPC's Gulshan Resource Center Coordinator Sadia Shakeel and Dr. Raja Batara - AIC WHO Hyderabad, PP Dr. Pardeep K. Harchandani - RC Hyderabad, PP Muhammad Owais - Rotary Club Karachi for their assistance. The security organized by EOC Sindh, were deputed to provide safety in polio high risk areas. The management was done by Asher Ali, Project Manager, PNPPC. Needless to say, defining logistics and coordination plays a vital role in the success of every Rotary delegation during field visits.



continued from page 04 ...

Day 2/3/4 - February 27, 28, 29 (Tues/Wed/Thurs)

The delegation was divided into three groups, each with 6 Rotarians, and one with 7, to enable easy access into narrow streets and scattered settlements. Each group was accompanied by a representative from WHO and PNPPC. Security personnel escorted all three groups on their field visits. The three day exercise was rigorous but productive. Each team visited the same place, but on different days.

The visit to Ibrahim Hyderi (a fishing village in District Malir) was the first location where Rotarians accompanied health workers to administer OPV in the House2House vaccination. They also visited a Government school, a Team Support Center (TSC) in SITE Town, a training facility that enables frontline workers to assemble, discuss micro plans and share comprehensive data during campaign rounds. This was followed by a trip to see a solar water filtration plant in Kunwari Colony UC 9, located on the periphery of Karachi that has predominantly Pashtun community. The filtration plant was donated by a generous Rotarian to enable polio vaccination team access to families who were potential refusals.

A trip to the Permanent Transit Posts (PTP) was appreciated, where the visiting delegation climbed into public buses, coaches flagged by security personnel, to vaccinate all incoming families with children under five years.

The three day visit also included a meeting with the Emergency Response Centre (ERU) polio partners at the Janat Gul Hospital in Gadap UC 4, an abandoned hospital in Karachi which was turned into an asset for the community, where families lack basic health and municipal services. The ERU provides polio vaccination to communities alongside PolioPlus activities to improve overall health.

The ERU in-charge shared the micro-plans, cold chain, monitoring and surveillance and method of chalk marking on houses, catch-up rounds post campaigns and the impact of Routine Immunization on the program. The ERU hosted lunch on all the three days with different teams and the French delegation appreciated the work Polio partners in providing them these facilities. The unit was built with the support of Rotary International, WHO, CDC, UNICEF and BMGF.

A visit was also planned to a location in Gadap Town's impoverished region which housed nomadic settlers, in make shift shelters. The Rotarians also vaccinated children, and spoke with the people. The three day field visit was hectic, planned to utilize maximum time on ground, identifying the ground realities faced by Polio teams in campaign rounds.



Day 5 - March 1st (Friday)

A day trip to Hyderabad was planned with an early morning start, to a city approx. 163 kilometers from Karachi by road. Asher Ali, in-charge of the delegation first stopped at the Team Support Center, for the Rotarians to administer OPV in the House2House campaign and in a settlement of nomadic population in Quetta Town, in East Qasimabad considered to be one of Hyderabad's polio super high risk area. The visit was facilitated by Dr. Batara (AIC WHO) and Dr. Pardeep from Rotary Club of Hyderabad. But the day did not end on their return to Karachi.



In Quetta Town in Hyderabad with Dr. Pardeep

continued from page 05 ...

That same evening, a dinner was hosted by Trustee Aziz Memon at the Kolachi restaurant for the French delegation. The WHO TL Dr. Zainul Abedin and Dr. Asif Zardari TL WHO Sindh were also our guests. Before dinner, DG Alain Bouvard appreciated the effort to PNPPC to make their visit to Karachi a fruitful one, and said they were all enlightened by the work done by Polio partners and front line workers, as well as all the staff involved in the Polio program. Trustee thanked all the Rotarians for their time to come and participate in the NIDs. He said, the visit of Rotarians unwavering support to the Polio eradication program gives us hope that we are not alone in this struggle to eradicate polio. Club flags were exchanged (as not all were from the same club, just the same District 1710) and several other Rotarians spoke of their experience in the field and expressed their gratitude that they had an opportunity to participate in the NIDs.



Day 6 - March 02 (Saturday)

A day dedicated for rest and recreation. The hosts assigned to the delegation, were PP Muhammad Ovais, Rtns Khalid Abdullah, Dr Wajiha & her husband Rtn. Mohammad Ali, all from Rotary Club Karachi. The first stop was at one of Karachi's historical landmarks - Frere Hall, built in 1865. The iconic structure dates back to the early British Colonial era and now serves as an exhibition space and library. The work of Pakistan's most renowned artists Sadequain recognized for his Islamic calligraphy, paintings, frescos and poetry are exhibited here. The next place of visit was the St. Patrick's Church in Saddar, followed by a brief visit to the Empress Market, widely known for an assortment of spices and dry fruits. The Rotarians enjoyed connecting with the people working in the spice market.

After these recreational stops, the guests were treated to a home cooked meal and refreshments courtesy PP Muhammad Ovais, who offered to host the visitors at his home, giving them a chance to freshen up and relax. The luncheon also gave an opportunity to exchange their club flags with the host while sharing their thoughts of the visit. Back to the hotel in the evening, the delegation had a busy and productive week, with memories of their trip to Karachi Pakistan. We @ PNPPC are very grateful to their District Governor Alain Bouvard and his lovely wife Annie Caroline, and to all Rotarians of District 1710 who participated in the Feb/March 2024 NIDs.



Together we can End Polio Now.



Quarterly Review Meeting of RI District 3271 - Mar 21st 2024 at Movenpick Hotel, Karachi

Report by: Asher Ali - Project Manager, PNPPC

Facilitator: Trustee/National Chair Aziz Memon

Participants: VC. Dr. Farhan Essa, DG Hanif Khan, DGN Shakeel Qaimkhani, PDG Dr. Aftab Imam, PP Masood Bhalli - Sindh Zonal Coordinator, PP Muneeb Khan, PP Dr. Pardeep Kumar, PP Shahzad Sabir and Asher Ali

Regretted: DGE Rizwan Adhia & DRR Salman Rajput

Minutes of the Meeting:

Trustee Aziz Memon welcomed participants and briefed them on the purpose of the meeting. He further read out the previous review meeting minutes followed by current review agenda points.

1. Pak Afghan border - Details of the current situation at the Pak-Afghan border were discussed. Trustee Aziz Memon said there is no house-to-house polio campaign in Afghanistan due to compromised security. The mass transit of unvaccinated children between two countries is the main cause of transportation of polio virus.

2. Two Polio cases from Balochistan - Two new WPV1 cases from Dera Bugti and Chaman were reported from Balochistan. Positive Environmental Samples (ES) from various districts of Balochistan have also been reported in recent weeks. Trustee said that a visit to meet with Balochistan Chief Minister is being arranged to discuss and sensitize him about the current situation for taking measures to stop virus circulation on priority basis.

3. Positive Environment Samples - DG Hanif Khan said he recently visited northern KP and found that the polio situation is disturbing. It was mentioned that all seven Districts of Karachi also tested positive for ES. DG Hanif Khan offered to arrange a meeting with Pashtun leaders of Kemari district. He immediately called EOC Coordinator Sindh Irshad Sodhar and informed him that he will facilitate a meeting (Jirga) to cover refusals and missed children.

4. Visit of Rotarians from Japan - One team of Japanese Rotarians visited Karachi in January while 2 subsequent teams arrived in February 2024. Trustee Aziz Memon said that the Japanese Rotarians have donated two water filtration plants and have committed four more under the

Global Grant project by Trustee Akira Mikki who was part of the first Japanese delegation in early February. Three more plants from Rotarians in Switzerland will also be available under the Global Grant project.

5. 19 Rotarians from France - a French delegation of 19 Rotarians spearheaded by DG Alain Bouvard of RI District 1710 in France arrived in Karachi to participate in the Feb 26 - 03 March 2024 National Immunization Days (NIDs). Field visits, House2House vaccination, visits to PTP, water filtration plants, railway station and many Polio high risk areas where the teams administered OPV to children under five. A visit to Hyderabad was also planned where Dr. Pardeep Kumar - RC Hyderabad made it possible for the Rotarians to give Polio vaccine to nomadic settlers.

6. Two water filtration plants inauguration - Asher informed the committee members that two water plants donated by the Japanese Rotarians are being installed. Both will be inaugurated on April 21st 2024, one in morning at District Hospital Thatta and the other in evening at Garam Chashma Mangopir, Karachi by the upcoming Japanese delegation visiting Karachi from April from 20-23, 2024. He requested all participants to block the date and ensure their participation in the inauguration events.

7. Team Support Center Hyderabad - Dr. Pardeep said the Team Support Center in Quetta Town in Hyderabad is very small and needs to be shifted to a bigger house to accommodate all staff and provide facilitation to polio workers.

8. Coastal Districts - Trustee Aziz Memon also expressed his concern to Thatta and Sujawal. He said the Makran Coastal belt needs more attention.

9. PTPs repair - Trustee Memon said we have discussed this issue with EOC Sindh and will gradually make repairs of six PTPs in Sindh as budget allows.

10. Rotary Clubs to take part in SNIDs/NIDs - Review Committee Chair said all Rotarians must motivate their clubs to take part in the upcoming SNIDs/NIDs

In conclusion, Trustee Aziz Memon thanked all participants for their participation.



Review meeting on March 21 2024



Review meeting

Second Rotary delegation from Japan in Karachi from February 17 - 20, 2024

Report by: Asher Ali - Project Manager, PNPPC

A second eight member team of Rotarians from Japan arrived in Karachi from Feb 17 - 20, 2024, to participate in the local polio eradication efforts. Their purpose was to see some of Rotary's projects like the earlier teams and vaccinate children in the polio high-risk areas of Karachi.

S.No	Name of Rotarians	Rotary Club	District
1.	Yuji Nagata	Rotary Club of West Jordan	5420
2.	Setsuko Urushibara	Rotary Club of Katsuura	2790
3.	Kenichi Asao	Rotary Club of Chiba-Wakashi	2790
4.	Seiji Tokita	Rotary Club of Ichihara Chuo	2790
5.	Hironobu Nagai	Rotary Club of Ichikawa-South	2790
6.	Katsuhiro Kogo	Rotary Club of Chiba	2790
7.	Takashi Okura	Rotary Club of Ichihara Chuo	2790
8.	Koji Sasaki	Rotary Club of Chiba	2790

drive, where the team administered the Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) to children. The warm and appreciative responses from some families highlighted the significance of their polio eradication efforts.

Day 1 - Feb 18 (Sunday) The group journeyed to Mirpur Sakro, Sindh about 85 km from Karachi early morning, wanting to inspect the water filtration plant funded by Rotary Clubs in Japan installed in 2021. This eight member team evaluated a potential location for another plant to provide clean drinking water to poor and needy communities.

The team also visited a Government Primary school in Bengali Colony, and expressed interest in revamping and repairing the school building.

On their arrival in District Theta, the local polio team welcomed the Rotary delegation. They visited a nearby village where they administered polio drops to children and interacted with the locals speaking to them about their lives and challenges.

Following a quick working lunch, the team headed to the Permanent Transit Post (PTP) at Karachi's Super Highway. Here, security personnel flagged public transport so that passengers with children could have them vaccinated against polio. The Japanese delegates actively participated in vaccinating children inside and outside the vehicles.

On their return to Karachi, the Japanese Rotary delegation visited the Karachi Cantt Railway Station to vaccinate transient children. Arshad Ali, the Supervisor of Karachi Cantt, organized a team pairing of two Rotarians with two polio workers for effective coverage and access to toddlers across the platforms. It was a fruitful visit spending two good hours locating and vaccinating children on the platform of the railway station.

Day 3 - Feb 20 (Tuesday) The delegation's first stop was at the Team Support Center (sponsored by Rotary) in SITE Town, where they met with polio workers and handed out lab coats before accompanying them to administer OPV at their homes, verifying the process through chalk and finger marking.

Day 2 - Feb 19 (Monday) The day began early with a visit to Ibrahim Hyderi, Malir Town, for a door-to-door vaccination

Post-lunch, the team visited a nomadic settlement in Gadap UC4, predominantly inhabited by beggars living in temporary shelters. The area In-charge and the Rotary Resource Center Team Support Center facilitated vaccination of the nomadic population.

The visit concluded with an early dinner at the hotel on their final night before their 8:30 pm departure to the airport.

It's worth noting that in one month, this was the second visit by Rotarians from Japan in the month of February. Earlier, TRF Trustee Akira Miki with a team of 14 Rotarians participated in the polio campaigns, in travelling to urban slums, the Super highway PTP and to District Thatta. The visits by Japanese Rotarians have become a regular occurrence over the past few years in winter months. Their involvement is both heartening and praiseworthy, demonstrating their unwavering commitment through both financial contributions and time.



Sasaki administrating polio drops at village



Setsuko Urushibara in the H2H in village Mirpursakro



Vaccination in village house



At the Japanese funded water filtration plant-MSakro



At the PTP Superhighway in Karachi



Group with children in a Mirpur Sakro

Health Camp at Shaheen Muslim Town (SMT) a polio high risk district

Report by: Abdul Rauf Rohaila, Zonal Coordinator KPK

Pakistan is on a mission to get polio back under control following an increase in positive environmental samples. Rotary International and Rotarians will continue to play a key role as observed by the Rotary International PolioPlus Committee. Chair IPPC Michael McGovern stated that Rotary has the strategy and the tools necessary to eradicate polio, and it is critical that we ensure it is well managed. "We have a window of opportunity to stop transmission of wild polio for good and so, ultimately, we must redouble our commitment to deliver on our promise of a polio-free world," he further promised.

Trustee/National Chair Aziz Memon said that Rotary works in collaboration with the National and Provincial Emergency Operations Centers in Pakistan and Afghanistan, to implement a strategy to vaccinate all children at major transit points/border areas in Southern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. SMT is one of Polio high risk UCs of Peshawar District in KPK, and has a large mobile population.

Before NIDs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Dr. Naveed Khursheed, Focal Person ERU approached KPK's Zonal

Coordinator Rauf Rohaila to hold free Health Camp in troubled area of Shaheen Muslim Town, to cover refusal cases and provide free health facilities at their doorstep.

The health camp was organized at Royal Public School, Outside Gunj Gate, SMT Peshawar on 24th February, 2024. A well experienced team of doctors along with polio vaccinators were provided by the District Health Officer with the assistance of ERU, Peshawar. Some 500 patients visited the camp, and were provided free medicine and consultation. To motivate parents of refusal cases, candies and whistles were provided to children and this strategy proved to be very successful. 67 refusal cases were covered and polio vaccine drops were administered. CDG Rauf supervised the overall management of the camp with IPDG Barrister Adnan Saboor Rohaila, President Raees Zaidi, PP Bader Hussain, PP Abdul Naeem, PP Maqsood Ahmed, PP Jibrán Khan, Rtn Hamayun Mustafa and Awaiz Sethi of RC Peshawar South. In conclusion the doctors and volunteer services were recognized by awarding them certificates and polio mobilization material. The participants were served lunch by past secretary Mubasher Hussain.



Giving OPV to a refusal in SMT

Child given OPV at the camp

Patients awaiting their turn

Rotarians and health care providers at the camp

RI District 6400 gifts mosquito nets for poor communities

Report by: Alina A. Visram - Chief Editor, Polio +

PDG Aruna Koushik - RI District 6400, Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada and members of her club, including Rotary Club of Detroit and a Private Donor Wes Mator raised funds to enable us to buy mosquito nets for backward communities. PNPPC is extremely grateful for this generous contribution to procure nets for our impoverished and polio high risk communities where malaria, leishmaniasis (caused by the bite of infected sandflies) and dengue can be prevented with protection from flying insects after the rainy season. PNPPC wishes to acknowledge PDG Aruna Koushik for taking the lead in and providing relief to protect hundreds of families from diseases caused by insects that pose serious health risks. Distribution of nets was done through Rotary Clubs across the country.



Rafiq Surhio from RC Dadu Green distributing nets

Distribution In Tharparkar to nomadic community by Haresh Sohni RC Mithi

Dr. Jewat from RC Khipro Sunder distribution to children in Sanghar

Dr. Arjumand RCKNC handing nets to a girl students in Karachi

Dr Pardeep Harchandani RC Hyderabad distributing nets to a nearby village

Regional Service Award Recipients for a Polio Free World 2023-24

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Bashir Ahmad Baig | 5. Muhammad Fayyaz Qureshi |
| 2. Rabil Butt | 6. Janagir Khan Sherpao |
| 3. Imran Ghaznavi | 7. Syed Muhammad Raees Zaidi |
| 4. Mian Shaukat Masud | 8. Shaikh Ashiq Ali |

Awareness on Polio by Rotary Club Karachi New Central

Report by: Dr Arjumand Rabbani - General Secretary RCKNC and Chair - Polio Sub-Committee

During a Polio awareness session held on March 14, 2024, Dr. Arjumand Rabbani addressed a diverse audience comprising 26 mothers, 12 teachers and 25 students at the AF School Tarbiyat Gah, PECHS, Block 2, Karachi. Dr. Rabbani emphasized that polio remains a real threat and only two drops of Polio vaccine can prevent paralysis. She explained how the polio vaccine produces antibodies in the body and protects the individual against irreversible paralysis. She requested the mothers to get their loved ones vaccinated and also spread the message in their communities. The interested audience asked many questions which were answered by Dr. Rabbani, and distributed Polio mobilization giveaways.



Dr. Rabbani showing a presentation on polio

Advocacy session on polio with students & teachers

Advocacy on Polio by Rotary Club Mirpurkhas

Report by: PP Jawaid Babar - Rotary Club Mirpurkhas, member PNPPC

PP Jawaid Babar – Rotary Club Mirpurkhas arranged several advocacy sessions on polio and public image building on the VSH TV morning show, with PP M. Asif Mukaty - RC Karachi Bay and PP Farooq Dadi - RCK Gateway as guests. An meeting with DIG Mirpurkhas Javed Jaskani to enforce security in high risk areas during campaign rounds and meeting students of Madina Masjid Madrassa as well as with the leadership of High Court Bar Association of Mirpurkhas and finally a visit to Marshall School Mirpurkhas to distribute social mobilization Items.



At the District Mirpurkhas Bar Association



Marshall School in Mirpurkhas

Delivery Sponsored by



Supplementary Immunization Activity (SIAs) January - December 2024

NIDs Jan 8 - 14	SNIDs July 1 - 7
NIDs Feb 26 - 03 March	NIDs Sept 9 - 15
SNIDs April 29 - 05 May	SNIDs Oct 2 - 13
SNIDs June 5 - 9	NIDs Nov 4-10

MOBILINK/WARID	UFONE	ZONG	TELENOR
413676	93050890	1448864	5250037176

TO GET CALLER RING BACK TONE:

Mobilink: Type Get<space>MobiTune Code and send it to 230.
Telenor: Type 'ST<space>SmartTune Code and send it to 230.
Zong: Type DialTune Code and send it to 230.
Ufone: Type Get<space>UTune Code and send it to 666.
Warid: Type Get<space>WaridTune Code and send it to 230.

The "Pluses" of PolioPlus

by Terry Ziegler

Past President, Rotary Club of West U (Houston, TX),

Polio Eradication Update Newsletter Editor, Books for the World - Second Wind Foundation Trustee,
Rotary Region 36 **END POLIO NOW** Coordinator 2024-27

When Rotarians first proposed the global Polio eradication effort, they could not have conceived of how much they would change the world. With the help of our partners (WHO, UNICEF, the CDC, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Gavi - the Vaccine Alliance, and over 200 governments of the world) we have vaccinated over three billion children against the dreaded Poliovirus, saved over twenty million children from paralysis, saved over two million from death, and have reduced Polio cases by over 99.9%. However, we are doing so much more than "just" eradicating Polio.

Here are a few of the additional "Pluses" of the PolioPlus program:

We have helped to equip and staff 146 laboratories worldwide to quickly identify Polio cases and have also used them to support the identification and treatment of other diseases including Ebola, Yellow Fever, Rubella, Meningitis, COVID-19, and Influenza. These laboratories will leave a permanent legacy to Rotary's Polio eradication efforts.

We have perfected the mass immunization model including the use of cold chains to maintain the correct temperature for the Polio vaccine which has facilitated the immunization of billions of children.

We have completed thousands of clean water and sanitation projects worldwide to decrease the amount of Poliovirus in wastewater systems and to protect children from many waterborne diseases.

We have prevented over 1.25 million deaths by giving Vitamin A drops at the same time as the Polio vaccines.

We have built relationships and created trust among government, religious, and community leaders in countries around the world. These relationships will lead to many future humanitarian service projects.

We have expanded the Rotary brand which will lead to larger and more successful efforts with our Polio eradication effort partners (WHO, CDC, UNICEF, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and GAVI - the Vaccine Alliance) as well as other future partners.

We have improved surveillance systems which have been used to identify the Poliovirus as well as other communicable agents.

We have strengthened health systems worldwide which has increased routine healthcare and immunization of children.

The Polio eradication effort has been very cost effective. We have saved more than \$27 billion in health costs since 1988 and a recent study led to the conclusion that in some areas of the world, each dollar spent on the Polio eradication effort will yield 49 dollars in future economic savings. The public health savings of Polio eradication accrue forever!.

We have supported Polio Survivors with mobility devices and health care in countries without those resources.

We have created thousands of jobs including temporary jobs for Polio vaccinators, permanent healthcare professional jobs, and jobs for polio survivors. In addition, many of over twenty million children who have been spared the paralysis of Polio are now better prepared to be more productive citizens.

The legacy of a polio-free world and the publicity the eradication of Polio will lead to a more committed and a larger global Rotary membership.

Finally, each of these "Pluses" of PolioPlus are each, in their own way, a small step toward a more peaceful world.



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