



District Grant Report

Rotary Club: Laguna Beach

Project Title: Reading Comprehension P-970

Progress Report

Final Report

1. Briefly describe the project. What was done, when and where did project activities take place, and who were the beneficiaries?

For several years, Rotary Club of Laguna Beach has distributed Dictionaries to every third grader in attendance at a Laguna Beach-area school. The Club purchases the dictionaries by making a grant to the Dictionary Project. The Dictionary Project is a non-profit organization that provides personal dictionaries for third grade students. The Dictionary Project in turn mailed enough dictionaries to Rotary Club of Laguna Beach so that our club could distribute one dictionary to each third grader.

Importantly, the dictionaries were delivered to the care of our Interact Club Members. The Interact Club Members took the time to personally label each dictionary with a Rotary Club of Laguna Beach sticker, and they packaged the dictionaries for delivery to each Third Grade classroom.

Rotarians then organized distribution dates with each third grade classroom. All dictionaries were directly handed to each third grade student from a Rotarian. El Morro Elementary and Top of the World Elementary each held special distribution "assemblies" attended by all third graders, which was very exciting.

Each student was told about our Rotary Club, and each student was asked to use the dictionary to assist the student with his or her homework, research, spelling, and reading comprehension. The students were thrilled to receive their very own dictionary that they could – shockingly – write their own names in! They were also thrilled to know they could take the dictionaries home and bring them to their future classrooms. Some even mentioned that they had been waiting for this day to come ever since the student saw his or her older sister come home with *their* very own dictionary from our club. Dictionary Distribution days were attended by at least 8 Rotarians/distribution, and we had over 6 distribution days.

Our committee also reached out to the School District to identify what the school district was lacking in terms of reading comprehension support. The district quickly identified the need for iPads in the classrooms, so that students could have access to a wider range of reading materials (electronically) and so the students could further their reading, research, and learning, beyond the four walls of the classroom. The school district is able to purchase iPads at a discounted rate, so our club cut a check to the school district to purchase the iPads. Our contribution resulted in the purchase of seven iPads for a third grade classroom at El Morro Elementary School. We also presented the check to the Laguna Beach unified school district school board at a board meeting.

We received wonderful thank you notes from the students, a thank-you video was presented at the school board meeting, and our club had a great time distributing the dictionaries to the students. It was a very heartwarming project and we know it will not be forgotten by the students any time soon.

2. How many Rotarians participated in the project?

30 Rotarians

20 Interact Club Members

3. What did they do? Please give at least two examples.

Rotarians: Committee meeting to identify reading comprehension and literacy needs in the Laguna Beach community (dictionaries and iPads as requested by school district); distributed dictionaries directly to every 3rd grader in Laguna Beach (both public and private schools). Held Dictionary Distribution assembly at two elementary schools (top of the world and el morro), where the dictionaries were distributed at a special presentation for third graders. At private schools, personally visited each 3rd grade classroom and handed out dictionaries directly to each 3rd grader.

Interact Club Members: assisted with packaging the dictionaries into boxes for each classroom, and placing Rotary stickers inside of each dictionary

4. How many non-Rotarians benefited from this project?

Every third grader in Laguna Beach received a dictionary from the Rotary Club of Laguna Beach. One third-grade classroom in Laguna beach received iPads from our Club to enhance their reading comprehension and literacy programs ongoing in third-grade classrooms. The iPads will be kept in the classroom, and passed down to future third graders.

5. What are the expected long-term community impacts of the project?

The Dictionaries have a lasting impact on the third graders. Members of our club are approached from students who received their dictionaries over 10 years ago, and our members have been told how those students were to receive their dictionaries when they were in third grade.

Importantly, each student gets to keep his or her dictionary as he or she continues through elementary school. The student is able to use the dictionary to enhance his or her research, improve spelling, and to assist with reading comprehension. T

The impact of distributing the iPads to the students is tremendous. Some students do not have access to the advanced technology at home, and learning how to use an iPad in the classroom is integral to that student's future academic success. Additionally, the iPads reinforce student's reading comprehension, as apps available on the iPad further enhance the student's skills, and also allow the students to engage in research beyond the four walls of the classroom.

6. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was its role?

Laguna Beach Unified School District, Anneliese Schools, St. Catherine of Siena Parish School: identified third grade-recipients of dictionaries, assisted in purchasing of iPads at discounted rate for the third grade class room; assisted with distributing the dictionaries to third graders.

Financial Report – Be sure that Income equals Expenditures!

7. Income	Amount
1. District Grant funds approved by the District	\$2500
2. Club contribution	\$2500
3. Other funding (specify)	N/A
Total Project Income	

8. Expenditures - please be specific and add lines as needed - receipts must be attached

1. Grant to Dictionary Project in exchange for Dictionaries to Third Graders	\$648
2. Check to Laguna Beach Unified School District to Purchase iPads (available for purchase at discounted rate by School District v. club purchasing directly)	\$4,352
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
Total Project Expenditures	\$5,000

9. By signing this report, I confirm that to the best of my knowledge these District Grant funds were spent only for eligible items in accordance with Trustee-approved guidelines, and that all of the information contained herein is true and accurate. Receipts for all grant-funded expenditures have been provided to the district. I also understand that all photographs submitted in connection with this report will become the property of RI and will not be returned. I warrant that I own all rights in the photographs, including copyright, and hereby grant RI and TRF a royalty free irrevocable license to use the photographs now or at any time in the future, throughout the world in any manner it so chooses and in any medium now known or later developed. This includes the right to modify the photograph(s) as necessary in RI's sole discretion. This also includes, without limitation, use on or in the web sites, magazines, brochures, pamphlets, exhibitions and any other promotional materials of RI and TRF.

Certifying Signature

Cecily Ginger Date: 3/29/16

Print name, Rotary title, and club

Cecily Ginger, community service
DIRECTOR, ROTARY club of Laguna
Beach