



*U-TOUCH advances socio-economic empowerment
in disadvantaged regions through access to
technology, information and training*

October 31, 2014

Janice Kurth, MD, PhD
District 5340 Governor, 2015-2016
Rotary Club of Del Mar

Dear Janice,

Please accept my apologies for a tardy response due to the very involved preparations for our U-TOUCH fundraiser. Thankfully, the event was highly successful this past weekend where some termed it a “magical” evening. The intense effort was certainly worth every moment and we are delighted with the results. I am sorry you were unable to attend but your responsibilities as Governor understandably take precedent. The preparations for the event have been actually for a double fundraiser, the next being on the 15th of November. So, you can see our focus has been on fundraising efforts to support U-TOUCH in Uganda and raising matching funds for Rotary Club.

To follow up on your request, I would like to share with you that the Gulu Rotary Club has been highly supportive of our work in Gulu. The Gulu District Local Government has kindly bestowed upon us a building, albeit war-torn and inoperative. U-TOUCH was able to reconstruct the building with funds from a grant and developed the new U-TOUCH Technology Innovation Hub (TIH). As we have shared with you, the goal of the TIH is to develop a sustainable community project to advance the socio-economic conditions of Gulu through the use of technology.

To this endeavor, I am delighted to share that prior to my stay in Gulu I first met with Rotarian, Richard Apire, in Kampala. He kindly welcomed me and we discussed his support of the U-TOUCH Gulu Rotary project. Next, upon my arrival in Gulu I attended the Gulu Rotary Club weekly meetings where I was again welcomed and given the opportunity to discuss the U-TOUCH International Rotary project. I attended the installation of the new Gulu Rotary President Dan Oling with whom I became connected immediately. He and the club were highly supportive. In fact, three of the members, including the new Gulu Rotarian President, Dan Oling attended the launch of the new Technology Innovation Hub on the 25th of July. All the Rotarians who visited the TIH were duly impressed with the work well done and goals of the program. President, Oling gave an eloquent extensive oration

addressing the guests about the responsibility of the community to not only personally benefit from the U-TOUCH programs and training offered but to share the knowledge with their community. He shared with the group that they have this unique opportunity to participate in U-TOUCH training to transform their own lives and that of their family but to also indirectly impact their entire community. Gulu Rotary President Oling made a deep impression on all those he addressed. The Gulu Rotary Club then met to confirm their support of the U-TOUCH Gulu Rotary project. The U-TOUCH Uganda Coordinator Ochan Charles is in close communication with Gulu Rotary President, Oling and attends Gulu Rotary meetings in support of the important relationship between U-TOUCH and The Rotary Club.

It is therefore, with deep appreciation and honor, that U-TOUCH has received the support of Rotary International. We are humbled that you would endeavor to raise the funds for this important project to help so many thousands in Gulu. We will remain in communication regarding our progress, however, please feel free to contact me anytime. I will be delighted to share with the Rotary Club any information and endeavor to support the collaborative U-TOUCH - Gulu Rotary International Project.

Again, Janice, I am deeply honored to be working with you on this partnership and excited to share in the successes and impact the project has in association with the Rotary International funding. U-TOUCH is making a terrific measureable impact currently and we are looking forward to expanding our focus with the collaboration of Rotary International. Please inform me, as I will be delighted to support your work in this endeavor across Rotary Clubs. It is a passion of mine to support those in extreme need, who, if given the opportunity can transform their lives and in turn help all those around them have a better future. U-TOUCH and Rotary Club certainly hold common beliefs, hence the partnership is one to surely succeed.

With deepest gratitude,



Deborah Plotkin
Founder/Executive Director

The lives you change are the lives U-TOUCH!