

## GG1634083 Report

**Developing the Basis for a Sustainable Pediatric Cardiac Program in Romania**

**REPORT TYPE**

Final

**REPORT STATUS**

Draft

## Committee Members

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### Primary Contacts

Name	Club	District	Sponsor	Role
Estelle Ebert	La Jolla Sunrise	5340	Club	International
Calin Mihai Cosar	Bucharest-Atheneum	2241	Club	Host

### Host committee members

Name	Club	District	Role	Date Added
Victor Topalu	Bucharest-Atheneum	2241	Secondary Contact	
Victor Martin	Bucharest-Atheneum	2241	Secondary Contact	

### International committee members

Name	Club	District	Role	Date Added
Deloria Doe Bauer	La Jolla Sunrise	5340	Secondary Contact International	
Oliver Jones	La Jolla Sunrise	5340	Secondary Contact International	

## Project Objectives and Implementation

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### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

**The Rotary Foundation approved global grant funding to be used for the following project objectives:**

- 1) To provide funding for 3 VTT teams to travel to Grigore Alexandescu Hospital (GAH) in Bucharest in July, September and October 2016. Approximately 40 Romanian children will be operated during these training visits (20 during the ICHF mission weeks, 10 during the Albany Medical Center mission week and 10 during the SACH mission week). In addition, the recently assembled Romanian pediatric cardiac team will be provided training in the new Heart Center at GAH which is scheduled to be completed prior to the July VTT.
- 2) To fund a cardiology clinic at the new GAH Heart Center for Romanian children with heart disease so that they may be prioritized on a National waiting list for treatment of their heart ailments.
- 3) To fund surgery for 10 Romanian children who will travel from Romania to Wolfson Medical Center in Tel Aviv, Israel for corrective heart surgery while GAH builds its capacity to treat children with heart disease. The cost of surgery and accommodation will be covered through this global grant. The Romanian Rotarians will independently fund the cost of flights for the children and one parent traveling from Romania to Israel.

**Have any of these objectives changed?**

Yes

**Please tell us how and why the objectives have changed.**

Objective #1 and #2 were completed successfully.

For Objective #3 - only 9 children were operated at Wolfson Medical Center in Israel. As a result of the training provided the local Romanian team, they began to operate Romanian children with heart disease in Romania. Many parents, upon learning that this was now possible, preferred not to travel to Israel with their ill child but rather to have their child operated in Romania. Therefore a formal change request was submitted and approved to support the local team to perform this last surgery rather than have them travel to Israel.

### **Have you made progress toward your project objectives?**

Yes

#### **Describe the progress you've made so far.**

October 2016 - 8 children were treated during the first VTT mission and training was provided to the local team.

January 2017 - 11 children were treated during the second VTT mission and training continued from the October mission for the local team.

March 2017 - 5 children were treated during the third and final VTT mission for this grant. The VTT team from SACH continued the training from the January mission as well as worked with those team members who had received additional training at Wolfson Medical Center in Israel.

A total of 24 children were treated during 3 VTT mission trips.

An additional 9 children were treated at Wolfson Medical Center in Israel.

The skills of the local healthcare professionals were greatly enhanced through this continuous training. With each training team, the local team was able to take on more responsibility with the patients treated. While still needing some guidance and skills transfer, the visiting teams were able to take a small step backwards with each mission trip. The confidence of the local team to treat children with low complexity heart disease was greatly increased as a result of the training provided through this project.

Additionally, in a country where pediatric cardiac care did not exist prior to this program, it is remarkable that in such a short period of time, children with heart disease are able to be treated in their country of birth. Romanian parents are displaying a level of trust and confidence in their local team to a point where they are choosing to have their children operated in country rather than traveling with them abroad.

### **PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

Your grant application included plans for the following activities. Please report on each of your project activities below. If there were any additional activities during the project, please report each of them by clicking the Add an Activity button at the end of this section.

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#### **1. ICHF**

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**Duration**

July 23 - August 6, 2016

**Status**

Completed

**Start Date**

15/01/2017

**Completion Date**

27/01/2017

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**2. Save A Child's Heart**

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**Duration**

September 25-30, 2016

**Status**

Completed

**Start Date**

26/03/2017

**Completion Date**

02/04/2017

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**3. Albany Medical Center**

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**Duration**

October 23-29, 2016

**Status**

Completed

**Start Date**

23/10/2016

**Completion Date**

30/10/2016

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**4. Provide Heart Surgery to 10 Romanian Children in Israel**

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**Duration**

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**Status**

Completed

**Start Date**

03/10/2016

**Completion Date**

15/12/2017

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**Measuring Success**

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**How many people have directly benefited from the project?**

73

**DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT**

Impact measures

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## 1. Number of medical and health professionals trained

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Collection method	Frequency	Beneficiaries
Direct observation	Every six months	1-19

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### RESULTS TO DATE

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Collection Method	Frequency	Beneficiaries
Grant records and reports	Every six months	40

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## 2. Number of recipients of disease prevention intervention

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Collection method	Frequency	Beneficiaries
Grant records and reports	Every six months	20-49

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### RESULTS TO DATE

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Collection Method	Frequency	Beneficiaries
Grant records and reports	Every year	33

### Monitoring and evaluation

Here is the person or organization that was selected to monitor and evaluate impact measures

#### Person or organization

#### Has this person or organization changed?

Yes

**Please provide information about the new person or organization.**

#### Person or organization

Rotarians from Host Rotary Club together with Gift of Life Romania and Gift of Life International

#### Phone (*optional*)

#### Email (*optional*)

**Address (optional)****Briefly explain why this person or organization is qualified for this task.**

Host Rotarians, Gift of Life Romania and Gift of Life International worked closely together with the staff at GAH and with the VTT teams to collect the data for monitoring and evaluation of the project. They were present at the hospital during each VTT mission and also helped arrange all logistics and follow up care for patients treated in Romania and also in Israel.

**MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH****Impact measures****1. Number of children under age 5 receiving medical treatment**

Collection method	Frequency	Beneficiaries
Grant records and reports	Every six months	1-19

**RESULTS TO DATE**

Collection Method	Frequency	Beneficiaries
Grant records and reports	Every year	20

**Monitoring and evaluation**

Here is the person or organization that was selected to monitor and evaluate impact measures.

**Person or organization****Has this person or organization changed?**

Yes

**Please provide information about the new person or organization.****Person or organization**

Rotarians from Host Rotary Club together with Gift of Life Romania and Gift of Life International

**Phone (optional)****Email (optional)**

**Address (optional)****Briefly explain why this person or organization is qualified for this task.**

Host Rotarians, Gift of Life Romania and Gift of Life International worked closely together with the staff at GAH and with the VTT teams to collect the data for monitoring and evaluation of the project. They were present at the hospital during each VTT mission and also helped arrange all logistics and follow up care for patients treated in Romania and also in Israel.

## Participants

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**SPONSOR PARTICIPATION****What roles and responsibilities did host sponsor members have?**

- 1) Coordinated all non-medical logistics for all VTT teams
- 2) Managed grant funds for all in-country expenses
- 3) Facilitated all approvals of VTT team members by Romanian authorities
- 4) Helped to collect data for monitoring and evaluation of project
- 5) Coordinated all logistics including medical documents, flights etc for all children treated in Israel
- 6) Helped to locate children to be treated in Israel
- 7) Helped to coordinate availability of local Romanian team for all training missions
- 8) Provided hospitality to all VTT team members and visiting Rotarians
- 9) Contributed funding to the grant
- 10) Helped promote the project and Rotary Awareness through various media platforms
- 11) Funded airfare for each child and their parent treated in Israel
- 12) Helped with inventory tracking and ordering of supplies and medications locally

**What roles and responsibilities did international sponsor members have?**

- 1) Acted as liaison between The Rotary Foundation and all partners
- 2) Contributed funds to grant funding
- 3) Managed grant funds for all out-of-country expenses
- 4) Collected data for monitoring and evaluation of the project and entered into reports to The Rotary Foundation
- 5) Reported on progress of the project to all partners and contributors
- 6) Raised awareness of the project and Rotary within their club and district
- 7) Completed Progress and Final Reports for the grant

**PARTNERS (OPTIONAL)**

Add any Rotary clubs or districts that were involved in this project, other than the host and

international sponsors or financial contributors.

No.	Type	Club name or district number
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## COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS

### 1. Gift of Life International

PO Box 650436  
Fresh Meadows, New York, 11365  
United States

[giftoflifeinternational.org](http://giftoflifeinternational.org)

#### **Describe how cooperating organizations participated in the project.**

Gift of Life International (GOLI) coordinated all efforts between Grigore Alexandrescu Hospital (GAH), Save a Child's Heart Foundation, International Children's Heart Foundation, Albany Medical Center, Gift of Life Romania and host and international Rotary Clubs. Gift of Life International traveled numerous times to Romania to assist with strategic meetings and problem solving through the initial development of this program and throughout the life of this Global Grant. GOLI accompanied Host Rotarians to attend many meetings with the Minister of Health and with the Director of GAH to help ensure adequate staff were in place for training during the training missions, necessary inventory was on hand for each VTT mission and reiterated several times the importance of patient selection and the availability of patients and timing of the patient list. GOLI also accompanied Host Rotarians in several meetings with the staff of GAH to discuss concerns, needs, goals and strategies in the early stages of development of a pediatric cardiac program. GOLI was present during each VTT mission and participated in each mission de-brief, following which GOLI presented strategies and next steps to move forward in the development of the program.

### 2. Grigore Alexandrescu Hospital

Bulevardul Iancu de Hunedoara 30-32  
Bucharest  
Romania

<http://spitaluldecopii.ro/>

#### **Describe how cooperating organizations participated in the project.**



Grigore Alexandrescu Hospital provided the facility for each VTT training mission. They provided some of the disposables need for the surgeries. They provided a partial team for training during each VTT mission. They also helped to ensure each patient treated received post-operative follow up care following discharge from the hospital.

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### 3. Save A Child's Heart

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16 Haviva Reik Street  
Holon  
Israel

<http://www.saveachildsheart.com/global/about/wolfs>

#### **Describe how cooperating organizations participated in the project.**

Save a Child's Heart (SACH) operated 9 Romanian children at Wolfson Medical Center in Israel. SACH also conducted the Cardiology Clinic prior to the first VTT to ensure pre-screening and patient selection. SACH conducted the March 2017 VTT training visit to GAH where 5 children were treated. SACH also provided additional training to GAH nurses at Wolfson Medical Center in between VTT missions.

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### 4. International Children's Heart Foundation

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80 Monroe Ave, Suite G-1  
Memphis  
United States

[www.babyheart.org](http://www.babyheart.org)

#### **Describe how cooperating organizations participated in the project.**

International Children's Heart Foundation (ICHF) conducted the January 2017 VTT mission to Romania where 11 children were treated. Some ICHF team members also participated in the October 2016 VTT mission in coordination with the Albany Medical Center VTT team. Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon, Dr. Rodrigo Soto has also provided leadership in developing training plans for VTT teams to mentor the Romanian team and has worked to ensure that VTT teams coordinate efforts for continuity in training. Dr. Soto works in coordination with GOLI CEO, Rob Raylman and SACH Executive Director, Simon Fisher.

## Vocational Training Teams

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### Vocational training team

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#### 1. ICHF

Type	Training location	Estimated travel dates
Providing training	Romania	22/07/2016 - 07/08/2016
Team leader	Email	
Randa Blenden	randa.blenden@babyheart.org	

#### Has this vocational training team completed its training?

Yes/No

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#### 2. Save A Child's Heart

Type	Training location	Estimated travel dates
Providing training	Romania	25/09/2016 - 01/10/2016
Team leader	Email	
Simon Fisher	sach@saveachildsheart.org	

#### Has this vocational training team completed its training?

Yes/No

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#### 3. Albany Medical Center

Type	Training location	Estimated travel dates
Providing training	Romania	22/10/2016 - 30/10/2016

**Team leader**  
Harm Velvis

**Email**  
hvelvis@nykidshearts.com

**Has this vocational training team completed its training?**

Yes/No

## Project Expenditures

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**Grant amount:**

293,000 USD

**Expense log**

Date	Description	Category	Amount (Currency)
16/08/2016	Accommodations for Cardiology Clinic Team	Accommodations	5801.25
16/08/2016	Airfare for Cardiology Clinic VTT Team members	Travel	6741.55
12/09/2016	Sutures October 2016 VTT Mission - Original Invoice 43,776.00 RON - exchanged sutures (-6210.00 RON)	Supplies	37566.00
13/09/2016	Medication for October 2016 VTT Mission	Supplies	558.08
13/09/2016	Medication for October 2016 VTT Mission	Supplies	707.84

13/09/2016	Disposables for October 2016 VTT Mission	Supplies	16270.20
06/10/2016	ACT Cuvettes	Supplies	4026.72
06/10/2016	Ethibond Devices	Supplies	3175.20
24/10/2016	Medications for October 2016 VTT Mission	Supplies	17625.65
24/10/2016	Pleur-evac Chest Drainage	Supplies	2086.56
25/10/2016	Accommodations for October 2016 VTT Team (Deposit)	Accommodations	17575.24
02/11/2016	Food for VTT Team - October 2016	Travel	1928.10
02/11/2016	Food for VTT Team - October 2016	Travel	3752.00
25/10/2016	Accommodations for October 2016 VTT Team (Balance)	Accommodations	18938.51
25/10/2016	Food for VTT Team - October 2016	Travel	6736.35
23/11/2016	Pleur-evac Chest Drainage	Supplies	1788.48
28/11/2016	Sutures for Jan. 2017 VTT Mission	Supplies	13500.00
11/10/2016	Suction Catheters for October 2016 VTT Mission	Supplies	74.52
22/12/2016	Sutures for Jan. 2017	Supplies	288.00

VTT Mission			
17/01/2017	Transducers for Jan. 2017 VTT Mission	Supplies	15470.00
17/01/2017	Food for VTT Team - Jan 2017	Travel	8111.52
17/01/2017	Accommodations for January 2017 VTT Team	Accommodations	11266.00
20/01/2017	Cannula and Connectors for Jan 2017 VTT Mission	Supplies	7442.45
20/01/2017	Food for VTT Team - Jan 2017	Travel	2168.96
26/01/2017	Food for VTT Team - Jan. 2017	Travel	1039.98
26/01/2017	Surgical Step Stool for Operating Theatre	Supplies	476.00
26/01/2017	Istat cartridges	Supplies	15073.19
01/02/2017	Transducers	Supplies	21658.00
01/02/2017	Accommodations for Jan 2017 VTT Team	Accommodations	31913.50
01/02/2017	Transportation to Airport for VTT Team - Jan 2017	Travel	1137.50
01/03/2017	Accommodations for VTT Team - Jan. 2017 (Balance)	Accommodations	1160.25
02/03/2017	Cost of Treatment for 2 Romanian Children at Wolfson Medical Center in Israel	Operations	43035.00

15/03/2017	Pediatric Surgery Kits	Supplies	8696.76
27/03/2017	Istat cartridges	Supplies	8925.00
27/03/2017	Thoracic Drains	Supplies	1071.00
31/03/2017	Food for VTT Team - March 2017	Travel	4380.00
31/03/2017	Food for VTT Team - March 2017	Travel	2384.40
31/03/2017	Food for VTT Team - March 2017	Travel	1046.30
05/04/2017	Food for VTT Team - March 2017	Travel	3239.00
05/04/2017	Disposables for March VTT Mission	Supplies	747.32
11/04/2017	Accommodations for March VTT Team	Accommodations	65500.00
13/06/2017	Cost of Treatment for 3 Romanian Children at Wolfson Medical Center in Israel	Operations	61099.80
17/05/2017	Romanian Bank Fees for Life of Grant	Operations	822.32
15/08/2016	Oxygenators	Supplies	40922.68
15/08/2016	Oxygenators and Hemoconcentrators	Supplies	13908.23
25/07/2016	Airfare for BioMed	Travel	6507.89
25/07/2016	Project Management Fee	Project management	101225.23
26/08/2016	Sutures for October 2017 VTT Mission	Supplies	16069.63

26/08/2016	Medications for October 2016 VTT Mission	Supplies	9086.20
26/08/2016	Disposables for October VTT Mission	Supplies	9708.76
26/08/2016	Shipping of Medical Supplies	Operations	618.59
12/09/2016	Sutures for October 2016 VTT Mission	Supplies	57202.64
12/09/2016	Disposables for October 2016 VTT Mission	Supplies	19825.00
12/09/2016	Shipping of Supplies	Operations	4287.04
22/09/2016	Ship VTT Documents to Romania	Operations	609.55
22/09/2016	Disposables for October VTT Mission	Supplies	1745.67
22/09/2016	Shipping of Supplies to Romania	Operations	12542.66
22/09/2016	Airfare for October 2016 VTT Team	Travel	36349.44
22/09/2016	Ship Documents to Romania	Operations	505.07
22/09/2016	Sutures for October VTT Mission	Supplies	258.23
22/09/2016	Shipping of Supplies and Pallet Wrap	Operations	2062.94
05/10/2016	Bus Transportation for VTT Team to Airport	Travel	2387.41

05/10/2016	Disposables for October 2016 VTT Mission	Supplies	9036.48
11/10/2016	Perfusion Tubing Packs	Supplies	24893.21
09/12/2016	Bus Transportation from Airport for VTT Team	Travel	6696.32
09/12/2016	Ground Transportation for Dr. Helena Oechsner	Travel	317.57
09/12/2016	Airfare for Dr. Helena Oechsner	Travel	3228.78
09/12/2016	Ship VTT Documents to Romania	Operations	322.58
09/12/2016	Food for VTT Team	Travel	5408.08
06/12/2016	Medication for Jan 2017 VTT Mission	Supplies	2175.07
06/12/2016	Sutures for Jan 2017 VTT Mission	Supplies	7645.10
06/12/2016	Disposables for Jan 2017 VTT Mission	Supplies	845.96
03/02/2017	Airfare for Jan. 2017 VTT Team	Travel	82574.99
22/02/2017	Food for VTT Team - Jan. 2017	Travel	2467.73
22/02/2017	Ship Supplies to VTT Team Members	Operations	1170.64
22/02/2017	Disposables for Jan 2017 VTT Mission	Supplies	646.60



22/02/2017	Shipping of Supplies and Meds	Operations	1855.05
04/05/2017	Airfare for BioMed	Travel	3608.80
19/04/2017	Disposables and medications	Supplies	61118.90
02/05/2017	Ship BioMed Tools to Romania	Operations	416.09
05/10/2016	Airfare for BioMed	Travel	5379.48
05/10/2016	Airfare for Randa Blenden and Dr. Rodrigo Soto for January VTT Mission	Travel	11121.05
15/09/2016	Perfusion Tubing Packs	Supplies	2634.32
15/12/2016	Airfare for Andrea Hiebert for Jan VTT Mission	Travel	3697.75
06/02/2017	Change Fees on Airfare for January VTT Team	Travel	8952.47
05/12/2016	Ship Supplies and Meds to VTT Team Member	Operations	971.55
13/06/2017	Partial Payment of VTT Airfare for SACH Team	Travel	8146.64
03/04/2017	Cost of Treatment for 2 Romanian Children to be treated at Wolfson Medical Center in Israel	Operations	45491.77
01/04/2017	Cost of Treatment for	Operations	32489.18

	2 Romanian Children at Wolfson Medical Center in Israel		
13/06/2017	Oxygenators and Tubing for SACH Mission	Supplies	4073.32
22/11/2018	USA Bank Fees for Life of Grant	Operations	367.71
08/08/2018	Medical Supplies	Supplies	7976.38
05/09/2018	Medical Supplies	Operations	656.88
05/09/2018	Medical Supplies	Supplies	2201.20
25/10/2018	Medical Supplies	Supplies	4402.41
26/10/2018	Oxygenators	Supplies	2570.40
27/10/2018	Nylon Tape	Supplies	672.59
28/10/2018	Blood Pressure Cuff	Supplies	238.00
29/10/2018	Medical Supplies	Supplies	523.60
30/10/2018	Omnifilm	Supplies	146.37
31/10/2018	Telacomp	Supplies	128.52
01/11/2018	Medical Supplies	Supplies	1187.95
02/11/2018	Sutures	Supplies	2570.40
03/11/2018	Sutures	Supplies	785.40
04/11/2018	Cable for External Pacemaker	Supplies	1428.00
05/11/2018	Sutures	Supplies	831.81
09/11/2018	Pediatric Hemofiltration Circuits	Supplies	509.32

10/11/2018	Aortic Cannula	Supplies	1475.60
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## Expense summary

Category	Budget (Currency)	Expenses (Currency)	Variances (Currency)
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### Did your project have any unexpected or unusually large variances?

Yes

#### Please briefly describe the circumstances for the variance.

Accommodations were over budget due to the SACH team requiring single rooms for all VTT team members whereas other VTT teams shared rooms. Travel costs were over budget due to the necessity to change all flights for the January VTT team since there was a lack of patients to treat. Additionally, one of the October VTT Team members had a family emergency and needed to have a new ticket issued to return home promptly. Additional trips by the BioMed were needed to ensure all equipment was in good working order for each VTT mission and in particular prior to the first-ever VTT and first-ever pediatric cardiac surgery at GAH. Lastly, additional support was required by Cardiology teams to ensure patients were screened and available for treatment. Other variances are due to currency exchange. We had a surplus in the budget for supplies and meds. This was a result of the following: 1) More donations were received than expected, 2) Few patients were available for treatment than budgeted, 3) GAH also provided many medications and disposables at no charge following the first VTT. This was also unexpected but very welcome and shows initiative on the part of the hospital to develop a program.

### Will you return unused funds to the Foundation?

No

## Financial Details

### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

#### Who is in charge of the project's financial management?

The Host Rotary Club managed Project Funds for In-Country Expenses and the International Rotary Club managed project expenses for out-of-country project expenses.

#### Please describe the project's financial management, including record keeping, inventory, payment authorizations, and conversion of funds.

Rotarian Victor Martin managed project funds for the host Rotary Club. All invoices were submitted to Victor and reviewed. Following approval, payment was issued and recorded on a

financial spreadsheet. All invoices were filed and reconciled with bank statements. The same procedure was followed by the International Rotary Club for out-of-country expenses. Rotarian Harvey Koelin managed funds for the International Club until his passing at which time, Rotarian Estelle Ebert took over the responsibility.

**Were there any challenges in managing the project funds?**

No

**PROJECT INCOME****Did your project generate any income through sales, interest, or other sources?**

No

## Authorizations

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**YOUR AUTHORIZATIONS****Primary contact**

By authorizing this report, I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, these grant funds were spent according to Foundation guidelines and that all of the information contained in this report is true and accurate. Original receipts for all expenses incurred will be kept on file for at least five years, or longer if required by local law, in case they are needed for auditing purposes. I also understand that all photographs, video and other media submitted with this report will become the property of Rotary International and will not be returned. I represent and warrant that I own all rights in the photographs, video and other media, including copyrights, and that I have permission to license use of the images/likenesses of the persons appearing in the photographs, video and other media to Rotary International. I hereby grant Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation a royalty-free, worldwide, irrevocable license to use, including, but not limited to, publish, print, reproduce, display, distribute, modify, sublicense and publicly perform, the photographs, video and media now or at any time in the future, in Rotary International publications and materials, and for promotional purposes in any form, medium or technology now known or later developed.

**Sponsor**

By authorizing this report, I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, these grant funds were spent according to Foundation guidelines and that all of the information contained in this report is true and accurate. Original receipts for all expenses incurred will be kept on file for at least five years, or longer if required by local law, in case they are needed for auditing purposes. I also understand that all photographs, video and other media submitted with this report will become the property of Rotary International and will not be returned. I represent and warrant that I own

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## AUTHORIZATION SUMMARY

### Primary contact authorizations

Name	Club	District	Status
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### Sponsor authorizations

Name	Club	District	Status
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