

# Rotary



## Rotary Action Group for Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health

The Rotary Action Group for Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health (RMCH) changed its name from Rotarian Action Group for Population and Development.

For 25 years, we helped mothers deliver healthy babies in Africa, Asia and South America, provided 1,500 fistula repairs and extended family planning services. We supported the strengthening of health systems for all, especially in Nigeria, and trained women in economic empowerment in India and Afghanistan. Our new name Rotary Action Group for Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health allows us to continue our work of contributing to global sustainable population growth and development while also contributing to the specific needs of the communities within their cultural norms and settings.

The Rotary Action Group for Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health (RMCH) acts within the context of Rotary International (RI) Code of Policies as the resource for RI Area of Focus Maternal and Child Health including Family Planning. RMCH assists Rotary clubs and districts in the planning, implementation and co-funding of projects that foster improvements in human well-being and dignity, women's health and empowerment, child and adolescent health and create a sustainable balance between population and environment. This mandate is in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goal 3 - reducing maternal and child mortality and ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health care services, Goal 5 - gender equality and empowerment of women and girls and Goal 17 - strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

RMCH follows a strategy of initiating, piloting, evaluating, replicating and scaling up. Small pilot projects are planned and implemented in cooperation with an international and a host Rotary club together with a project health centre or community forming a regional team. Successful initiatives are further refined through lessons-learned and replicated in additional areas. Such large-scale projects contribute to improvements in national health systems.

### Our Mission

To assist Rotary clubs and districts in the planning, implementation and co-funding of projects in sexual and reproductive health and rights, child health, family planning, population and environmental sustainability and to organize discussions on the implications of these activities for families, communities and countries.

### Our Vision

A world where quality reproductive health care is available to women, men, adolescents and children to realise their health and wellbeing and where women who want to delay or avoid childbearing can access safe and effective modern contraception.

### Our Aim

The aim is to cut maternal and perinatal deaths by half by improving the quality of infrastructure and hygiene in health centres, quality of healthcare provided and quality of outcome for mothers and babies. Care is taken to encourage women to seek professional antenatal care for the benefit of the mother and her unborn baby as well as have access to safe delivery and appropriate post-partum care.

See: <https://www.unfpa.org/press/family-planning-human-right>