

Service Project Sheet

Leonard Cheshire Disability

Ref:

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Project Name

Leonard Cheshire Disability (registered charity no. 218186 (England & Wales) and no. SCO05117 (Scotland))

Project Goals

To provide access to primary education for disabled children in Africa.

Rotary Service Type

Fundraising, volunteering and donation of equipment

Unique Selling Proposition

Over 90% of disabled children in developing countries do not go to school.

- The right to an education is a fundamental and constitutional right for children throughout the world.
- When disabled children do not go to school, their future can be bleak. Things that we take for granted – earning a living, caring for our children, having a voice in our community – can become very difficult when you have disabilities and no education.
- Disability in Africa is a taboo subject. Disabled children are hidden away by their families who have little to no understanding of disability and in some cases they are considered as being 'cursed'.
- In many African countries, school and transport systems are old and inaccessible and prevent disabled children who want to go to school from going.
- Millennium Development Goal No.2 aims to achieve universal primary education for all children by 2015.
- Rotary Foundation Matching Grants are available.

Description

Following the success of Leonard Cheshire Disability's Inclusive Education project in Kenya, which has enabled 750 disabled children within the district concerned to receive primary education, we wish to replicate the model across Africa.

The project will facilitate the full inclusion of 1,000 disabled children in 20 schools.

It will do this by:-

- making classrooms accessible and inclusive
- by training teachers how to support disabled children in class
- by adopting a model of child centred learning which encourages child to child activities
- and by working with the wider community to raise awareness of disability issues.

The project will address broader issues in health and development, poverty eradication among families with disabled children, community attitudes, transport and water and sanitation issues, all of which prevent disabled children from going to school. This will include Child to Child activities (which include stories, drama, sports and dance/information sharing on reproductive health issues and HIV/AIDS).

Recognising that true accessibility and inclusion is about more than the provision of ramps, suitable text books and the like, the project will also cover the provision of safe drinking water and sanitary towels (an oft-neglected need that prevents many girls from

attending school) and micro-enterprise and literacy schemes. Community Based Rehabilitation will be a key component, with trained community health workers recruited to train parents of disabled children in basic physical therapy exercises, primary health care and nutrition. A Disability Resource Centre will be set up to provide specialist support to schools and families. Looking further afield and longer term, the project will also aim to promote inclusive education across Africa by working with the education agencies, governments and the NGO sector.

Project Activities

1. Mapping of disabled children in the project area
2. Adapt 20 schools for disability access – ramps, rails, sanitation facilities
3. Train 80 teachers on inclusive education
4. Facilitate the formation of local disabled people's and parents' organisations
5. Establish 20 child to child clubs
6. Train 500 parents/carers of disabled children in basic physiotherapy
7. Establish a specialist disability resource centre
8. Launch a community awareness raising and sensitisation programme
9. Launch a lobbying campaign
10. Provide safe and clean drinking water for all and sanitary provisions for disabled girls
11. Establish a literacy and micro-credit revolving loan scheme for parents

Benefits to Clubs

- If donating clubs or districts wish to follow the Rotary Foundation Matching Grant route, they are invited to contact either their District Grants Officer, The RIBI Foundation Committee or Rotarian PDG Milton Frary who will be pleased to give guidance on the completion of applications.
- Friendship exchanges in conjunction with handover of the aid are encouraged.
- Adoption of schools by Districts or Clubs possible.
- Provide media opportunities

Contacts for further information

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