



SERVICE PROJECT SHEET Rotary's Medicaid



Ref: /Int/IDrugcol/Mar 2006
First published by RIBI: pre-1999/2000

ROTARY'S MEDICAID
(Club Charity 1035334) (First published by RIBI: pre-2001/2002)

Project goal:

Medicaid is a Rotary organised project providing medical aid for developing countries throughout the world.

Rotary service type:

Collecting of medicines and equipment.

Unique selling proposition:

"Save lives and relieve suffering by preventing the waste of medicines".

Description:

Medicaid's concern is for the long term chronic and desperate shortages of essential material by dedicated people struggling to care for the sick. The Rotary Club of Cross Gates started Medicaid in 1969, realising that unwanted pharmaceutical drug samples and medical equipment could be used if a method of collection, sorting and transport to developing third world countries could be devised. Each stage must be within the law and customs requirements of the recipient countries. Drugs and equipment are received from Rotary clubs, and major pharmaceutical companies. All material is sent to established hospitals, clinics or medical practitioners. A practical route is established and all customs formalities are dealt with before shipment overseas is made. Because of the meticulous care taken not a single shipment has been lost in over 30 years.

Shipments:

Hospitals in Uganda, Ghana, Tanzania, The Philippines, Bangladesh, Pakistan, New Guinea, Burundi and Rwanda and the Mission Medic-Air in Zambia have all been supplied. The Rotary Club of Cross Gates covers costs and, thanks to the efforts of Rotarians in arranging free air or sea transport, they are small.

How to help:

Pamphlets are available for doctors, pharmacists and dentists. Nursing homes are an excellent source of dressings, and items such as colostomy equipment. Surgical and medical instruments come from hospitals.

Medicines **must be in-date and no controlled drugs** (as defined by the Misuse of Drugs Acts) can be accepted. Be guided by qualified members within your club concerning drugs, their collection and storage. Many clubs arrange transport to Leeds but if this is not possible collection can be arranged. All material received is sorted and packed by members of the Rotary Club of Cross Gates supervised by qualified members. Material will be transferred to Leeds by contacting those indicated below.



Contact for further information:

Rotarian Dr J L Ramsay, 25 Allerton Park, Leeds LS7 4ND. Tel: 0113 268 4014.
or Rotarian E Goldstein, Tel: 0113 281 2112, or Rotarian R Bouvet, Tel: 0113 281 3245,

or your District International Service Chairman.

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland has adopted this statement of policy for its work with children, the elderly, the vulnerable and those with disability. The needs and rights of the child, the elderly, the vulnerable and persons with disability take priority. It is the duty of every Rotarian to safeguard to the best of his or her ability, the welfare of and prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse and neglect of all children, the elderly, persons with disability or otherwise vulnerable persons with whom they come into contact in their Rotarian duties. Rotarians should refer to the detailed "RIBI Protection Policy" when planning events and activities.

