

## Polio Campaign Lebanon

From

Cc

Date **Wed November 6, 2013- 19:36**

Dear Assistant Governors, Club Presidents, and Club Secretaries,

Further to an outbreak of Polio in neighboring Syria (10 cases confirmed so far), and the fear of a transfer to Lebanon due to the influx of Syrian refugees, Lebanon Rotary leadership under the guidance of DG Jamil Mouawad and with the assistance of the concerned district and country committee chairs has formed a Polio Plus task force to plan and coordinate all Rotary actions with the health authorities in Lebanon and Rotary International.

A national campaign has been initiated by the Ministry of Health to immunize more than 700,000 children under the age of 5 years old. The campaign has been divided into two phases: phase one from 8 to 12 November, and phase 2 from 6 to 10 December 2013.

Rotary Lebanon is committed to join forces with the Ministry of Health, and other international organizations including the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF to activate the outbreak response and protect all children on Lebanese territories.

The Polio Plus Committee has discussed the following tentative plan, pending an urgent meeting with the Minister of Health:

- Polio Awareness Campaign: TV and Radio 15 seconds commercials, billboards, banners, posters, flyers, etc.
- Rotary and Rotaract Volunteers: to accompany the MOH teams on the ground, assisting in administering the vaccine, as well as other social and administrative tasks as needed.
- Printed T-Shirts, Vests, Caps, Etc. for the volunteers.

NB. Enough stocks of vaccine are readily available at the Ministry. There may be a need in transporting it safely to the cities and villages such as vaccine carriers and ice packs.

Once we identify the exact needs, we will be able to give you more details on how your clubs and members can contribute to this campaign. Please be ready to identify members of your clubs that will be willing to volunteer for a day or more to help with the campaign, or to promote the campaign within your communities using your connections with the local media and municipalities, or through financial contributions.

Thank you for your understanding and commitment to Rotary cause.

## **Polio Campaign Lebanon - Update**

From

Cc

Date **Today November 7, 2013 -- 13:17**

Dear Assistant Governors, Club Presidents, and Club Secretaries,

Further to my email of yesterday about the Polio Plus Campaign, I am pleased to inform you that we have received the following financial pledges from RI Polio Plus Director Ms. Carol Pandak to support Rotary Polio action in Lebanon.

" International Polio Plus Committee Chair Bob Scott has agreed that we can provide upon request up to US\$50,000 for support for social mobilization activities [...] to the countries planning a response to the Syria situation. "

"Also, The Rotary Foundation has a mechanism by which it can provide up to US\$500,000 to WHO or UNICEF for an emergency response grant. These grants are made if requested by our partners and must be recommended for approval by the IPPC Chair to the Trustee Chair. We have not yet received a request from WHO and UNICEF for emergency response funds, but if we do, we would also issue a press release at that time."

Best Rotarian regards,