



# IMPACT REPORT

2023-2024



# 2023-24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

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**Chris Lund**  
President

This past rotary year our Club has focused its energy, talent, and resources on Community and Youth projects, and had a special international project effort. All of which could not have been remotely possible without the support of YOU, our sponsors.


And so we take this opportunity to recognize the immeasurable contributions you have made to the Club's success by presenting this Impact Report for 2023-2024.

You have our enduring gratitude.  
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "C. Lund".


Christopher A. Lund  
President – 2023-2024  
Rotary Club of Chatham





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# ABOUT ROTARY

Rotary is a global network of more than 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

## **What We Do:**

Rotary members believe that we have a shared responsibility to take action on our world's most persistent issues. Our more than 45,000 clubs work together to:

- Promote peace
- Fight disease
- Provide clean water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Save mothers and children
- Support education
- Grow local economies
- Protect the environment

## **Our Mission:**

We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

## **Vision Statement:**

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.



# OUR HISTORY

The fundamentals of Rotary create more or less a type of circular reference...from Rotary International to districts to local clubs there is an importance to basic tenets that belong to individuals at every level of Rotary. The Chatham Rotary Club was organized in March 1939. Around one hundred persons attended Charter Night, which was held at Chatham Hall. The Danville Club, represented by Curtis Bishop and Bascorn Jordan, sponsored our Club. Ed Brush, business manager at Chatham Hall, was elected the first president by thirteen men who signed the charter.



From the earliest days of the organization, Rotarians were concerned with promoting high ethical standards in their professional lives. One of the world's most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics is The 4-Way Test, which was created in 1932 by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor (who later served as RI president) when he was asked to take charge of a company that was facing bankruptcy. This 24-word code of ethics for employees to follow in their business and professional lives became the guide for sales, production, advertising, and all relations with dealers and customers, and the survival of the company is credited to this simple philosophy. Adopted by Rotary in 1943, The 4-Way Test has been translated into more than a hundred languages and published in thousands of ways.

Herb Taylor insisted there is a lot of good in everybody, but too often we look only for the bad. The Four Way Test encourages the good in the person who uses it. It helps people to think right and to think things through before they speak or act. The four Way Test started in an office in the days of the Great Depression as the result of a prayer for help to preserve the jobs of 250 people. Through Rotary International, it spread around the world. It has influenced thoughts, words and actions of countless people, and through them, even government and world events. It is a test for all time and for all people. Try using it on the next decision you face.

# 2023-24 **ACTIVE PROJECTS**



Adopt a Highway

Annual Christmas Parade

Annual Gala

Boys & Girls Clubs

C.A.R.T.

Clean Water Project

Easter Basket Distribution

Field of Honor

God's Pit Crew

God's Storehouse

Holiday Toy Drive

Interact

July 4th Street Festival & Parade

Northern Pittsylvania County Food Center

Rotary Youth Exchange Student

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

Scholarship Program

The Dictionary Project

Wheelchair Project

Young Life

# OUR PROJECTS

## Adopt A Highway

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### **Background/History of Project:**

The Chatham Rotary Club sponsored a stretch of Rt. 57 for 10+ years. Eventually, VDOT took it over, so as a club, we decided to continue cleanup of local roads in our vicinity.

### **Project Overview:**

Twice a year, spring and fall, members collect trash and debris along our designated adopted roadway, Anderson Mill Rd, Chatham VA. As we strive to give back to our community, these kinds of hands-on projects show our willingness to get involved in the upkeep and promotion of our local assets, making it safer for wildlife, and more attractive for our community.. We also invite community members and volunteers to participate with us.

### **Impact Statement:**

"This program is a key strategy in maintaining a positive travel experience for residents and visitors, and in preventing litter from entering local waterways." (VDOT)



## Annual Christmas Parade

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**Project Overview:** Each year, the club participates in the Annual Chatham Christmas parade as a method to get involved in community celebrations. The parade features First Responders, local high schools band, floats, treats and various distributions. We also invite community members and volunteers to participate with us.

**Impact Statement:** Drive visitation to Chatham, VA through holiday parade, positive and significant economic impact on local business activity.



## Annual Gala

### Background/History of Project:

This was a revival of our previous Rotary Auction, with the creation of a new Signature Event - The Gala. The Kentucky Derby theme is lively and entertaining, and retains the level of quality that the club has always been known for.

### Project Overview:

We celebrated the 150th running of the Kentucky Derby, with fantastic refreshments, fun games, wonderful wine & truffle pairing, bourbon tasting, and live viewing of the race. We also had fun with outfit contests for the guys and girls. We also used this time to promote our Sponsors and the various projects of the Club. We hosted 175+ attendees.

### Impact Statement:

"Rotary Club of Chatham, VA Fundraiser to engage with donors, build relationships, highlight accomplishments, raise awareness and boost funding."



## Boys & Girls Clubs

### Background/History of Project:

An annual core donation

### Project Overview:

The Boys & Girls Clubs help shape caring, responsible adults. We are proud to make a donation to Boys & Girls Clubs of the Danville Area each year. The Boys & Girls Clubs in our area provide kids and teens a safe place to develop essential skills, make lasting connections and have fun. As a result, Club kids are more likely to graduate from high school, be physically active every day and volunteer in their communities.

### Impact Statement:

Support local youth service programs that strengthen the greater Pittsylvania County community.



## C.A.R.T.

### Background/History of Project:

In October 1995, the Sumter Rotary Club in South Carolina, led by Roger Ackerman and Dr. Jack Bevan, initiated the effort to prove that Rotarians voluntarily emptying their pockets of change for a good cause could produce significant levels of funds to support Alzheimer's Disease research. The CART Fund (Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust) was the name given to the project.



### Project Overview:

The CART Fund is dedicated to raising funds to provide "seed" money for cutting edge, high impact research in hopes of finding a cure/prevention for Alzheimer's disease. The goal of the Fund is to encourage exploratory and developmental AD research projects within the United States. This is accomplished by providing financial support for the early and conceptual plans of those projects that may not yet be supported by extensive preliminary data but have the potential to substantially advance biomedical research. Alzheimer's disease is a progressive disorder that causes brain cells to waste away (degenerate) and die. Together with our District and the many districts in the south east, millions have been raised for this important research.

### Impact Statement:

Supporting research in hopes of finding a cure/prevention of Alzheimer's disease.

## Clean Water Project

### Background/History of Project:

Since 2013, The Rotary Foundation has invested in over 2000 projects worldwide. Through this investment, our volunteers of action have improved access to safely managed and basic WASH services to communities, schools and healthcare facilities, while protecting and conserving water resources. A core donation.

### Project Overview:

Clean water, sanitation, and hygiene education are basic necessities for a healthy environment and a productive life. Through water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programs, Rotary's people of action mobilize resources, form partnerships, and invest in infrastructure and training that yield long-term change.



### Impact Statement:

Supporting Clean Water project that mobilizes resources and invests in infrastructure to affect access to clean water.



## Easter Basket Distribution

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### Background/History of Project:

Over three years of service to the 80+ residents of the Chatham Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

### Project Overview:

Club members filled baskets with edibles, toiletries and other goods for older adults. Club Members then delivered the baskets to the residents and spent time visiting.



### Impact Statement:

"Gift baskets help residents remain cognitively sharp, reduce stress and benefit mental health."

## Field of Honor

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### Background/History of Project:

Promoting community involvement and fundraising, the Chatham Rotary Club has sponsored this project for 4+ years.

### Project Overview:

The field provides an excellent opportunity to celebrate the holiday by recognizing an individual or group that has been of service to the nation, state, local community or to you personally. Examples included active service members, veterans, public servants, volunteer organizations like Fire and Rescue, teachers, friends, family, or the like. Individual Donors and Groups were recognized by cards attached to each flag sponsored and remained in place for the duration of the field. Proceeds from sponsored flags went to support numerous public service projects supported and executed by the Chatham Rotary Club.



### Impact Statement:

The Field is located beside a traveled highway (U.S. 29) and inspires tourists traveling by, as well as the local community during the month revolving around the 4th of July.



## God's Pit Crew

**Background/History of Project:**

Eight+ years

**Project Overview:**

Whether it's trained disaster response teams, construction projects, regional distribution or blessing buckets, God's Pit Crew stands with communities to provide the needs of people that have been impacted by disaster. The Chatham Rotary Club is proud to stand with God's Pit Crew and support them each year.



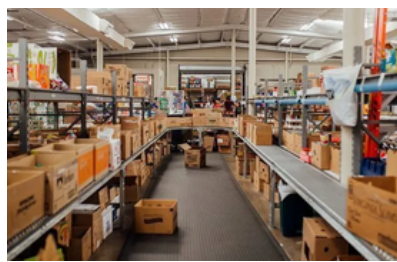
**Impact Statement:**

Financial support to an organization who provides rapid response to communities in need after a natural disaster.

## God's Storehouse

**Project Overview:**

God's Storehouse works throughout the Danville and Pittsylvania County communities to collect food, distribute food resources to those in need, promote nutrition, and connect customers to local resources. This work is possible thanks to the help of our local faith-based community, businesses, schools, and volunteers. Our club reaches an approximate 40 families, 100-200 individuals.



**Impact Statement:**

Volunteers pack and distribute food, providing nutrition to families in need to prevent hunger, reduce food insecurity and improve local food systems in Pittsylvania County.



## Holiday Toy Drive

### Background/History of Project:

Our club has had multiple years of partnering annually with Social Services to provide gifts for families in the Foster Care program.

### Project Overview:

Member donations provide gifts for families participating in the Foster Care program. The Foster Care program assures that children from participating Foster families receive a gift.



### Impact Statement:

Provide gifts as a healing power of play for children of foster care to reduce stress and benefit mental health, making a positive impact and providing something tangible to inspire hope during the holiday season. Toys deliver physical, emotional and educational benefits. Winter outerwear and accessories contribute to the overall health of children.

## Interact

### Background/History of Project:

Interact programs help younger leaders build leadership skills, expand education and learn the value of service. Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of Service Above Self.

### Project Overview:

Interact clubs organize at least two projects every year, one that helps their school or community and one that promotes international understanding. Rotary club sponsors mentor and guide Interact Club youth as they carry out projects and develop leadership skills.



### Impact Statement:

Opportunity for engagement of youth and introduction to the mission of Rotarian life.



## July 4th Street Festival & Parade

**Project Overview:**

Our annual Community festival reaches 1,000 - 2,000 attendees, with food, treats and fireworks.

**Impact Statement:**

Drive visitation to Chatham, VA through holiday parade, positive and significant economic impact on local business activity.



## Northern Pittsylvania County Food Center

**Project Overview:**

The Northern Pittsylvania County Food Center serves Pittsylvania County from Tightsqueeze to the Campbell County line. The distribution focuses on low and fixed income families in northern Pittsylvania County by delivering monthly food boxes.

**Impact Statement:**

Volunteers pack and distribute food, providing nutrition to families in need to prevent hunger, reduce food insecurity and improve local food systems in Pittsylvania County.



## Quarterly Food Distribution

**Background/History of Project:**

Chatham Rotary Club established an emergency food distribution system at the beginning of COVID-19, when students and families supported by the schools were disrupted by COVID-19.

**Project Overview:**

Once past Covid recovery, CRC partnered with God's Storehouse and Kentuck Baptist Church to continue serving the County. GSH serves every month, and CRC provides volunteers every quarter.

**Impact Statement:**

This ongoing project serves about 200 people each month in the community.



## Rotary Youth Exchange Student

### Project Overview:

The best part of hosting the foreign exchange student is creating lasting memories and making a friend for life! But there are many other benefits for both the student and the host:

- Gaining exposure to a new culture
- Broadening global perspectives
- Learning a new language at home
- Improving your communication skills
- Increasing your empathy and understanding
- Learning about different education systems



### Impact Statement:

Chatham, VA Rotarian hosted a student from France, providing a lifetime of memories and cultural awareness.

## Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

### Background/History of Project:

We offer full and continued support of our District 7570's RYLA each year. It gives students the opportunity to:

- Build communication and problem-solving skills
- Discover strategies for becoming a dynamic leader in both school and community
- Learn from community leaders, inspirational speakers, and peer mentors
- Unlock potential to turn motivation into action
- Have fun and form lasting friendships



### Project Overview:

Our District (Rotary District 7570) sponsors the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Seminar (RYLA) annually. The seminar brings together high school juniors and senior from Virginia to Tennessee for a weekend of fun and an opportunity to learn and practice leadership skills. Participants will have the opportunity to hear outstanding speakers, participate in team activities, practice leadership skills and grow personally by sharing ideas and experiences with peers throughout the district.

### Impact Statement:

Sponsorship of a local high school student to attend a weekend of leadership and community engagement with peers from Virginia to Tennessee.

## Scholarship Program

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### Project Overview:

The future of our young people through the value of education that enables them to work towards their goals and futures. Each year we award scholarships to several deserving students from around the area, to assist with the costs of college or university. Every dollar contributed helps with the financial load of area students.



### Impact Statement:

Sponsorship of a student to assist with college or university.

## The Dictionary Project

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### Background/History of Project:

A core donation

### Project Overview:

Chatham Rotary Club members pay for and distribute dictionaries to over 200 children in the third grade at all the elementary schools in Pittsylvania County each year.



### Impact Statement:

Introduce Rotary mission and values. Inspire love of reading and learning at a critical time in the development of young people's minds, resulting in a positive impact on reading comprehension.

## Wheelchair Project: Jamaica

### Background/History of Project:

The Wheelchair Foundation was founded in 2000 by real estate developer Ken Behring, and based in Danville, California. It is a 501(c3) Foundation with a goal to provide a free wheelchair to every child, teen and adult who needs one but has no means to acquire one. Rotary Clubs world-wide partner with The Wheelchair Foundation to bring their mission to the world.

### Project Overview:

This year Chatham Rotary Club was represented by one of our own, as he journeyed to Jamaica to help with the distribution of wheelchairs. Along with help of Rotary Clubs from around the globe, the Wheelchair Foundation has been able to deliver more than 895,000 wheelchairs worldwide. A wheelchair distribution is a hands-on Rotary project. Together, we've changed hundreds of thousands of lives with the gift of mobility — changing the lives of not only the recipients of these wheelchairs, but the families, and their communities, putting smiles and tears of joy on many faces!



### Impact Statement:

Due to cost-prohibitiveness of wheelchairs, access to a wheelchair isn't accessible to everyone who needs them. Distribution of wheelchairs in countries of need to improve mobility and quality of life in day-to-day activities.

## Young Life

### Background/History of Project:

A core donation. Young Life reaches out to middle school, high school and college-aged kids in all 50 of the United States as well as more than 90 countries around the world. There is no one type of person involved in Young Life. It's for everyone. Our Rotary Club has made periodic donations to this program, that enhances "young life."

### Project Overview:

Young Life doesn't start with a program. It starts with adults who are concerned enough about kids to go to them, on their turf and in their culture, building bridges of authentic friendship. These relationships don't happen overnight — they take time, patience, trust and consistency.

### Impact Statement:

Support local youth and young adult service programs that strengthen the greater community.





The top of the page features a blue background with a repeating pattern of interlocking gears. Each gear has the words "ROTARY INTERNATIONAL" inscribed on its teeth. The gears are arranged in a way that they overlap, creating a sense of depth and movement.

# 2024

# CHATHAM ROTARY CLUB SPONSORS

The Chatham Rotary Club is proud of the relationship we have with our community. We take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude for the generous support of our local business sponsors. Your support and belief in our mission help us achieve our goals for the community, and reinforces our commitment to the Rotary Motto: Service Above Self.

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Thanks to our 2024 Platinum Sponsor

Davenport  
**Energy**



# 2024 GOLD SPONSORS



First Citizens Bank



# 2024 SILVER SPONSORS



# 2024 BRONZE SPONSORS





# ANNUAL PARTNERS

The Chatham Rotary Club is also proud of our community collaboration. By working together, the Chatham Rotary Club is able to support the mission of other local organizations and aid in transforming our region. Below are our annual partners:



# LEAVE A LEGACY

Leaving a legacy is about more than money or material possessions. Think about what matters most to you, and why it might be important to you to leave something behind. It can be a special summary of what your life has taught you, or how you want others to benefit from your legacy. Consider donating to the following funds that have been established by Chatham Rotary Club.

## **Chatham Rotary Club Scholarship Fund**

Through the Community Foundation of the Dan River Region, Chatham Rotary Club created a scholarship fund for graduating seniors from Gretna High School and Chatham High School, with a preference for students who are a member of their school's Interact Club. Scholarships are an incredible source of financial assistance for young students today. Many student loans carry a "less than desirable" interest rate and create a financial burden for young professionals. Investment into our scholarship fund can enhance student performance, providing opportunities in education that will help them to succeed; it vastly reduces financial stress and helps students focus more on studies. The generosity of your donation can help alleviate the higher costs of education today.

### **Donate Here:**

Scan the QR code or visit:  
[chathamrotaryclub.com/fundamentals/scholarships/](http://chathamrotaryclub.com/fundamentals/scholarships/)



## **Chatham Rotary Foundation**

When you donate to Chatham Rotary Foundation, you help to enhance the quality of life of the residents of Chatham and surrounding areas. Each year, Rotarians contribute to Build a Better Community Through Local Giving. Not a Rotarian? If you are not a Rotarian but would like to contribute to our Foundation we welcome your contribution. The Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization and 100% of your contribution will stay in the local community. You will receive a letter recognizing your contribution for tax purposes.

### **Donate here:**

Scan the QR code or visit:  
[chathamrotaryclub.com/fundamentals/crc-foundation/](http://chathamrotaryclub.com/fundamentals/crc-foundation/)



**Community  
Foundation**  
of the  
Dan River Region

Chatham  
**Rotary**  
Foundation



# WAYS TO JOIN ROTARY



**Are you interested in joining Rotary? Below are the different ways you can join the Chatham Rotary Club.**



**ROTARY MEMBER:** Every organization needs active participants to achieve its goals. If you have the passion, interest, and your busy schedule allows, we encourage you to join us as a Rotary Member. The Chatham Rotary Club cannot survive without a vibrant and enthusiastic membership.



**CLUB ADVOCATE:** For those individuals who believe in what we do, but cannot commit to regular membership because of work and personal commitments, we invite you to join us as a Chatham Rotary Club Advocate (Individual Sponsor); and participate in the projects and events that interest you!



**BUSINESS SPONSOR:** For more than a decade, Chatham Rotary Club has expanded its reach and impact through the generous support of our local business. We understand businesses/owners cannot attend meetings, however, our service projects that benefit the community need funding to be successful. We therefore encourage your business to join us as a Business Sponsor.



**ROTARY PARTNER:** There's always so much to be done and there are many community organizations doing great work in our local community. Collaboration is key! Chatham Rotary Club is passionate about supporting the mission of other local organizations. Together we make things happen.

**If you are interested in joining the Chatham Rotary Club, visit [www.chathamrotaryclub.com/join](http://www.chathamrotaryclub.com/join) or scan the QR code above to join today!**

2024 Platinum Sponsor

Davenport  
Energy



JOIN US  
**TODAY!**

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[www.chathamrotaryclub.com/join](http://www.chathamrotaryclub.com/join)

**Rotary**  *Service Above Self*