

## Rotarians raise \$220,000 for PolioPlus Partners

**D**istrict 3450 officials announced at an intercity meeting earlier this year that local Rotary clubs raised more than US\$220,000 for the PolioPlus Partners program. PolioPlus Partners Zone 4 Coordinator Raymond Wong presented a ceremonial check to RI President-elect Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar on 13 January.

“[The] amount shown on the face of the check was the exact amount raised in Hong Kong dollars converted into U.S. dollars on that day,” says Wong, who is a past governor of District 3450 (Hong Kong, Macau, Mongolia). “There are still about HK\$10,000 (more than US\$1,200) to be collected before we mail the real check to The Rotary Foundation.”

About 500 Rotarians, including club and district officials, attended the event, hosted by area Rotary clubs in Stenhammar’s honor at Hotel Miramar, Hong Kong. In September 2004, some of the Rotarians had participated in a race in the Gobi desert, which helped raise the PolioPlus Partners funds.



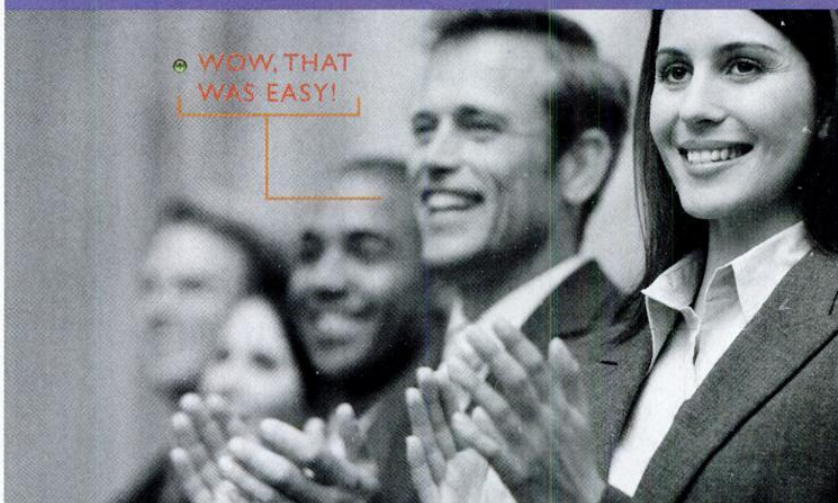
Dave Groner, past governor of District 6360, immunizes a child in Varanasi, India.

District 3450 has been a generous supporter of the PolioPlus Partners program, through which Rotary clubs, districts, and individual Rotarians volunteer time and money to help eradicate polio worldwide. In 1999, the Rotary Club of Kowloon East, Hong Kong, coordinated the district’s first PolioPlus Partners initiative, which helped sponsor a round of National Immunization Days in Bangladesh.

“I led a team there,” says Wong. “[But the 1999 effort] can’t be compared to this one, in terms of the amount of money involved.”

At the intercity event, district governors Alex Mak (District 3450) and Ritje Rihatinah (District 3400, Indonesia) made a presentation aimed at raising funds for Indonesian victims of the 2004 tsunami.

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