



**Rotary Action Group for  
Community Economic Development**

## RAGCED Newsletter - December 2021

In this newsletter, in addition to President Margaret's classic invitation for each of us be the best Rotarian possible in the New Year, there are a variety of projects showcased in several countries. Before that however, there is a handy video invitation tool from the creative studios of RAGCED Communications Director, Roberto Ribadeneira. For a tear fetching account of a project by a Provisional Rotary Club, read about the TCP Global project in Yumbe, Uganda. Bob Brown from Open to Grow shares his Newsletter containing an article about funding in Guatemala, from the Calgary West Rotary Club. If listening to an oral report on a microfinance project is helpful, try the article on West Kenya. For those active in the Rotary Foundation's community economic development month (October), Past RAGCED Pres. Jim Louttit writes about "Training Indigenous Youth in Safe Water Management". And if you are looking for support for your project, try submitting an article to the Rotary Service Blog which is bolstered by blog writing guidelines. Also consider the community-by-community expansion of Launch My City into Great Britton and Ireland. Read about Savings Groups in the City of Lakes Rotary Club progress report with Mayan women in Guatemala. Lastly, RAGCED Director of Social Outreach, Howard Weinstein presents an article about Solar powered hearing aids as a Social Business, the new frontier for Economic and Community Development.

Finally, to help in the growth of our organization, please consider forwarding this newsletter to your social network where you can point out that the subscription to our newsletters is free (see RAGCED home page for Subscribe button). Many thanks from the Editor: Steve@Rickard.ca





## **President Margaret 2022 Message**

Never underestimate the power you have to make a difference in the lives of others. RAGCED supports sustainable community development projects throughout the world; if you need assistance, reach out to us. In our Newsletter this month are interesting and informative articles featuring sustainable community development projects lead by Rotarians who saw a need, and took action, working together to uplift communities and...

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## Empowering Women Video

What works for Women? In this short video clip the focus is on supporting women. If you have a friend or contact that needs a nudge toward joining the official support network for Community Economic Development, please consider sending this address from our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LW51tzfVZ5E>

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## Yumbe Uganda Microcredit with TCP Global

Attending a Zoom meeting of the Yumbe, Uganda provisional Rotary Club, my eyes welling up with emotion, I reached out in chat to another Zoomer who had just wiped her cheek. She admitted she too was tearing up. The club is not yet officially recognized by Rotary International, the women are well below the poverty line but they are already doing service projects.

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## Open to Grow - More than Microcredit

Thanks so much for supporting Open to Grow - for 11 years! We appreciate each and every one of you. Together, we have made over 5,400 loans to poor women micro-entrepreneurs with a total value of \$2.4 million. Together, we have improved the lives of over 27,000 women and their family members. Your loans or donations to Open to Grow have a powerful ongoing impact on the lives of many very poor peo...

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## Claire's Poultry



## Western Kenya - Microcredit Program

Rotarians, for the past 20 years, we have worked with women's microfinance groups in Africa, Asia, and the Americas. There are 144 groups of 30 or more each in 14 countries

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## October is Economic Development Month

October is Community Economic Development (CED) month and what better way to celebrate than to relay stories about Rotarians working to create opportunities by investing in communities.

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## Blog Article for Rotary International

Have you recently participated in a Rotary service project? Has a Rotary service effort affected you personally as a volunteer, donor, or beneficiary? Share your story and inspire others to join us in our humanitarian efforts to meet critical needs around the world.

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## LaunchMyCity in Great Britain & Ireland

Small businesses are struggling in communities around the world due to the pandemic. Rotarians in Great Britain and Ireland learned of a Rotary initiated program called LaunchMyCity that offers proven strategies to help entrepreneurs and business owners be more successful.

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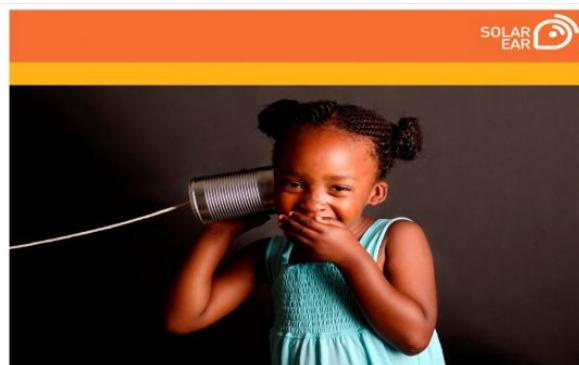




## Mayan Women's Prosperity Initiative

The “Mayan Women’s Prosperity Initiative” is underway. The host club is Club Rotario Guatemala de la Ermita. Through their groups these women can better meet their daily and business needs as they become a powerful force for change in their impoverished villages. The global grant will train fifty Savings Groups totaling 800 women members. An additional \$20,000 in Rotary funding could double the number of Champions and...

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## Social Business as the new Frontier in CED

Social Business - The vehicle to democratize access and affordability of health, educational products and services. Our business model - We are a sustainable social business manufacturing solar powered hearing aids by people who are deaf for people with a hearing loss.

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The poor themselves can create a poverty-free world. All we have to do is to free them from the chains that we have put around them! – Muhammad Yunus

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#### Attachments



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