



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATE COLLEGE, PA, July 12, 2009

State College Downtown Rotary Club Raises more than \$30,000 Many Local Non-profits Benefit from Funding

NEWS

- The State College Downtown Rotary Club is pleased to announce that it raised more than \$30,000 during the club's 2008-09 fiscal year. Funds will be disbursed to support selected local non-profit organizations and Rotary projects. The monies were raised by club members under the leadership of Rose Kauffman as club president and Jim Eberly as fundraising chair. Events included the annual Rotary spaghetti dinner and auction, State College dinner and entertainment books, several community events, and member contributions.

- The majority of funds were distributed for programs regularly supported by the club, including:
 1. State College YMCA for student scholarships;
 2. State College Area Food Bank;
 3. High school student vocational scholarships;
 4. 400+ dictionaries for area third-grade students;
 5. State College High School prom;
 6. Rotary's international high school student youth exchange, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), and Group Study Exchange (GSE) programs; and
 7. Polio Plus, a program of Rotary International.

- Additional funds were awarded to nine local organizations:
 1. Housing Transitions;
 2. Strawberry Fields;
 3. The Clare Fund;
 4. Junior Baroque Music Festival;
 5. Child Access Center;

6. FaithCentre of Bellefonte;
7. Schlow Library (children's department);
8. Faith UCC's Friendship Tutoring outreach program; and
9. Easter Seals.

In addition to raising funds, club members donated their time for community service projects. Most notable were two: the club's annual participation in Lederer Park clean-up day in remembrance of the late Rotarian Eugene Lederer, a founder of the local club; and transporting donations of fresh and preserved foods from the Friday farmer's market in downtown State College to the local food bank.

"We are thrilled to have exceeded our fundraising goal this year despite the economy. There are many deserving organizations in our community that are challenged by these difficult times, and it's rewarding to know we can help them continue to offer their services. We appreciate the support of the businesses and individuals who have made this success possible." - *Rose Kauffman, President, State College Downtown Rotary Club*

About Rotary International:

Rotary International has 1.2 million members worldwide. In addition to thousands of volunteer hours, each year Rotary contributes millions of dollars in humanitarian aid and relief around the globe, funds 1,200 international scholarships, and provides cross-cultural exchanges for 7,000 young leaders. Through its flagship program, PolioPlus, Rotary has contributed more than \$600 million to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

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