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# PRESS RELEASE

## Area Rotary Clubs raise more than \$42,000 to fight polio, support local musicians

In less than 30 days, Rotarians in five area clubs raised more than \$42,000 in support of The Rotary Foundation's polio eradication mission, with a portion of proceeds also supporting the Fargo Moorhead Symphony Orchestra and Fargo Moorhead Area Youth Symphonies.

The results were a combined effort of five local Rotary Clubs in the Fargo Moorhead area including Fargo Noon Rotary, Moorhead Rotary, Fargo West Rotary, Fargo AM Rotary and Fargo PM Rotary. For the second year in a row, The Rotary Foundation was fortunate to partner with the family of the late Bob Leiseth, who generously provided a \$15,000 Challenge Match for Rotarians. This, in addition to another plentiful \$5,000 Challenge Match for non-Rotarian donors, enabled gifts to double.

In conjunction with recent fundraising was a Rotary-hosted event: ***Recital With A Cause***, a local concert that featured highly talented high school musicians who wanted to share their musical gifts and join Rotary in its quest to eradicate polio. Attendees of the free concert also contributed free-will donations that were included in the final fundraising results.

Featured musicians included: **Eric Bergeman (flute)**, Sr. Age 18, Sargent Central-Forman High School, **Hanson Chen (violin)**, Jr., Age 16, Fargo Davies High School, **Phillip Dowdell (violin)**, Jr. Age 16, Fargo North High School, **Tate Fisher (cello)**, Sr. Age 16, Moorhead High School, **Maria Clare Lusardi (violin)**, Sr., Age 17, Fargo Shanley High School, and **Andrew Rutten (bass clarinet)**, Sr. Age 17, Kindred High School.

Special thanks to the following business sponsors: Bell Bank, Border States Paving, Inc., Breadsmith, Bremer Bank, Christianson's Business Furniture, Concorde General Agency, Concordia College Catering, Country Greenery, Great Outcomes Consulting, LLC, Hanson Photo, Hornbacher's, Industrial Builders, Juven Tours & Travel Inc., K's Bakery, MSUM Catering, Ohnstad Twichell Law Firm, Pure Bliss Massage & Wellness, Scheels Home & Hardware, Scheels Sports, Starion Bank, Thrivent Financial.

### ABOUT THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

The mission of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. Its 35,000 clubs carry out sustainable service projects that support six causes: promoting peace, providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education, growing local economies and fighting disease. Donations throughout the years have wiped out 99.9 percent of all polio cases. Donations also train future peacemakers, support clean water, and strengthen local economies.