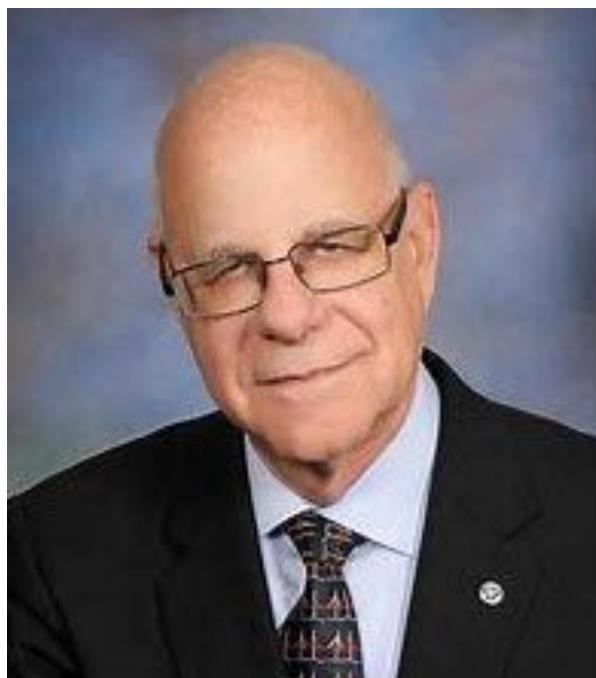




Rotary Action Group for  
Community Economic Development

## RAGM Newsletter April 2020

Wow, who knew a short while ago that we would be in the midst of a global pandemic? RAGM Pres. Nick offers encouraging personal comments and offers information from Rotary International about the newly increased Disaster Relief Grant program. Past Pres Jim provides two articles one a request for funding assistance that he mentioned in the last RAGM newsletter and the second article about the recent changes in the naming of Action Groups. Bob Brown has contributed two articles to round out his three part series on starting and successfully managing a microcredit project. Finally, it is a treat to receive an insightful article from Sally Dawoud which confronts the tribulations of Microcredit and proffers proposed involvement in projects with Rotary or maybe others and the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.





## President Nick's COVID Comments

President Nick has surveyed the opportunities for Rotarians to participate in the Disaster Relief Grant Program. In his report he gets specific about what our members, who are mostly familiar with Global Grants, can do to aid during these especially trying times.

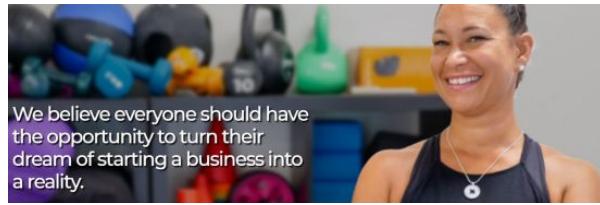
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## New Rules for Action Groups

We are in unprecedented times, Rotary is fully engaged in the COVID pandemic. I would ask that you create your own innovative ideas to provide support where needed.

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We believe everyone should have the opportunity to turn their dream of starting a business into a reality.

## Request for Funding Assistance

In December's Newsletter, Past President Jim Louttit says, I wrote about two projects involving entrepreneurs who still require your support in developing sustainable solutions within their communities.

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## Lessons Learned Along the Way #2

This is the second of a three part series of articles about the startup and successful operation of a microcredit organization called "Open To Grow". Bob Brown takes us down the bumpy road of

planning, resource acquisition and then implementation of a Non-Government Organization dedicated to Microcredit in the troubled Nicaraguan economy.

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### **Lessons Learned Along the Way Article #3**

This is the concluding article in a three-part compilation by an entrepreneur that turned from a profitable career in the Hospitality Industry to a highly successful Microcredit ten year project affecting the lives of more than 27,000 people.

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## Why Microcredit needs Sustainable Dev Goals

Sally Dawoud reflects on the failing grade given to Microcredit programs that claim to lift the poor out of poverty. She argues that an economic suite of services is necessary. Her suggestion is integrating MicroFinance into the United Nations - Sustainable Development Goals. Thus we could see an alignment of Rotary aspirations with Global Goals that would show very telling, measurable results.

[Read More](#)

“The biggest communication problem is we do not listen to understand. We listen to reply.” –  
Stephen R. Covey

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### Attachments

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