



## RAGCED Newsletter - May 2021

Everyone is talking about the 2021 Virtual Rotary Convention. President Nick goes beyond the hope you will attend the convention and offers a personal invite: "I want to invite you to the breakout session entitled "Sowing Seeds for Sustainable Development". Mary Coward from the Victoria BC Canada, Conferences & Volunteers Director - RAGCED, has a newsletter article about how her club secured the extra funds that they needed to complete on a project in Guatemala.

Then in Detroit, USA incoming chair of RAGCED, Margaret Williamson has an article about the success of their project, LaunchDETROIT. Judie Bopp from the Cochrane AB, Canada, Rotary club tells how their approach to community development entails entrepreneurial training & mini-project funding. Next, contributor Walt Greenwood Rotary Club of Everett points to the success of their club in raising over \$100,000 for an agricultural project in Dajabon, Dominican Republic. A useful background to the deployment of the resources of the Rotary Foundation is found in an article by our General Secretary, John Hewko. Modern institutions have a new set of Post COVID advertising, marketing & fund raising tools. In our concluding article Kudzai Angeline Nyengerai from Harare, Zimbabwe suggests several ideas which she is developing in her role as RAGCED Director of Fundraising.



**Rotary International 2021 Convention Virtual Format**

## Rotary International 2021 Convention Virtual Format

I know that many of you are planning to participate in the Rotary International Virtual Convention June 12-16, 2021. I want to invite you to the breakout session entitled “Sowing Seeds for Sustainable Development” which will be held on Monday, June 14 beginning at 8:00 AM Central Daylight Time (Chicago).

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## The Power of the Rotary Network - Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in Guatemala.

RAGCED makes a difference! Connections made through RAGCED helped us to achieve microloans to 55 women entrepreneurs in Guatemala. The loans are part of a nine-month business training program offered by Fundacion Namaste Guatemala (Namaste). Clubs from Victoria Canada, Antigua, Guatemala, Portland USA, & Berlin Germany contributed.

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## LaunchDETROIT Success Stories

With the collapse of many businesses only the nimble and creative businesses will thrive and nothing guarantees success like following the pattern of prior successes. In this article find out about the Motor City Popcorn story (including TV footage) plus the importance of having a business mentor, Social Media support & possibly a start up grant from Rotary.

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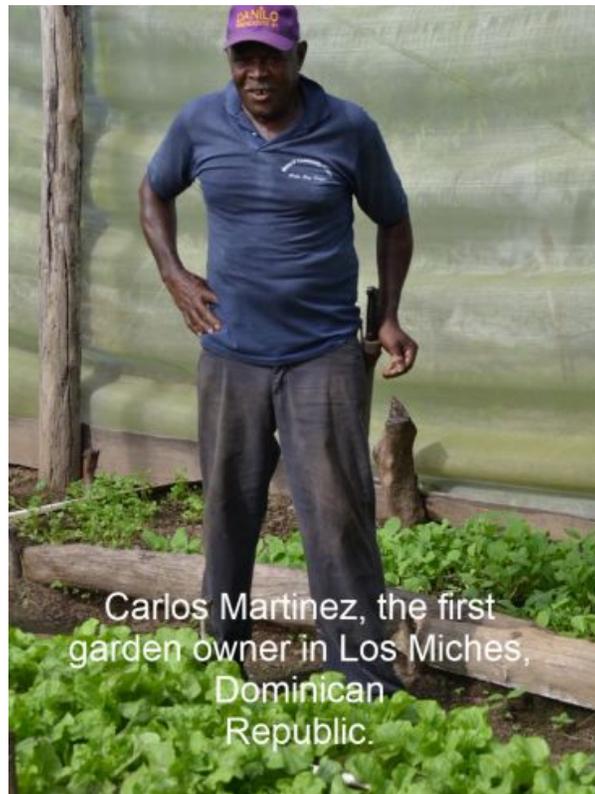


## Belize Entrepreneurs Grow through Rotary Training

The Rotary Club of Cochrane has a global grant in Belize focused on strengthening local communities and economies through training courses and “study action groups”. By empowering individuals with knowledge and support structures they can build the capacity of community leaders for community-led initiatives and work towards developing seed funds for their own small businesses.

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Carlos Martinez, the first garden owner in Los Miches, Dominican Republic.

## Dajabon Greenhouse Project

A successful International project starts with a solid idea. It's all that follows - drawing plans, testing the concept, gauging the early results, editing and adjusting, creating partnerships, finding funding and at last, going to market - that validates the idea's value. This is the story of the Rotary Club of Everett's greenhouse gardens venture in Dajabon, Dominican Republic.

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## **Troy Rotary Club and the Rotary International General Secretary John Hewko**

John Hewko oversees the operations of both Rotary and the Rotary Foundation and manages a combined operating budget of over \$450 million and assets of more than \$1 billion. John also manages Rotary's relationship with strategic partners and governments and leads a staff of almost 800 at Rotary's world headquarters in Evanston, Illinois and in 7 offices outside the United States. Article by: Roma Murthy, D6380 Membership...

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## **Marketing the expertise of RAGCED**

The idea of fundraising / marketing of RAGCED is not new but with the appointment to the Board of Kudzai Anøeline Nvengørai from Harare, Zimbabwe we took a deep dive into what's

...board of Kudzai Angeline Nyengerai from Harare, Zimbabwe. We took a deep dive into what possible and identified four options. Readers are encouraged to both review the ideas put forward and to contact Kudzai (angelineku@gmail.com) with any new ideas.

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**“There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about.”**  
— Margaret J. Wheatley

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**Attachments**



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