

Pulim Win: breathing life into PNG newborns

Progress Report Board Rotary Club of Lower Blue Mountain

4/12/2019

Dear President John,

I am pleased to report that we are making significant progress towards preparing and completing Rotary Foundation requirements for applying for a Grant.

A task group with The Australian College of Neonatal Nurses (ACNN) has formed and has met many times to define the scope of project and bring together the necessary documentation. The dedication and excitement within this group is significant and progress so far has led me to the point where I can see the project meeting its goals and the application being ready for submission by March 2020 or earlier.

Please find following a summary document that scopes the project. While it is still in draft status and may be adapted as we work with the various target groups in PNG, it is now in a form that can be forwarded to relevant areas of Rotary for information. The project is ready to use all available resources to begin the process of attracting support beyond our club and to have a relatively clear overview so that District, International and Foundation support can help us bring our application together.

To assure the Board that we are attending to the rigorous requirements of Rotary, I offer the following points:

- We have downloaded and are following the documentation provided on the Rotary International Web sites relating to Foundation Grants. We are following the Grant Application Form.
- The Australian College of Neonatal Nurses (ACNN) and Rotary Club of Lower Blue Mountains have formally endorsed the project through their respective Boards. ACCN has authorised their Low Resource Countries: Special Interest Group to develop the project.
- Rennie Schmid and Robyn Schmid are the Rotary representatives on the project team.
- The team has made considerable progress in identifying partner groups within PNG and the process of getting memorandum of agreements signed has begun.
- Members of the team are currently visiting PNG at their own expense to further scope the project.
- At this time, it looks likely that the Rotary Club of Goroka will be the local Rotary sponsor. With the scoping document in place we now begin reaching out to the appropriate Rotary District in Queensland and our own District for formal support and guidance. We are also open to partner with other Rotary Clubs in PNG if the team can make contact. However, the wider project will likely be represented in PNG through the Rotary Club of Goroka, with Rotary Clubs in other areas being consulted and invited to be part of the local areas being serviced by the project.
- A Budget/Costings for the project is also under way. This is part of the current PNG visit as accommodation and transport options need to be determined. The budget needs will help determine the process of gathering wider funds.

- The team accepts that the project funds will be administered through a RAWCS Account.
- As PNG is a low resource country, it may be necessary to determine the worth of local in-kind-support to meet Rotary local funding requirements.
- Further scoping may identify equipment needs and resources that will help the communities successfully implement their learned skills. This may need to work through Donations in Kind and already established transport links from Australia to PNG. There may also be some scope to develop parts of the project to be funded through District Grants.
- Some very skilled and experienced nurses support the team. The team leader, Karen, holds a research PHD and is skilled in project assessment. The project aims to follow best practices as endorsed by the World Health Organisation and other international agencies. It is important to remember that there will be significant quality of reporting and skills limitations within the communities targeted by the project.
- The team is developing a logo(s) and style guide to promote the project and identify the partnership between RCLBM and ACNN.
- Team members are developing a PowerPoint presentation to unify presentations across Rotary and ACNN. Team members aim to make presentations at Clubs or Districts in their areas which span Australia.

I have not intended that this to be a comprehensive report as various documents are still being developed. I will now consult widely within Rotary as the attached scoping document should help all concerned realise the potential of the project. The team is aware and capable of adapting the project to meet the needs of Rotary, the variable situation in PNG and funding restraints. It is clearly a 3-year project and success of the project for sustained improvements in neonatal and maternal care may also include plans to extend this vital work further into future.

On behalf of the project team, I would like to express our appreciation to President John and the Board for supporting the project. Peter Agar also has been supportive. I intend to work through the Foundation and International Director as well with the Club President as the project progresses. It will be necessary to work directly with RAWCS, Districts, Foundation and other relevant Rotary Clubs or projects to enable funding and support to move beyond our club.

PP Rennie Schmid.



Low Resource Countries

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Project title: Pulim Win: breathing life into PNG newborns.

Statement of Introduction

The Australian College of Neonatal Nurses (ACNN) is dedicated to the promotion of excellence in the care of newborns (neonates) and their families. As a member of the Council of International Neonatal Nurses (COINN), ACNN contributes to the global effort of providing sustainable education and training to health workers and village health volunteers (VHVs). ACNN has Special Interest Groups (SIGs) one of which is the Low Resource Countries (LRCs) SIG whose primary purpose is to partner with Australia's neighboring LRCs across the South East Asia and Sovereign Oceania regions to reduce neonatal and maternal mortality.

This project is a joint project between ACNN and Rotary Club of Lower Blue Mountains Australia and Goroka Papua New Guinea, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs).

Purpose

This project will aid Papua New Guinea (PNG) in meeting the Sustainable Development Goal 3 targets of reducing neonatal mortality to less than 12 per 1,000 live births and maternal mortality to less than 70 per 100,000 live births.

Aim/s

1. To reduce newborn and maternal mortality by improving the quality of health care given around the time of birth
2. To create a self-sustaining community of health workers and VHVs using low dose, high frequency training and a train-the-trainer program underpinned by the Helping Babies Breathe (HBB) and Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) frameworks.
3. To support the development of health workers and VHVs confidence, knowledge and skills to deliver essential newborn and maternal care at the time of birth

Objective/s

To deliver in the Eastern Highlands Province

1. To provide training each year over three years in partnership with Barola Haus Mama (CSO)
2. Continue to partner with NGO Touching the Untouchables (TTU) to:
 - provide training throughout Eastern Highlands and/or Western Highlands provinces
 - deliver two Train-The-Trainer programs, one per year
3. Support Train-The-Trainers to undertake ongoing low dose, high frequency VHVs training

To deliver in the East Sepik Province

1. Collaborate with Nursing and Midwifery Leaders at Boram Hospital and the School of Nursing, Wewak to provide training each year over three years

To deliver in the Oro & Central Provinces

1. To provide training each year for three years in partnership with Kokoda Track Foundation and local communities

[Australian College of Neonatal Nurses Inc.](http://www.acnn.org.au)

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Measurable outcomes

To the best of our ability, within the constraints of a low resource setting and the challenges of collecting accurate data we will collect and monitor:

- Number of training sessions
- Number and category of health workers attending training
 - Pre and post knowledge check
 - Bag and mask ventilation skills check
- Number of VHVs attending training
 - Mouth to mask skills check
- Number of TTU health workers attending Train-The-Trainer Program
 - Pre and post knowledge check
 - Completion of the OSCE (Objective structured clinical examination) skills assessment
 - Bag and mask ventilation skills check
- Utilise qualitative methods for data collection such as narratives/story telling of experiences/ interviews
- Feasibility and acceptability of the program

Reference documents

- Sustainable Development Goals. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>
- Helping Babies Breathe. <https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/helping-babies-survive/Pages/Helping-Babies-Breathe.aspx>
- Early Essential Newborn Care. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/208158>



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We the undersigned in principle would like to partner with Rotary and the Australian College of Neonatal Nurses in the project Pulim Win: breathing life into PNG newborns should the grant application for a Rotary Foundation Global Grant be successful.

We have read the two-page scoping document and understand that the aims, objectives and measurable outcomes are tentative until a full project document is developed, agreed and signed by all parties.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Designation: _____

Date: _____