



BULLETIN #5

December 18, 2007

WASRAG partners with the US Fund for UNICEF for a major World Water Week Event

We're very excited to tell you about a fantastic opportunity to make a major contribution to the fight for safe water and sanitation and, very importantly, to enhance Rotary's image in communities across the United States. And, we're happy to tell you **IT WON'T COST ROTARIANS A PENNY!**

Potable water and adequate sanitation has been a shared vision of Rotarians and UNICEF for a long time. It's a daily privilege so many of us take for granted, but it's a sad fact that the lack of these basic needs is the second largest killer worldwide of children under five.

On World Water Day, March 22nd, 2007, the US Fund for UNICEF launched an innovative new program to raise awareness of this crucial issue. New York City diners were invited to pay \$1 for the tap water they usually enjoy for free – and the Tap Project was born. It was a runaway success generating \$100,000 to be spent on UNICEF's water projects worldwide.

As the program expands in 2008, volunteers across the country will raise an estimated \$1 million by helping to recruit thousands of restaurants to participate. The 2008 event will run for the whole of the week prior to World Water Day – March 22nd, 2008

The US Fund for UNICEF approached RI President Wilf Wilkinson and requested that WASRAG be allowed to represent RI as their lead NGO on the project – a challenge WASRAG was delighted to accept. The 2008 program is targeting a number of major US cities and their surrounding communities:

Atlanta	Columbia, SC	Minneapolis	San Diego
Boston	Dallas	New Orleans	San Francisco
Charleston, SC	Denver	New York	Seattle
Cincinnati	Greenville, SC	Portland	
Chicago	Los Angeles	Richmond, VA	

After receiving approval from the DGs in these communities, WASRAG is approaching the local clubs with details of the project. In some districts, DGs feel it is more effective for the message to be disseminated via District Newsletters and some of you may have seen these messages already. We are also appealing to WASRAG members directly in the hope that they can work within their communities as volunteers and inspire fellow members with their zeal!

To give you more background on the Tap Project, visit UNICEF's site: <http://www.tapproject.org/>. Details of the 2008 project will be included very early in the year. WASRAG has set up a separate email address: tapproject@rogers.com to handle the large volume of correspondence that will be generated. Please contact **Ron Denham**, WASRAG Chair or **Anna Shepherd** at that email address or 416-596-3624 for further details.

"Rotarians working to improve Life and Livelihood through the provision of Safe Water and Sanitation"