

Here Are the Facts!

- For those too young to remember the polio epidemic of the 1950's. It is a highly infectious disease that most commonly affects children ***under the age of 5.***
- There are three types of Poliovirus. Type 2 has been eradicated and Type 1 and 3 known as Wild Poliovirus is almost eradicated.
- This virus is spread person to person (and can be spread by contaminated water).
- It attacks the nervous system and can lead to paralysis.
- ***There is no cure!*** There is only a safe and effective vaccine to prevent polio -- the vaccine that Rotary and our partners immunize billions of children worldwide.
- In 1988, when the Global Polio Eradication Initiative began, polio paralyzed more than 1000 children worldwide every day.
- Since then, more than 2.5 billion children have been immunized against polio.
- This has involved 200 countries, 20 million volunteers, and an international investment of more than \$11 billion.
- How are we doing? Look at the numbers!
 - 2013 416 cases
 - 2014 359 cases
 - 2015 74 cases
 - 2016 37 cases
 - 2017 22 cases
 - 2018 33 cases
 - 2019 Currently there are more cases than 2018 for the same period
- We are down to only two countries with reported cases, Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- It is NOT the number of cases that we see that is important --- it is the number of cases we ***prevent*** that is important and reflects all the work being done.
- There are 360,000 babies born every single day in the world. To be fully protected against polio, each of them must be vaccinated not just once, but several times (3).
- The only way to achieve eradication is to use a vast network of systems to deliver about *430 million* doses of vaccine every year via mass immunization campaigns.
- Rotary is committed to Polio eradication until the world is certified polio-free.
 - The Global Certification Committee will certify the world as polio-free when we have gone 3 years without seeing the wild poliovirus. This Committee is independent of Rotary.
- Stopping polio eradication when we are 99.9% done would be like walking away from a fire when it is 99.9% out. One spark is enough to start a new fire. Until we end polio forever, every child is at risk!
- Unless we eradicate polio, within 10 years we could see as many as 200,000 new cases each year, all over the world.

Lincoln South Rotary Continues to Participate in Polio Eradication

Thank you to Matt Horak -- for being our Lincoln leader in the ***Strike Out Polio with the Saltdogs***

Thank you to our Lincoln South Rotary club members who every meeting give ***Happy Dollars*** to help eradicate polio.

Thank you for each and every contribution you make to end polio!