

# End Polio Now



*Polio can be prevented by a single oral immunization that costs less than \$1.*

<http://rotary-club-of-belmont-ma.org>

## What is Polio?

- Polio is a highly infectious virus that attacks the nervous system, potentially causing death, paralysis, or life-long disability.
- Young children are especially at risk for polio, although people of all ages are susceptible.
- Before the invention of the first polio vaccine in 1952, there were typically 15,000+ cases of paralytic polio per year in the USA.
- In the 1980's polio killed or paralyzed more than 1,000 children per day world-wide.
- Since development of an inexpensive oral vaccine in 1988, Rotary International has spearheaded a global effort to eradicate polio, immunizing more than two billion children and reducing incidents of polio by more than 99%.
- Rotary International's \$200 million challenge, running from 2009 until 2012, directly funds polio immunization and rehabilitation campaigns around the world.

**Outbreaks of the virus continue in developing countries.**

## What is Rotary?

Rotary is an international, secular, non-political organization open to all persons regardless of race, color, creed, gender, profession, or political affiliation.

The traditional mottoes of Rotary are *SERVICE ABOVE SELF* and *THEY PROFIT MOST WHO SERVE BEST*. There are more than 32,000 local Rotary clubs worldwide, with over 1.2 million members.

The Rotary Club of Belmont helps in local service projects, such as raising money for the Salvation Army, the Belmont Food Pantry, and college scholarships for Belmont High School students, as well as international projects, including raising money and providing tents for victims of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, and providing a bus for a school in Kenya.

### Visit the Rotary Club of Belmont

The Rotary Club of Belmont meets for breakfast at 7:30am every Tuesday in the Assembly Room of the Belmont Public Library.

Please visit our web site for more information.

**Visitors are always welcome!**