

## Rotary Club of Mendocino, California

### Brief Update on International Service Proposals for 2022/23

---

We have been talking since April with clubs in Savusavu, Fiji and Port Vila, Vanuatu, Katikati New Zealand and Eugene, Oregon regarding projects for 2022/23 and now have three solid project proposals. Matthew O'Halloran visited Fiji this year and his visit was instrumental in getting proposals from Fiji. Last year we budgeted \$8,300 for International Service projects in Vanuatu and Fiji, comprising \$7,300 for Vanuatu and \$1,000 for Fiji.

Ongoing construction works in both Fiji and Vanuatu have been hit hard by supply shortages and price inflation.

We have three requests for funding, as follows:

#### 1) Victory School of Hope, Vanuatu

- Work on the fence continued most of the last Rotary year and the boundary wall part of the fence is now complete, leaving primarily purchase of cyclone fencing and gates to be done. The Port Vila Rotary club has advanced about \$1,800 over and above what Mendocino, Fort Bragg and Katikati clubs have provided, and needs to be repaid. The Victory School of Hope has requested another \$5,700 to purchase the remaining materials for the fence and about \$1,000 may also be needed to pay labor, making the total amount needed to complete the project about \$8,500. Funding clubs are Mendocino, Fort Bragg and Katikati. Katikati is taking the lead in oversight of the project. Port Vila is helping with procurement of materials, disbursement of funds, accounting and ensuring quality construction.
- Katikati has committed another US\$2,100 from club funds and Ann and David Owen of Katikati have committed US\$1,820 of their personal funds, making the total provided by Katikati US\$3,920. The amount remaining to complete the fence is therefore US\$4,580.
- JS met with Paul Sweigart of Fort Bragg Rotary on July 26 and he will talk with their board today, July 28, to see if they would like to help out to complete this project. If they do, we will suggest they provide US\$2,290 and we do the same.
- For now, we should budget \$3,200 and aim to make any further adjustments during August.

#### 2) Urata Lookout Project, Fiji

- This is an very worthwhile project, started by the Rotary Club of Savusavu (RCSS), to develop a small tourist facility in collaboration with indigenous landowners at a look site with beautiful views over the bay. The original cost estimate was \$40,000, funded by the US Embassy and others. Architectural design and construction supervision services are being provided by Caulkin Studio UK which has provided volunteers to live in Fiji and help out there. The basic building works have been completed. Judy Cakacaka of RCSS is providing regular updates. However, supply chain shortages and huge increases in the price of materials have resulted in a cost overrun of about \$25,000—\$20,000 for electrical and kitchen fit-out, and water and septic tanks, and another \$5,000 for car parking and landscaping. RCSS is seeking funding from other Rotary clubs.

- Kathy Poole of the Rotary Club of Eugene Oregon is talking with her colleagues to see what they might be able to do. Fort Bragg may also wish to help out. We have budgeted \$5,000 for this project.

### 3) School Supplies, Khemandra Central School, Fiji

- This is a project put together by RCSS to which we have already provided water filters and musical equipment, total provided so far \$900. Remaining needs include additional musical supplies, art and sporting supplies, total additional needed \$2,660.
- Other clubs have been asked to provide support as well as our club.

### 4) Santo Rotary, Vanuatu

- I had thought we might return to the small water supply and livelihood projects being put together by Rufino Pineda, but this seems unlikely this year in view of the larger funding requests for ongoing projects described above.

### 5) A trip to the South Pacific

- We should plan a joint trip perhaps with Eugene and Fort Bragg Rotarians for next May or so, to review what we have done, and lay out a program going forward. Santa Rosa and Sonoma may also be interested.