



Rotary
Club of Cocoa Beach, FL



September 8, 2022

Ms. Jacquie Youngs
Foundation Administrator
Surfing's Evolution and Preservation Foundation

Dear Jacquie,

I'm reaching out to you today on behalf of the Cocoa Beach Rotary Club. My name is Marcin J. Kubiak and I'm the President of the Club.

As you are likely aware Rotary International, established in 1905, currently is a 1.4 million member-led international organization which at its core is committed to having positive impact across communities where members live as well as globally. The Cocoa Beach Club was founded 64 years ago, has over 30 members and over the last 6 decades has worked tirelessly to better the Space Coast. We are actively engaged in projects such as the Interact Club at the Cocoa Beach Junior/Senior High School, Water4Life Mozambique where annually we build a water well for a village of approximately 1,300 people, are currently executing \$25,000 Rotary International grant for Ukrainian relief, contribute time and over \$50,000 to build a school in Guatemala, annually educate day care/elementary kids on safe swimming practices via Josh the Otter Program, provide annual scholarships to the HS students, annually donate dictionaries to 3rd graders across our community, send multiple HS students (last year 4) to Rotary's Leadership Camp, engage in Thanksgiving and Christmas giving, oversee the Cocoa Beach Boat Parade, adopt local parks, and many others.

Given our proximity to the Ocean, water safety is at the core of what we do and over the last 5 years has become the focal point for the Cocoa Beach Rotary Club members. The Surfing's Evolution & Preservation Foundation's support has been an integral part of our success. For that, from the bottom of my heart, and on behalf of our members, residents, and visitors I would like to thank you. Your support has directly impacted lifesaving efforts.

As you are aware in 2017 under the leadership of Wyatt Werneth, the Cocoa Beach Rotary Club in collaboration and partnership with local leaders undertook its boldest project. A DrownZero initiative. Rotary Club members advocated with the City and other government organization to setup 42 stations with orange buoys (flotation devices) to assist good samaritans in saving those whose lives are threatened by the rip current across our beaches. Through multiple iterations and adjustments, we optimized our process, secured long-term buy-in from the governing bodies and received an overwhelming support from the community. To date we had multiple documented rescues.

The DrownZero Project has been our Club's fundraising program and further enhances our visibility in the community, enabling growth of the membership of like-minded individuals.

This year is a very special year for our Club and our Brevard beach community. Namely, thanks to your generosity we were able to undergo the first expansion of the DrownZero Program. In partnership with the Melbourne Beach Rotary Club, the Melbourne Beach City commission, first respondents, and your financial support we are in the process of building 13 stations that will be placed across Melbourne Beach. The stations are in the final stages of being build and we expect to have them on the beach in the coming weeks. Thank you so sooo much for your generous support.

Our vision is grand. We believe that the Rotary ecosystem has proper infrastructure to continue expanding across the beaches of Florida. We have shared our success with multiple Rotary clubs around Florida. Vero Beach Rotary, Tarpon Springs Rotary, Panama City Rotary and Jacksonville Beach Rotary are preparing to implement DrownZero.

Our process would be to utilize the Surfing's Evolution and Preservations contributions to have the Cocoa Beach Rotary club's DrownZero stations built here in Brevard and distributed to interested Rotary clubs in Florida.

Cocoa Beach Rotary Club is so humbled by your generous support to date and once again would like to ask for your help in the upcoming fiscal year. As mentioned our vision is grand and we believe that a donation would enable us to make a huge impact in the state of Florida, ultimately resulting in many lives saved.

As you are aware, the Cocoa Beach Rotary Foundation is a 501c3 and committed to being a good steward of the entrusted funds.

With utmost respect and admiration, Yours in Rotary Service



Marcin J Kubiak, President 2021-2023

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Wyatt Werneth

Wyatt Werneth, DrownZero Project Chair

John Alexander

John Alexander, Cocoa Beach Rotary Foundation, Inc.

Dave Brown

Dave Brown, Executive Secretary