



## Create Lasting Change: Rotary's Investment in Literacy



**BASIC EDUCATION  
& LITERACY**  
Rotary Action Group 

Reading Changed My Life!



# What is Literacy?



**The ability to:**

- **read & write**
- **use numbers, images & technology**
  - **to understand,**
  - **to communicate**
  - **to gain useful knowledge**
  - **to solve problems**

**If we talk about literacy, we have to talk about how to enhance our children's mastery over the tools needed to live intelligent, creative, and involved lives.**

**17% of the world's adult population  
over the age of 15 lack basic literacy skills  
(775 million people, 1 in 9 adults)**

**53% of children in low  
& middle income  
countries cannot read  
proficiently by age 10**

**132 million girls,  
40% of children with  
disabilities  
are out of school world  
wide**

**60 million children lack  
access to education**



**70 million more  
teachers are needed by  
2030**

**Illiteracy costs an  
estimated \$1.2 trillion in  
lost annual earnings**



# Literacy challenges in the US



adults in the United States cannot read, write, or do basic math above a third grade level.

**68%**

## ADULT EDUCATION

of programs are struggling with long student waiting lists, and **less than 10 percent** of adults in need are receiving services.

# Literacy challenges in the US

## FAMILY LITERACY

Children whose parents have low literacy levels have a

72%

chance of being at the lowest reading levels themselves. These children are more likely to get poor grades, display behavioral problems, have high absentee rates, repeat school years, or drop out.<sup>1</sup>

## EDUCATION



ONE IN SIX

young adults—more than 1.2 million—drop out of high school every year.<sup>4</sup>

## CORRECTIONS

75%

of state prison inmates did not complete high school or can be classified as low literate.<sup>6</sup>

## POVERTY

43%

of adults with the lowest literacy levels live in poverty.<sup>4</sup>

## HEALTH LITERACY

\$232 Billion

a year in health care costs is linked to low adult literacy skills.<sup>2</sup>

## TRF Global Grants (RY 2014 - 19)



2019-2020

1,359 Global Grants  
\$95.6 Million

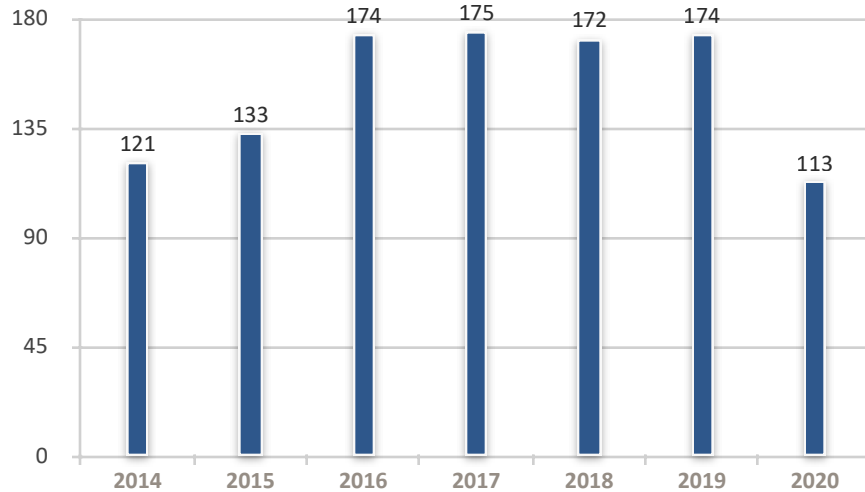
339 Disaster Response Grants  
\$8.4 million

490 District Grants  
\$33.6 million

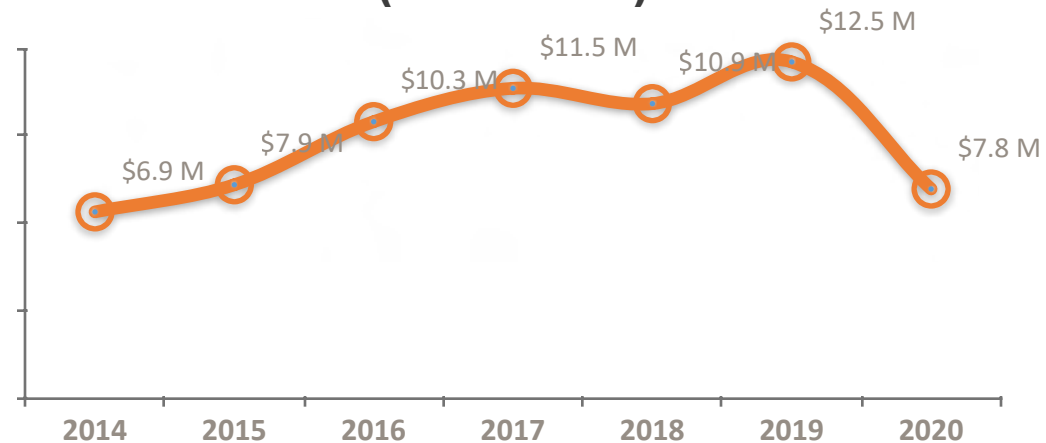


# BEL Global Grants (RY 2014 - 20)

## BEL GLOBAL GRANTS - Year to Year (RY2014-20)

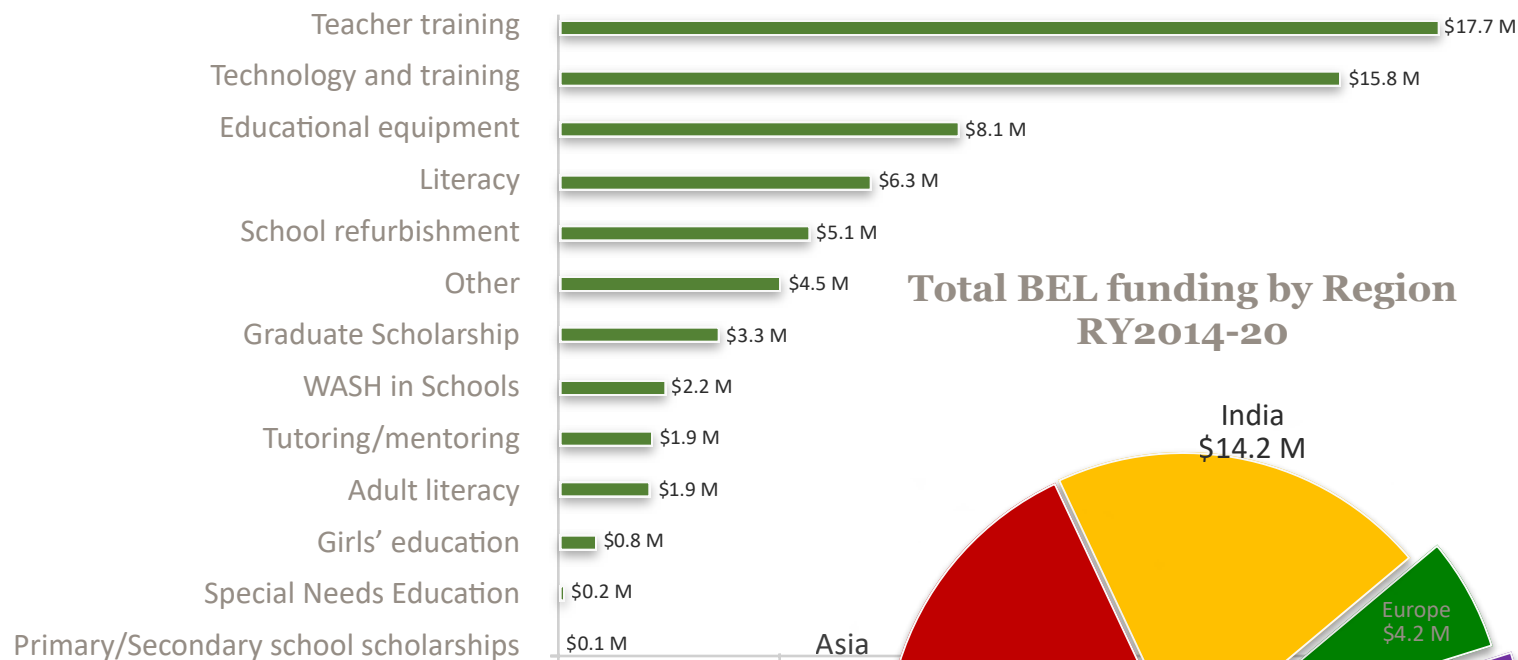


## Total BEL Funding - Year to Year (RY2014-20)

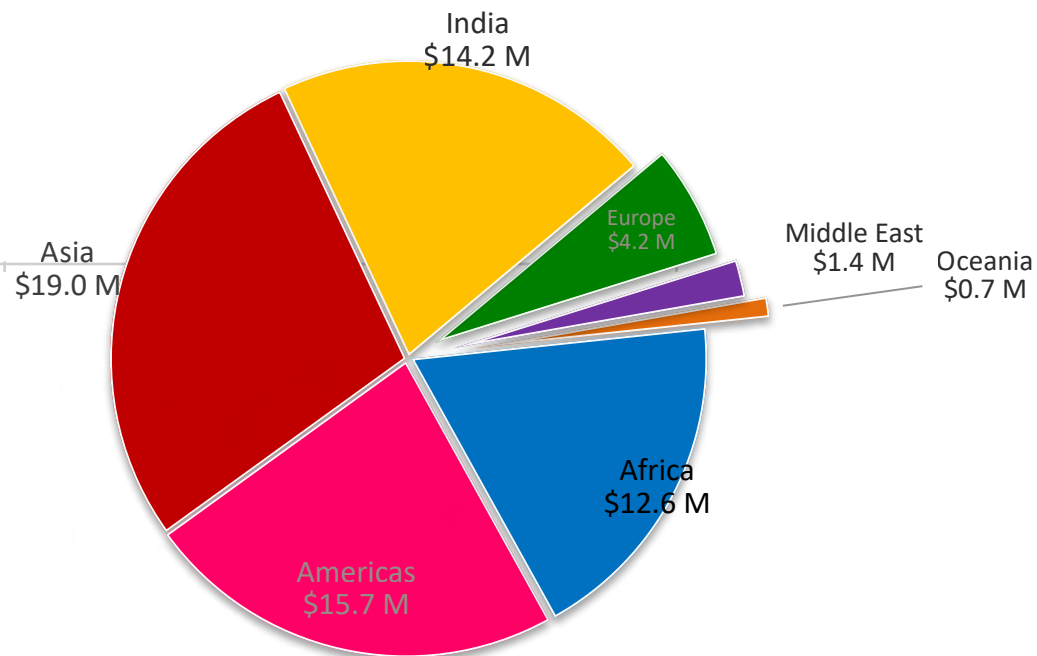


# BEL Global Grants (RY 2014 - 20)

## BEL Projects (RY2014-20)



## Total BEL funding by Region RY2014-20





Increase **awareness of illiteracy** and its impact on quality of life

Create awareness among Rotarians & clubs of how they can **strengthen the capacity of communities** to provide education & literacy to all

Assist Rotarians to **increase scale and effectiveness** of education & literacy projects

Collaborate with Rotarians to **establish partnerships** for projects with other areas of focus



**Early childhood education**

**Girls Education**  
(reducing gender disparity)

**Access education for children with disabilities**

**Out of school, underperforming youth**

**Technology education**

**Professional development for teachers**

**Adult literacy**

**Access to literacy resources: libraries**

## What can Rotarians do on a large scale?



- ✓ Provide a variety of quality literature for children & adolescents
- ✓ Books resources to reinforce other areas of focus
  - water & hygiene*
  - disease prevention*
  - conflict resolution*

- ✓ Professional development for teachers  
*(long-term instruction and support)*
- ✓ Literacy programs for adults
- ✓ Early learning *(support for families)*
- ✓ Mentoring: adolescent youth programs



## Consider partnerships



*We empower students to break the cycle of poverty in Guatemala through education.*



*Write to Read:  
Increasing aboriginal literacy one  
Learning Centre at a time*

*Closing the global education  
divide through teacher  
professional development and  
community education.*



**TOGETHER, WE**

**READ**



**Community of Practice:**

**ACTIVATION PROJECTS TO  
PROMOTE EARLY LITERACY**



# Every Rotary Club - every Rotarian - can make a difference

## What can you do in your own community?

- ★ Support adult literacy programs
- ★ Mentoring, career development
- ★ Quality early education (programs & parents)
- ★ Reading buddies, literature circles
- ★ Speakers gifts support libraries & classrooms
- ★ Books to teach the Four Way Test
- ★ Celebrate & promote reading

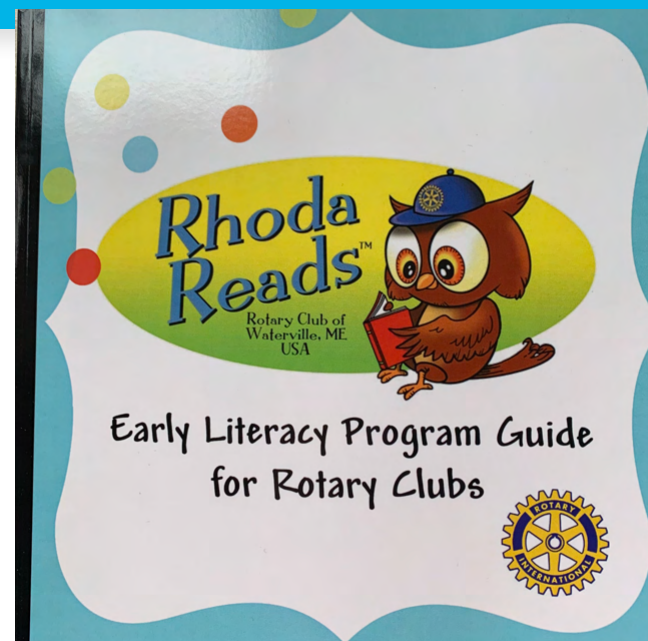
International Reading Day (Sept 8)

Dr Seuss Day (March 2)

World Book Day (April 23)



## Early literacy support



### Waterville, ME Rotary

Books for young learners to take home. Rotary guest readers in area pre-school programs



# Underperforming Youth, English language support (adult and students)



## Rotary Club of Scarborough, Ontario, Canada

An online literacy resource provides learners in reading levels K-6 with a comprehensive online studying tool, designed to reinforce fundamental reading skills.

## Youth mentoring



[L-r] Sydney Lowrie, President of the Rotary Club of Liguanea Plains presents 10 year old Shannequa Jackson of New Providence Primary School with her certificate and cheque for winning the Caribbean-wide 'Butterfly Storybook Project'. By her side is the school's Principal, Olga Clarke.



## The Butterfly Project ROTARY E-CLUB OF THE CARIBBEAN

Annual story-writing contest to celebrate local culture and share Rotary values.

# Mentoring Youth, connecting with other areas of focus



Andre Lewis  
RC Benecia, CA

# Raise Awareness



## PROMOTING LITERACY IN DIFFICULT CONTEXTS:

### Rotary's Potential Contributions

Webinar, October 15, 2020 - 10:30 am to noon EST

To attend, please register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZVTWPS8>, so that we can send you the zoom link for the webinar.

Keynote Speakers: **Halsey Rogers** and **Rabi Karmacharya**



**Halsey Rogers** is a Lead Economist with the World Bank. He served as Co-Director of the World Development Report 2018: Learning to Realize Education's Promise. He now helps lead initiatives that advance the WDR vision, including the global Learning Poverty estimates and the Global Education Policy Dashboard. Prior to joining the Bank, he served with the Council of Economic Advisors at the White House, UC Berkeley, the Indonesian Ministry of Finance, and the Korea Development Institute. He holds an AB from Princeton University, an MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School, and a PhD in Economics from UC Berkeley.



**Rabi Karmacharya** is a social entrepreneur who launched Open Learning Exchange Nepal (OLE Nepal) with the vision to transform public education by improving access to quality learning opportunities through effective use of technology. Rabi has extensive prior experience in technology as a founder and CEO of a software technology company in Nepal, and as a design engineer at a large network solutions company in the Silicon Valley. Rabi holds Master of Engineering and Bachelor of Science degrees in Electrical Engineering & Computer Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA. Rabi is an Asia Society's Asia 21 Young Leader, and a Rotarian.

**Co-sponsors for the webinar**  
(Rotary Fellowship and Rotary Action Group in formation)



This event is registered under the UN at 75 Dialogue.



## Rotary Convention Webinar

### EDUCATING GIRLS A LONG RANGE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

July 16, 2020, 1:00 - 2:30 PM (EDT)

**An international panel of experts in Girls Education will:**  
analyze the positive impact of educating girls, identify strategies that work, describe options to scale up programs, explore how Rotarians can take action to support girls' education. Join these Rotarians & partner organizations as they share their expertise and experiences:



**Razia Jan,**  
Founder & Director,  
**Razia's Ray of Hope,** Afghanistan

**Kara VanderKamp**  
Founder & Exec Director,  
**Raymond Panczyk**  
Board Member



**Remember Niger Coalition** Niger



**Anand Seth**  
Founder & Chair,  
**Edu Girls,** India & Nepal

**Lidia Oxi**  
**Special Projects Director**  
**Ted Ning**  
Founder & Board Member  
**MAIA Impact,** Guatemala



**Carolyn Johnson, Moderator**  
Chair, Literacy Rotary Action Group (LITRAG)



Literacy  
Rotarian Action Group

**To Register:**  
<https://litrageventbrite.com>

# Rotary Opens Opportunities to Change Lives

A Rotary sponsored initiative supporting indigenous children in rural Guatemala.



Text Books



Computer Labs & Support

Scholarships



but, no reading



## The opportunity:



**Books & school supplies**

**Professional Development  
(new instruction skills)**

**Coaching  
(ongoing support)**



## Simple, replicable but powerful process



## Active engagement - by students and their teachers



## Josepha's story



# Literacy Opens Opportunity to Create Positive, Lasting Change



**Early childhood education**

**Girls Education**

(reducing gender disparity)

**Access education for with disabilities**

**Out of school, underperforming youth**

**Technology education**

**Professional development for teachers**

**Adult literacy**

**Access to literacy resources: libraries**

- ★ **Raise Awareness** of the impact of illiteracy locally and globally
- ★ **Increase your impact:** identify sustainable, high impact projects
- ★ **Expand your reach:** create opportunities for collaboration among clubs, engage partner organizations
- ★ **Enhance engagement:** use/seek Rotarians with professional expertise to add value to literacy efforts (recruit professional expertise as members)
- ★ **Increase your ability to adapt:** identify unmet (or emerging) needs



Carolyn Johnson

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[www.BELRAG.org](http://www.BELRAG.org)