



## DISTRICT YOUTH SERVICE CHAIRS — MAKE THE MOST OF THIS YEAR!



### **Whether this is your first year or you are continuing in your role, make this year the best yet!**

This is the first in a series of communications for district youth service leaders that will provide you with resources and support as you champion youth service in your district.

Through these communications, you'll learn how to continue to strengthen youth service and connect young leaders to other Rotary experiences like Interact, Rotatract, RYLA and Rotary Youth Exchange. And, you will discover strategies to engage young people in service and show your community how young people make a difference. Over your term, you will put it all into action as you inspire, guide, and develop young leaders in your community!

# Connect & Collaborate

- Network with other district leaders using the [2018-19 District Youth Service Chair](#) Directory and discuss opportunities to collaborate and network through youth service
- Join the Rotarian-led [Youth Service/New Generations](#) discussion group to exchange ideas and discover strategies to support and strengthen youth service in your district
- Get to know Interact and Rotaract in your district by reviewing your district [listing of club-sponsored organizations](#)
- Subscribe to the [Programs for Young Leaders in Action](#) monthly newsletter (English Only)

## Youth protection and risk management

The safety of young people is a top priority for any Rotary-related event. All committee members and volunteers should attend a youth protection training seminar in advance of Rotary-led, youth events. Find our "Statement of Conduct for Working with Youth" and more information on student safety and risk management in the [Rotary Youth Protection Guide](#). Encourage everyone in your district to take the new course, "Protecting Youth Program Participants." Find the course in the "Youth, Students, Scholars" category in [Rotary's learning center](#).

## Join leaders through service

What's your Rotary moment? For many Rotarians, it's when they see the power of Rotary in action at a service project. Give young leaders that same experience: Invite them to organize a service event to take action on an issue that matters in your community. Get inspired by last year's winners of the [Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards](#) and [Interact Video Awards](#). Help align projects with [Rotary's Areas of Focus](#) to promote peace, fight disease, or improve access to clean water, such as the WASH in schools target challenge.

## Enhance leadership skills at RYLA

How can [RYLA](#) energize your district's youth service? Encourage Interactors, Rotaractors, and Rotary Youth Exchange students to attend this immersive leadership program. They'll develop their skills as they connect with other young leaders. Participants leave RYLA ready to put their leadership skills into action – connect them with existing Interact and Rotaract clubs or help them start new ones!

## Support youth service with district grants

Did you know that [district grants](#) can be used to support Rotary's programs for young leaders? District grant eligibility includes Rotaract, RYLA, Interact, Rotary Youth Exchange, and other youth activities. Talk to your leadership team about how district funds can advance these programs, support youth-led service projects, and connect young people to new Rotary opportunities.

## Promote New Generations Service Exchange

New Generations Service Exchange offers young adults the opportunity to realize their strengths while helping others around the world. These exchanges are open to adults up to the age of 30. New Generations Service Exchange activity is under the oversight of district Youth Service committees and is not subject to Youth Exchange certification requirements, though some district's Youth Exchange committees also support these exchanges.

New Generations Service Exchanges can be for individuals or groups, one-way or reciprocal, and last up to six months. The flexibility of New Generations Service Exchange — and its strong humanitarian and vocational focus — allows districts to develop highly customized experiences that meet the needs of young adults. Join the Rotarian-led [New Generations Service Exchange discussion group](#) to find sample materials and build partnerships with districts worldwide, and encourage your governor to appoint a district New Generations Service Exchange contact.

**UPDATES**

## Did you know?

Now in the brand center, you can create and print customizable promotional cards and posters to promote and showcase the great works of your district's youth service activities. [Create yours now!](#)

## Important dates

**1 September:** Launch of the Interact Video Awards submission form

**1-7 October:** Rotary Reconnect Week

**30 October-5 November:** World Interact Week

**5-11 November:** Interact Video Awards deadline

**1 February:** Deadline for [Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards](#)

**11-17 March:** World Rotaract Week

**May:** Youth Service Month

**31 May- 1 June:** [Rotary Preconvention](#) in Hamburg

**1-5 June:** [Rotary International Convention](#) in Hamburg

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As district youth service chair, you support young leaders and connect them to a global community of service. Thank you for your commitment to Rotary!

## Resources & Reference

[2018-19 District Youth Service Chair Directory](#)

[Interact Guide for Rotary Club Sponsors and Advisers](#)

[Rotaract Handbook](#)

[Listing of Club Sponsored Organizations](#)

[How to Update Rotaract and Interact Club Information](#)

[Lead Your District: Committees](#)

[Visual Identity Guidelines: Programs for Young Leaders](#)

[Subscribe to Young Leaders in Action](#), our monthly Programs for Young Leaders newsletter

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