

Dear Friends:

Traditionally in **May** in Rotary we celebrate **Youth Service Month**.

It has always seemed to me that the **student exchange program** is the best way to contribute to a future of **people connected to the world. With education and relationships** that allow for a **global development of our values**. They will be the **generations of future Rotarians** only if we are able to continue to work in that necessary and indispensable line, now interrupted by the pandemic, and with the hope that it will be our best flag again from July 2022.

We have at least the **New Generations Service Exchange**. A short-term, individualized program for college students and professionals up to age 30. Participants can design exchanges that combine their career goals with a humanitarian project.

I have enjoyed the **Rylas**. The young people have given me great satisfaction, both in the moments of **coexistence and training** and afterwards, when they told me how this experience was the trigger that change their lives. I am in love with youth to the point that I feel that **Rotary**, in addition to a **philosophy of life**, is an organization that **transforms people** and places to make them more suitable to live in a dignified way, and those **transformers**, without a doubt, are **the youth**.

I have been infected by the **Rotaracts**, those young Rotarians who have taught us so many lessons of **commitment and work**, from a more current and open vision, and are involved in providing solutions rather than creating problems. Let us learn that any organization capable of enriching itself with this new sap, with its energy, friendship, volunteerism, training, commitment and values is guaranteed its existence.

And that **nursery** of the future that are the **Interacts** where I have deposited and worked this year with the hope in its necessary development.

We have reached May and the road ahead needs **intensity, concentration**, to **finish the work begun** and to prepare the ground for the work to come. This is not the time to take stock, not yet, it is **time to continue working**. We have pending and committed missions to carry out.

But we still need to **provide resources** so that our **Rotary Foundation** can continue working on important projects such as **polio or vaccines**. As you know, it is our commitment, as trained and convinced people of the **great benefits of vaccination**, that part of our donations can continue to maintain these programs that benefit millions of people in the world. So I ask you to make a **personal**, focused effort for **The Rotary Foundation**, because **without that effort, our work will not have the resources**. I know you **are generous**, and I rely on **your commitment and solidarity** for those who need it most.

We feel a **different way of living Rotary** and this **life lesson that this new situation** has given us. We have learned that we are **human beings vulnerable to adversity** and that we have been **able to adapt and overcome** it. Our ability to fight has been and is above the circumstances. I have no doubt that we will continue to improve every day.

I am convinced that this year has served to **further strengthen our organization**. Our District is stronger every day and I am convinced that **your work has the social recognition** it deserves. Being the **Governor at the service of all clubs and Rotarians** is a source of **pride** and **satisfaction** as great as **your strength**, as **intense as your energy**, as **powerful** as your **capacity for action**. If there are **achievements, they are yours**, if there is a future, it is thanks to you: **I am only the privileged one who has had the chance to live these moments with such wonderful people like you by my side**. Thank you for allowing me to **feel and live** this privilege.

We are **Rotarians**, we are **People of Action** who see how **Rotary Opens Opportunities**.

Ricardo J. Molina

District Governor 2020-2021