



# Rotarian Action Group Healthy Pregnancies / Healthy Children

## NEWSBULLETIN 'RAGtime'

Rotarian Action Group Healthy Pregnancies / Healthy Children  
Year 1 - Edition 1 - August 2015. Editor: PRID Paul Knyff

The Rotarian Action Group Healthy Pregnancies / Healthy Children provides information, expertise and encouragement to Rotarians and Clubs/Districts to stimulate them to participate in projects that lead to safe motherhood and the birth of healthy children including the prevention of congenital anomalies.

### RAG HP/HC, here we are!

Dear members and friends of the family of Rotary. It is my pleasure and honour to present our brand new RAG to you. This first edition of **RAGtime** will find its way to all Rotarians, partners and Rotaractors who have shown interest in the process we completed successfully to reach this stage. Thank you for your moral support!

In short (see [www.raghphc.org](http://www.raghphc.org) for a longer version), a few years ago Rotary Club (RC Baarn-Soest, D1570 NL) inspired by one of its members, Ysbrand Poortman, decided to take action in the field of human pre-conception care. They initiated the Preparing for Life Initiative (PfL). The unique nature of Preparing of Life is the cooperation between a diversity of committed groups: scientific, medical and public health professionals, patient organizations and governments. PfL managed to launch a few sustainable projects. Quite a number of the involved people appeared to be Rotarians. Gradually an initiative developed to try to set up a Pre-Conception Care Rotarian Action Group involving the Areas of Focus: Maternal & Child Health, Disease Prevention and Treatment and more.

In spring 2015 the RI Board approved the RAG status of the Pre-Conception Care movement and since the 1<sup>st</sup> of July the Rotarian Action Group Healthy Pregnancies / Healthy Children is operational. RAG HP/HC was given the opportunity to run a booth at the 2015 Sao Paulo RI Convention in Brazil.



Booth 307 - 2015 RI Convention Sao Paulo [spot the typos...]

The RAG HP/HC acts independently but we are inspired by and we work closely together with the original Preparing for Life Initiative. We are not an agency of, or controlled by, Rotary International.

## Board members:

**Chair:** Past RI Director Paul KNYFF  
RC Weesp (Vechtstreek Noord) / D1570

**Vice Chair:** Past District Governor Jan Lucas KET  
RC Purmerend / D1580

**Project Director:** Past District Governor Hans STEINHART  
RC Elsloo-Maaskant / D1550

**Secretary:** Harma SCHAAFSTMA - RC Utrecht / D1570

**Treasurer:** Tanja DE VOS VAN STEENWIJK - RC Baarn-Soest / D1570  
Account ABN-AMRObank- IBAN: **NL51 ABNA 0626 1243 60** BIC: **ABNANL2A**

PRECONCEPTION CARE  
ROTARIAN ACTION GROUP HEALTHY PREGNANCIES/  
HEALTHY CHILDREN  
www.raghphc.org

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From the 2015-2016 Official Directory RI

**NOTE - For the time being the Board members are all Dutch. The reason is, the initiative for a RAG started in the Netherlands. The RAG is what it ought to be: an international network of Rotarians. RAG HP/HC is initiating projects on various continents and we hope to develop a global contact network. Gradually the composition of the RAG Board probably will show a more global picture. Join us! Initiate projects! Make use of our expertise! Let us encourage and support you in the field of Pre-Conception Care! In all countries of the world in different stages of economic development there is work to be done. We depend on the availability of volunteers in our own network!**

## What's up?

**Dar es Salaam**, ICBD7 (7th International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World), September 22, 2015; IPDG Harish Bhatt (D9211) speaks on behalf of the RAG HP/HC about the role of Rotary in preconception care.

**Uppsala**, Pre-Conception Care Congress, February 17-19, 2016

## Join us! Donate...

Please visit our website [www.raghphc.org](http://www.raghphc.org). Read more about us. Find the 'Join us! Donate...' link.

The site offers possibilities to contribute financially via PayPal and Credit Card payments. For the time being RAG HP/HC needs financial support for the operational costs of the RAG. We count on you!

### MEMBERSHIP:

- US\$ 100 for a 5-years membership (starting 1 July 2015)
- a member whose payment reaches us in 2015, will be given the status of Founding Member

### 1 YEAR SUPPORT:

- Donate for 1 year support (25 USD, not including membership)

### DONATIONS (more than USD 25):

- Incidental financial support or sponsoring. **Please, follow Clubs and Districts that contributed USD 250.**

**When you receive this first RAGtime edition, you are registered as a free subscriber.**

**If you prefer not to receive next issues, please send us a reply mail and let us know you unsubscribe.**

