

While serving his country in Afghanistan, Greenfield Rotarian Terry Snow met Qudrat and his family. When he learned of their medical needs, he began the process to qualify Qudrat as a Gift of Life child.

## The Gift of Life Program

was originally designed to help children who require corrective heart surgery secure another lease on life through heart surgery at a participating Gift of Life hospital in the United States. The program has reached throughout the world, saving the lives of children for whom there is little hope of medical treatment.

The Gift of Life (GOL) concept was initiated in 1974 at a Rotary Club in Manhasset, New York, when they responded to a request for help from the Rotary Club of Kampala, Uganda. A five-year-old girl traveled 5,000 miles from Uganda to New York, where she underwent successful open-heart surgery to close a hole between the two lower chambers of her small heart. (Over 40 years later, this young girl is now a Rotarian and promotes the Gift of Life program

whenever the opportunity arises.)

The concept has spread around the Rotary world. Many Rotary districts in the United States, as well as in other countries, now have active Gift of Life programs. The GOL program has even expanded beyond Rotarians to other organizations and individuals. GOL offers not only

life, but hope and understanding as people from different nations work together to help children and share the stories of their experience.

Rotarians of
District 6560 in
central Indiana
have embraced
the idea of
giving children
with no hope
for medical
treatment
in their own

country, a chance to live. They began their own Gift of Life program in 1998. Central Indiana Rotarians currently work with the Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis and have brought children from Russia, Iraq, Kosovo, Haiti, Jamaica, Mongolia, Afghanistan, Burkina Faso,

the Philippines, and beyond to Indiana for heart surgery. These children have returned home after successful surgery full of life, with hope for the future, and a love and understanding of the people who cared enough to help.

The program has expanded to include surgery for children with non-heart related ailments. Additionally, medical teams are also travelling to other countries to perform surgeries and teach the surgical techniques and care to doctors and nurses in those countries.

The Rotarians of Greenfield,
Indiana, are leaders among District
6560 in the Gift of Life cause. We
are dedicated to raising the money
needed to save the lives of as many
children as possible. Children are



Through District 6560's Gift of Life program, children like Johanna (left) and Meghan (above with Gift of Life Chair Dr. Stephanie Kinnaman) are screened by medical doctors to determine their condition as well as the possibility that life-saving heart surgery will be successful. The central Indiana Rotary district has now helped provide funding so that hundreds of children can receive surgeries. Our partnership with Riley Children's Hospital has impacted children, families and communities around the globe.



Training missions to countries like Uganda have taught heart surgery skills and enabled medical teams in those countries to respond to medical needs for children in country.

alive because of the generosity of Greenfield Rotarians and others who have united with us in this quest. *Please join us in making a difference!* Consider making a donation or providing an item for our annual Gift of Life auction benefiting the Gift of Life program in central Indiana.

We truly appreciate the many individuals, organizations, and businesses that have contributed to our fund-raising efforts for the Gift of Life program. Without their help it would not be possible to impact the lives of children so greatly. Thank you!

Funds have been raised throughout District 6560 and are being distributed through the Rotary District 6560 World Community Service Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation established under the laws of the State of Indiana.

## GIFT OF LIFE AUCTION SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2020

Washington Park Community Life Center Indianapolis, Indiana

5:30 PM



**ROTARY CLUB OF GREENFIELD** – P.O. Box 1, Greenfield, IN 46140 Rotary District 6560 Foundation • 35-1993614

