

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

To: District governors, district governors elect, assistant governors, Rotary coordinators, assistant Rotary coordinators, district membership chairs, club presidents, club presidents elect and club membership chairs

Fellow Rotarians,

From the stage in Hamburg during Rotary's International Convention in June, I told an audience of more than 26,000 women and men that our organization will thrive for another 114 years because we are not afraid of change. We are committed to growing Rotary through outreach to new prospective members, engagement of our current members, and the creation of alternatives for membership. Critical to that growth is becoming more diverse and providing more opportunities for leadership for all Rotarians.

In support of this goal, the Rotary board of directors made a commitment to increase the number of women in Rotary and in leadership positions to 30 percent by 2023. Currently, women make up 23 percent of our membership, and represent, on an average, 20 percent of leadership positions.

In some areas of the world, women already make up more than 30 percent of Rotary's members and leaders. However, in some areas, that percentage is much less. But we all have a responsibility—men and women in every club and every district in the Rotary world—to help our organization diversify and grow so that we can remain relevant for future generations.

I invite you to an upcoming webinar organized by Rotary International to discuss the topic of advancing women in Rotary. Information about the webinar is included below. You can [register](#) to join live and receive a recording to watch when it's most convenient.

On that stage in Hamburg, when I announced our commitment to elevating women in Rotary, the crowd cheered. Rotary is ready for change—let us work together to make sure it happens, that we grow Rotary, and we ensure that Rotary Connects the World for generations to come.

Kindest regards,

Mark Daniel Maloney

President, Rotary International 2019-2020

Join us for the webinar **We Are Rotary: Advancing Women as Leaders** on Wednesday, 28 August, 15:00-16:00 Chicago time (UTC-5). We value your input if you are interested in:

- Exploring the barriers that women face when considering leadership positions
- Challenging the institutional and personal viewpoints that may be limiting women's advancement
- Discussing the benefits — and necessity — of Rotary being a diverse, equitable, and inclusive organization
- Developing specific steps to take in your clubs and communities

Rotarians are ready to embrace change, as indicated by the record number of breakout sessions at the Hamburg convention dedicated to the topic of women's advancement in Rotary's leadership. During one of these sessions, Rotarians [Beth Keck and Todd Jenkins](#) collected ideas from more than 500 members, both male and female, about how to take action and break down the barriers to women's advancement in leadership positions. Hear the proposals and add your voice to this critical conversation.

[Register](#) and see when the webinar will be live in your time zone. Everyone who registers will be asked to share some thoughts before the webinar, and will also be provided access to the recording and slides after the webinar ends.

Sincerely,
The Membership team
Rotary International

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