

DISTRICT SIMPLIFIED GRANT APPLICATION

2012-2013

_____ Rotary requests approval of the following project:

1. *Describe the project.* **Josh the Otter Water Safety and Literacy Project.** *What will be done, when and where will the project activities take place?* **The children's book Josh the Baby Otter will be distributed to all kindergarten and pre-school classes at _____ elementary schools in _____. Distribution consists of reading the book in an assembly setting or individual classrooms, having each child take a water safety pledge, distributing copies of the book which includes the Rotary Four Way Test Sticker, a coloring book, a CD with song and readings, a Water Safety sticker followed by a visit to the class assembly by a costumed mascot "Josh the Otter." The distribution will be done during the first two weeks of February 2013 over the period of 10 days. Activities take place at each of the eight schools.**
2. *How will this project meet the needs of the community?* **The CDC list drowning as the number one cause of accidental death for children ages 1-5. _____ leads the nation in this tragic statistic. According to the National Drowning Prevention Alliance, "Drowning is preventable." One of the steps in preventing drowning is building awareness, in individuals, in homes in the community at large. By distributing the book to young children, many who have younger siblings at home, and reinforcing the message to their parents, etc., and as Rotary Clubs across the nation begin to adopt this program, we hope to make a significant change in the number of child deaths due to drowning. *How many people do you estimate will benefit?* We will distribute to approximately ____ children this year in _____. They will take the books home to parents and siblings...impact will be even greater. The impact as other Rotary Clubs adopt this project could be incredible!**
3. *How many Rotarians do you estimate will participate in this project?* **Every member of _____ Rotary Club. Others are welcome, but many are already doing their own Josh Project for their communities.**
4. *If a cooperating organization is involved, what is its role? What stake does it have?* **The books and other materials are procured from the Joshua Collingsworth Memorial Foundation, a registered 501 (3) c., non-profit foundation dedicated to building water safety awareness in small children. The book was written by Blake Collingsworth after the loss of his two year-old son in a backyard swimming pool drowning. They are committed to working with Rotary Clubs throughout the country to promote water safety and drowning prevention.**
5. *What is the anticipated completion date of the project?* _____ 2013.