



## Service Above Self – The Punta Gorda Rotary Club

Chartered on April 22, 1925, the Punta Gorda Rotary Club is a proud part of our community and of Rotary International. We believe, like the more than 1.2 million Rotarians around the world, that great things happen when dedicated people come together. We are community and business leaders representing different professions, experiences, and perspectives but with a shared desire to connect with others and address the challenges affecting us all. We are proud to support the many projects of TEAM Punta Gorda.

Solving real problems takes solid effort, commitment, and vision. In keeping with our motto, "Service Above Self," we Rotarians work to improve education, oversee our environment, create safe water and sanitation infrastructure, keep women and children healthy, help the needy and forgotten people, protect communities from preventable disease, and make our community and the world a more peaceful place.

Some of our fundraisers and projects in the past couple of years include:

**Paint Your Heart Out & Home Building** – revitalizing homes in disrepair and helping people in Punta Gorda with TEAM Punta Gorda and Habitat for Humanity.



*Rotarians (left) help TEAM in "framing a house for the future."*

- **Water4Life Mozambique** – raising funds to drill and install freshwater wells in Mozambique, Africa, supported by Rotary International and other nearby Rotary clubs
- **The Citizens' Coalition to End Human Trafficking**, organized to bring together groups and individuals in Charlotte County to battle this scourge
- **Improving Maternal & Child Health, Haiti** – raising funds to help impoverished mothers and children in Thomassique, Haiti, supported by Rotary International and other nearby Rotary clubs

- **Shopping with A Rotarian** – A multidistrict project that provides back to school shopping for students who need clothes and supplies
- **Supporting Shelter Box USA** with the Charlotte High School Interact Club to provide emergency shelters for people struck by natural disasters anywhere in the world
- **Contributing to Ending Polio**, a three-decades long partnership between Rotary International, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the World Health Organization, and UNICEF

- **The Taste of Punta Gorda**, our community's biggest showcase for area restaurants held annually the first Sunday in March (cancelled for 2021 due to COVID-19)
- **Annual Testimonial Dinner** to honor a local resident who has excelled in giving service to our community
- **Supporting Local Nonprofits** such as the Homeless Coalition, Peace River Wildlife Center, Harry Chapin and other food banks, Back Pack Kidz, Peace River Botanical Gardens, Homeless Students' Gap Fund, the Last Straw project, Thanksgiving Dinners with Publix at Burnt Store

Being a member of the Punta Gorda Rotary Club enables individuals to join other community leaders to make an impact both here and around the world. We meet every Thursday for lunch at the Isles Yacht Club and during the pandemic also ZOOM our meetings. We invite you to visit our club and find out more about us and the opportunities we offer. Membership in Rotary is a truly rewarding experience.

For more information, contact James Williams at 650-575-9825 or [techjunc@gmail.com](mailto:techjunc@gmail.com). You may also visit [www.PuntaGordaRotary.org](http://www.PuntaGordaRotary.org), [www.facebook.com/puntagordarotary](http://www.facebook.com/puntagordarotary), [www.facebook.com/tasteofpg](http://www.facebook.com/tasteofpg), and [www.facebook.com/citizenscoalitiontoendhumantrafficking](http://www.facebook.com/citizenscoalitiontoendhumantrafficking) for additional information.