NEWS RELEASE **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Four Seasons Rotary Club Seeks Project Applications

Hendersonville, NC – For more than 44 years, members of the Four Seasons Rotary Club have contributed time, talents and monetary donations to help make Henderson County a better place to live, work and raise a family. This year, the club is once again offering Community Impact grants to local non-profits.

Applications are now available for grants up to $1,500 each that support projects in one of Rotary International's seven areas of focus: Promoting Peace, Fighting Disease, Providing Clean Water/Sanitation/Hygiene, Saving Mothers and Children, Supporting Education, Growing Local Economies, and Protecting the Environment. Deadline to apply is September 6, 2024, and all funds must be used by May 31, 2025.

Any 501(c)3 serving residents of Henderson County is invited to apply by emailing fourseasonsrotary@gmail.com for an application. More information is available on the club's website, www.fourseasonsrotary.org.

"Each year, Four Seasons Rotary coordinates and hosts the Tour D'Apple bike ride on Labor Day, raising significant funds to support our regular local programs like Four Seasons Rotary Park, Special Needs Sports, and scholarships at Blue Ridge Community College," said Michele Garashi-Ellick, Grants Chair. "This year, we want to continue to make an even bigger impact by offering these community grants to local non-profits looking to expand current programs or implement new ones."

In 2023, Four Seasons Rotary awarded nearly $10,000 in community impact grants. Recipients included Veterans Healing Farm, Medical Loan Closet of Henderson County, Blue Ridge Community Health Services, Henderson County Education Foundation, Children & Family Resource Center, Caregivers of Mother Earth, and Smart Start Partnership for Children.

Club President Hal Manasa added that members hope to build lasting partnerships with the organizations selected in this grant cycle, providing local non-profits with additional volunteers and monetary support for years to come.

“Rotary International is a group of more than 1.4 million people of action around the globe,” said Garashi-Ellick. “Four Seasons Rotary members, while small in number, are just as passionate about creating lasting change right here in our community, and we believe this program will help us do that.”

The Rotary Club of Four Seasons has 27 members and is part of Rotary District 7670 and Rotary International. The group represents a cross-section of businesses and professions in Henderson County and encourages members to participate in service to others as part of the club activities. Funds raised by the club each year support various civic and educational programs throughout the community and the world, including scholarships, youth exchange programs, and a local downtown park. The club meets every Monday at 5:30 p.m. at Janitzio’s (1053 Spartanburg Highway) in Hendersonville. Guests who would like to learn more about Rotary are always welcome. More information on the club is available at www.fourseasonsrotary.org, and on Facebook, Twitter/X, YouTube and Instagram.

Rotary International is a membership organization with more than 32,000 clubs in 200 countries. The organization initiates humanitarian programs that address today's challenging issues, such as hunger, poverty, clean water, peace and conflict resolution, and illiteracy. Rotary club members include 1.4 million men and women who donate their expertise, time and funds to support local and international projects that help people in need and promote understanding among cultures. Rotary's flagship program is PolioPlus, the effort to protect children against polio, with the goal of ending the disease throughout the world.

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