

ROTARACT CLUB OF ADVANCE TERTIARY COLLEGE

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3300
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INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Little Shoes for the African Children

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- ✚ Rotaract is a Rotary-sponsored international non-political service movement for young men and women between the age group of 18-30. It provides an opportunity to young adults to enhance the knowledge and skills that will assist them in personal development, address the physical and social needs of their communities and to promote better relations between all people worldwide through a framework of friendship and service.
- ✚ The **Little Shoe Program** is a proposed program organised by Rotaract ATC which will allow the members and students in ATC to take part in this key chain (of the shoe shape) painting activity.
- ✚ **Little Shoe Program** aims to promote world understanding and peace through service and to enhance knowledge and understanding of the problems, needs and opportunities for humanitarian efforts worldwide.

INTRODUCTION

People in well-developed countries do not realise the importance of shoes. To those who do not have shoes in some poor regions in Africa, shoes are actually considered as luxurious items. It is not uncommon that children in these regions walk on their bare foot for at least 4-6 hours every day for schooling or getting basic necessities. A pair of shoes can help them ease their lives. In light of this, we are planning to organise an international service project - "Little Shoes".

Objectives and Goals

The objectives and goals of this activity are as follow:

- 1) To provide shoes for children living in the rural areas in Mainland Africa;
- 2) To raise awareness of the Malaysia society to the under privileged group;
- 3) To care about our young compatriots in Mainland Africa;
- 4) To promote love-sharing and lending a hand to the needy.

WHAT IS "LITTLE SHOES PROJECT?"

Shoes Painting – August 13

VENUE: ATC College, ground floor

- ✚ White shoes keychain and painting materials will be provided to Participant. The students are then divided into different group. On the other hand, they are also required to design a card for the keychain. In the card, they are required to write down the objective of this activity and the member name. After that, the group with the best art work will be given prize. The key chains which have been designed by the participant are for the purpose of selling during the Installation night to raise fund for the Rotaract Club of Africa. The collected fund will then be sent to the Rotaract Club of Africa so that they could use the fund to buy shoes for the needed children.
- ✚ The amount of members and students targeted to participate in this program will be 20-30 people, not including the committee members.
- ✚ Committee members are encouraged to go for this proposed project as well, as this will not only benefit them in terms of knowledge, but also provides a good fellowship between the members

The Rotaract Club of ATC has successfully organized the Little Shoe Program on the 29th of August 2009. It is one of the projects under International Service. The objective of the project is to provide shoes for children living in the rural areas in Mainland Africa; to raise awareness of the Malaysia society to the under privileged group; to care about our young compatriots in Africa.

The activity started by the opening speech of Amelia Jong, the organizing chairperson of the activity, then followed by the speech and presentation from President Caryn of RAC Ampang. She had briefly given some introduction of Rotaract and Rotaract Club of Ampang. Apart from that, she also showed some slide show of the activities that had organised by the Rotaract Club of Ampang then followed by some introduction on the Interact Club of Sri Cempaka.

Thereafter, Rtr. Amelia gave some introduction on the Little Shoe Project before the start of the activity. All the needed things for the activity such as key chains, marker pens and etc were prepared and distributed to the participants. At the same time, the key chains were sold to the members and staff of ATC on the price of RM8 per key chain. The participants also made some cards for the African children and the cards were collected to be sent to a Rotaract Club in Africa with the collected fund.

The activity was successful as the activity has achieved its objectives in educating the members and raising their awareness of the importance of the shoes and the various social issues faced by the society today.

Photo



Conclusion

The Little Shoes project of the International Service Avenue of the Rotaract Club of ATC has implemented many of the Rotaract purposes and goals in its execution.

It has provided a golden opportunity for the young bright minds of the students of the college to engage in an activity that goes a long way towards enhancing their knowledge and skills in personal development. This is because this project is all about effective communication, co-operation between team members and even between different countries. Its' about reaching a common ground – all skills that will benefit them in the world they live in everyday (and it is submitted that if world leaders were to even adopt a fraction of the understanding international arena). It also promotes better understanding between the participants – as representatives of each country, through friendship as opposed to selfishness and arrogance and demanding what they want only.

This project has also created awareness amongst the students as they learnt how different countries and communities have different needs that cannot all be addressed using the same solutions by virtue of each country having a different cultural and social background. Gaining a firsthand experience of how leaders of countries face each affecting their individual countries but at the same time finding a universal solution – is part of the invaluable experience that these students walked away with.

By the end of the project, students are able to know the importance of shoes in their life although to us it's considered as a very common thing in our life. We live in a peaceful and wealthy country. Therefore, we never realise about the importance of shoes in our life. Through this meaningful activity, the students are able be to be thankful with what they have and spread this meaningful information among the classmates and relatives.

The awareness of the existence of the Rotaract Club has definitely increased as the students in our college became curious as to what the project was all about and why the Rotaract Club was organizing such a project. This gave us Rotaract members the chance to share with our

Classmates and friends what the Rotaract Club is all about and create an interest in them to want to know more. Many of them, although remaining non-committed in joining the Club, remain interested in participating in future projects of the club, including those of other avenues.

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