

RAM ANNUAL MEETING

Zoom Conference

Friday August 6th 2021

MINUTES

Meeting Commenced 4:30pm

Attendees:

Western Region	Northern Region	Eastern Region	Southern Region
Peter McKenzie	Dr Ivor Harris	Dave Pearson	Dr Jenny Kerrison
DG Patricia Shraven	Dai Mason	DGN Andrea Grosvenor	PDG Dr Bruce Anderson
	Karin Kolenko	Ashleigh Hickman	Virginia Turner
Central Region	Pene Curtis	David Perabo	Netania Lim,
Cherilyn Fleming		Bev Cooney	Vivienne Blennerhassett
Dr Kerre Willsher		Gary Davis	Shelley Gurney
Robin Gray		Lynne Koerbin	Noel Howard
			Libby Wilson
			Adrian Froggatt
			Gloria Hargreaves

Apologies: Ray Fauntleroy, Howie Oh, Dr James Roberts-Thomson,

Dr Russ Stephenson (technical difficulties)

AGENDA ITEMS

1: Dr Jenny welcomed all attendees and introductions were made by all participants

2: RAM's Annual Report, Financial Report and Call to Action – Dr Jenny (National RAM Manager)
 Dr Jenny presented her Annual Report as a PowerPoint – “RAM Overview and Plans For 2020-21”
 It was emphasised that Rotarians Against Malaria is an activity of RAWCS and therefore is under their governance

The PowerPoint shared the following headings, shown as dot points

- *Purpose
- *RAM Vision and Mission
- *Strategic Goals -- Jenny went through the following 4 Strategic Goals, pointing out that the first 3 have been successfully achieved but not number 4
 - 1: Grow a strong RAM National Committee with financial and technical capacity for developing robust malaria projects.
 - 2: Support malaria elimination in partner countries through cash donations and Grants.
 - 3: Position RAM as a focal point to provide coordination and advice on malaria elimination projects
 - 4: Increase the pool of malaria experts in our partner countries by offering a RAM PhD Scholarship every five years.

(* taken directly from the Strategic Plan 2019-22)

- Our Capacity to Make a Difference in Malaria Elimination through
 1. Donations
 2. Rotary Global Grants
 3. Technical/Project Management Expertise
- Total Yearly Income to RAM – (Started dropping in 2019. This year's total amount raised was \$107,961.00 but a large boost to this total was due to 4 Global Grants realising \$328,198.00. This brought the total

income to \$436,159.00. Without this additional funding we would be severely reduced in our ability to assist our partner countries)

- The 4 Rotary Global Grants For Malaria Work – displayed
 - the recipients of the Grants ie Vanuatu, New Ireland Province, Timor Leste and West Timor
 - the DDFs and the donations from Rotary Clubs.
 - the value of the Grants
 - the list of activities associated with each Grant
- Major Challenges to RAM
 1. Low visibility
 2. Low capacity for growth
 3. Recruitment issues -> reduced donations and support for partner countries. ie Less money = less ability to submit Grants
- Are we Travelling Together?
- '2021- 2022 Action Plan to increase RAM's visibility'

Goal: To increase funding via increasing RAM's visibility

Measures of Success –

1. by increasing the number of:
 - club presentations in our Districts ie ramp up our District activities
 - District – level RAM Social Media posts
 - fundraising events – aim to schedule a District fundraising event once a year
 - donations
 - partnerships
 2. National RAM to submit one Rotary Global Grant a year
- Challenges
 - engaging more with District Supervisors
 - more visibility at the National Level
 - to engender more effective and efficient communication in our RAM Team at all levels

- Draft Budget for 2021-22

No	Items	Balance BF	PLEGDED from 2020-21	Total available for 2021-22	2021-22 Admin 10%	2021-22 Reserve 25%	Proposed Pledge RAM
	BALANCE B/F	330,397					
1	Vanuatu						
	- Poster						
	- Short Term Advisor		8,000				
	- Mapping for IRS		16,788				5,000
	- Malaria E. Officers						30,000
2	New Ireland Province		0				0
3	Timor Leste pledge (2 years)		60,000				0
4	West Timor pledge		60,000				0
5	PNG Chasing Malaria		0				0
6	Solomon Islands		40,000				0
7	Small Grants						25,000
8	PhD Scholarship per year x 4 years		0				35,000
	TOTAL		184,788	145,609	14,207	36,402	95,000





Dr Jenny displayed the Table above that showed

1. the Budget brought forward
2. money that is pledged
3. total money available this Rotary Year
4. Admin costs
5. Reserved and Proposed Pledges

Dr Jenny – We can offer 2 small Grants up to \$10,000 each

We have not realised our obligations to fund a PhD Scholarship for the past two years (the 4th Strategic Goal)
[Dr Bruce Anderson will address this when he makes his presentation]

Follow-up observations

Lynne – expressed appreciation of the content of Dr Jenny's presentation

Adrian – concerned that there may be RAM projects being undertaken that are independent of RAM. There's a need to produce an established protocol so there's no danger of projects pursuing other Agendas beyond what RAM is seeking to achieve.

Dr Jenny responded that RAM doesn't want any project to be going along its own path. RAM as the National body is always there to help with a malaria project but it is the focal point for all activities

3: News from the RAM Scientific Committee regarding RAM's support of a PhD Scholarship – Dr Bruce Anderson (Chair of National RAM's Scientific Committee)

- In the Budget there is \$35,000 set aside for post graduate studies and support
- The Scientific Committee has canvassed universities and found an ex-pat from PNG who is associated with the Malaria Research Institute and has been working on a PhD at James Cook University.
- His funding has run out so we have an opportunity to fund that student for 1 more year to finish his research
- When this is completed, he will return to PNG
- The amount in the Budget we have for research would be well spent supporting this PhD student
- RAM can't commit to a full PhD student unless we have 2-3 years worth of funding available
- It will demonstrate to the people who support RAM that our Post Graduate Support Program has been reactivated and it will continue subject to available funds
- If any attendee would like to be sent details of this contender, please contact Dr Bruce

Dave commented that this an excellent compromise. To have a student complete his PhD then return to the PNG Medical Research Centre, to go directly into malaria work is a great result for both RAM and PNG

4: Update on Rotary GG #2014632 Vanuatu – Gloria (SR RAM Supervisor)

Gloria presented using her PowerPoint "Elimination of Malaria in Vanuatu – for Good' Project

- ❖ A call for help from Vanuatu to RAM in 2019 resulted in an application, (led by PDG Lindsay Ford, NZ, and also involving 4 out of 6 Districts in Southern Region) for a Rotary Global Grant to be submitted in June 2020. It was designed to support malaria intervention activities in 3 high priority hot spots in Vanuatu
- ❖ The funding that supported the Grant was provided by DDFs from 4 out of 6 SR Districts and D9910 NZ. There were also generous contributions from clubs in Southern Region, sent to a newly opened RAWCS Vanuatu Account and a significant contribution from National RAM
- ❖ Now that the RAM funded geographical reconnaissance and mapping is completed the activities associated with the Grant have begun and are progressing well
- ❖ Due to critical funding gaps, Vanuatu has again asked for RAM's financial support for an essential, previously planned Project – the recruitment of Malaria Elimination Officers
- ❖ Using the RAWCS Fundraising Vanuatu Account (104-2019-20) which was opened prior to the Global Grant submission, a Fundraising Campaign has been initiated in SR and NZ to raise funds for this project . The total raised so far is just over \$24,000
- ❖ National RAM has offered to match any contributions to this project up to the value of \$30,000.



- ❖ Gloria emphasised that an outstanding feature of the Vanuatu Project is the International, National RAM, Regional and District partnerships that have been an integral part of the whole Project from the outset

5: The RAWCS/RAM/Global Fund Campaign – Dai the RAWCS-RAM & GF Campaign Manager

The co-presenter was Kristian Barnes who is the consultant that was appointed 12 months ago through the Global Fund and has been an integral part of the Project over the past 11 months

Dave – complimented this Campaign that has developed so professionally. He emphasised that their efforts to contact DGs and their District Committees is more about generating contacts with corporates and high network individuals rather than trying to generate funds from Rotary Clubs

6: General Business

Dr Jenny asked everyone to consider the two vacant positions (National RAM Secretary and a RAM Deputy National Manager) that need to be filled as soon as possible to ensure we keep RAM running smoothly

7: Next Meeting for the RAM Executive Committee – Monday October 4th at 4:30pm

Minutes prepared by Interim National RAM Secretary PP Gloria Hargreaves with input from National RAM Manager Dr. Jenny Kerrison.