



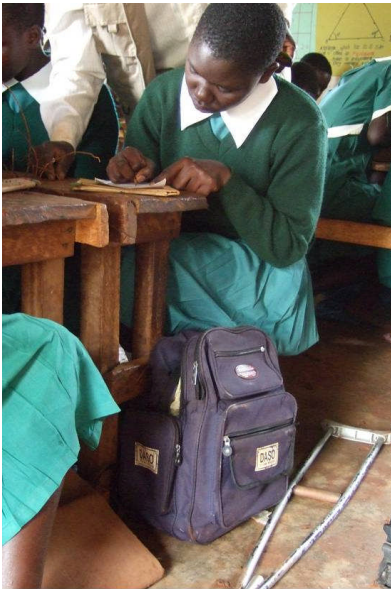
humanity in motion

rotary international in great britain and ireland

## press release

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### Rotary and Leonard Cheshire Disability working in Partnership to make education for all a reality



Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI) has selected Leonard Cheshire Disability as its partner charity from 1 July 2008 until 1 July 2009. Over the course of the year RIBI members will seek to raise £500,000 from fundraising and matching grants from their own charity, The Rotary Foundation, for an inclusive education School 4 All in Africa programme in the Mukono and Pallisa districts of Uganda.

The Inclusive Education (IE) programme will target 1,000 disabled children to provide them with access to primary education.

Twenty schools will be adapted to make them physically accessible and 80 teachers will be trained in inclusive education and how to support all children from the community in the class.

Ian Thomson, President of RIBI, said: "Education is the right of all children and this work is vital as the United Nations estimates that over 90% of disabled children in Africa do not go to school. RIBI chose to work in partnership with Leonard Cheshire Disability on the School 4 All in Africa programme as there is a clear need.

"Without access to education the children could face a bleak future as they will lack the basic skills and knowledge that are essential to gain future employment and a better quality of life. This could cause them to become trapped in a cycle of poverty. We will work with Leonard Cheshire Disability to help break that cycle of poverty.

"The School 4 All in Africa programme will help to achieve social integration as we want to influence a change

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in attitudes towards disabled children so that they are accepted by their community. Leonard Cheshire Disability has an impressive track record of devising and implementing IE programmes and we relish the opportunity of working in partnership with them.”

Nora Smith, Head of Community Fundraising at Leonard Cheshire Disability, said: “We would like to thank Ian Thomson and the RIBI members for choosing to support Leonard Cheshire Disability and the School 4 All in Africa programme.

“Their financial support and commitment to this programme will have a lasting and positive impact on the lives of the disabled children, their families and the community.

“As we have a relationship with the Uganda Government a further aim is to leave a lasting legacy by working to influence the national curriculum to recognise the needs of disabled children.”

Leonard Cheshire Disability has 60 years experience of working in developing countries and operates in 54 countries. In the UK the charity supports over 21,000 disabled people and has a presence at (location) with (service) ie (where St. Teresa’s in Long Rock, Penzance provides residential and day services for disabled people.).

Rotary International is a global network of 1.2 million volunteers who carry out humanitarian work in communities both at home and abroad. Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland has 57,000 members in 1,845 clubs.

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### NOTE FOR EDITORS:

1. Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland, part of Rotary International, has 1,845 clubs and 58,000 members. Rotary International was founded in 1905 in Chicago and is now the world’s largest international service organisation with 1.2 million professional men and women as members. There are 32,000 clubs in 200 countries and geographical areas. Rotary initiates local and global projects to promote world understanding and peace and improve life conditions for people of all ages and cultures.

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