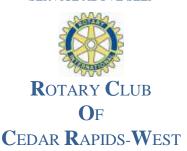
MEETING WEEKLY, WEDNESDAY 11:45 A.M. AT THE NATIONAL CZECH AND SLOVAK MUSEUM AND LIBRARY 30 16TH AVENUE SW CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52404



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lots of Mucking Out Remains – Rotary Partners with Hands On to Help

The seven Cedar Rapids Metro Rotary clubs are partnering with Hands On Disaster Response (HODR) to help Cedar Rapids residents clean out and rebuild flood-damaged homes. Dennis Green, chairman of the Metro Cedar Rapids Rotary Presidents Council and also President of the Rotary Club of Cedar Rapids West, said that 2,000 homes are still in need of being "mucked" out.

The seven Cedar Rapids Rotary clubs with over 700 members, are teaming up with Hands On to clear flooded homes of debris and strip the walls down to the studs. Hands On has already cleaned out over 189 homes and coordinated over 1,000 volunteers in Cedar Rapids.

Rotarians are challenging other Cedar Rapids area service clubs, businesses and volunteer organizations to provide volunteers to help clear homes of flood debris. "Each day Hands On Disaster Response can put 100 volunteers to productive use mucking and gutting homes," says Andrew Kerr, a local volunteer for Hands On. Volunteers are being coordinated through the Corridor Recovery website or by calling (319) 540-4810.

Hands On Disaster Response is a US-based, volunteer-driven, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to timely disaster response and relief. HODR strives to provide hands-on relief to survivors of natural disasters with maximum speed and minimum bureaucracy. HODR projects focus on applying volunteer resources and expertise to communities affected by natural disaster.

Rotary International is a global network of over 1.2 million community volunteers. Rotary members are business, professional, and community leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Over 32,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas initiate service projects to address today's challenges, including illiteracy, disease, hunger, poverty, lack of clean water, and environmental concerns.

2008-08-14