

# Project Peanut Butter

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**By Dennis Spurgin, DC  
Gus Gonzalez**

**Rational for working with NGOs that are on the ground in the country.**

**For a program to be sustainable it needs to be vertically and horizontally integrated within the local community. What does that mean? The programs that bring assistance from outside the community, without first establishing a structure inside the community, provide an effective short term service, however the needs will be unending. What needs to happen is for experts in every field of endeavor to educate and train locals and eventually have them develop the skills to become the locals trainers.**

**Vertical integration: For the program to be sustainable it must involve multiple aspects of the community.**

**Horizontal integration: For a program to be sustainable it needs to be developed along with other programs that are working to meet the needs of the community. Programs need to be integrated to become sustainable.**

**Project Peanut Butter forms a not for Profit organization within each country that then becomes fully sustainable**

## **Project Peanut Butter (PPB)**

**Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) is a condition that results from deprivation of protein and calories. Although the condition affects people of any age, the most common victims are children between one and three years of age.**

**SAM is a critical, global health problem. At the very least, it**

**can stunt the growth of millions of at-risk children and can cause permanent cognitive and physical impairment. Tragically, however, SAM kills more than 2 million children worldwide each year. More children die of SAM each year than of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria combined. But, on the brighter side, a global solution to SAM has been found. It is as simple as a jar of specially developed peanut butter known as “Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food” (RUTF).**

**Of all the children who reach the stage of being diagnosed as severely malnourished, 65% of them will die within 1 month. The remaining 35% will incur such severe mental and physical damage that they will never reach full recovery. World health professionals are witnessing this on a global scale. Some countries are especially afflicted with over 80% of their severely malnourished children dying of SAM each year. The statistics are even more extreme in these countries because of the added factors of ongoing political unrest and severe drought conditions. SAM occurs most frequently in areas where there is chronic poverty, such as in many parts of rural Africa. Also there are pockets in India, Nepal and in Asia the Asian Island chains. Prior to 2001, the treatment for this condition was wholly ineffective (producing only a 25% recovery rate). The early treatment involved keeping the children in a hospital. Dr. Mark Manary, the founder of Project Peanut Butter (PPB), used to practice this treatment himself in his early days of medicine. In 1999, Dr. Mark Manary moved to Malawi, a hot spot for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), for 10 weeks. He used this time to zero in on the requirements for a successful home-based therapy program. The food had to be something that**

**didn't spoil, didn't need to be cooked, was energy dense, could be given in small amounts and could get the job done. Together with colleagues Michele Lescane and Dr. Andre' Briend, Dr. Manary began experimenting with various ingredients until they developed the perfect blend to treat malnourished children: peanut butter, powdered milk, vegetable oil, vitamins, minerals, and sugar. Previous treatments had 25-40% recovery rates, but with RUTF they jumped to 95%! In 2007, RUTF with home-based therapy was recognized as the standard of care for malnourished children by the United Nations, World Health Organization and World Food Programme. Dr Manary started Project Peanut Butter in Malawi in 2004 and in Sierra Leone in 2007.**

**Project Peanut Butter is a Sustainable program that works with:**

- 1. Maternal and Child Health**
- 2. Economic and Community Development**
- 3. Education and Literacy**
- 4. Disease Prevention and treatment**

**Disease Prevention and treatment**

- a. SAM (Severe Acute Malnutrition) is a disease**
- b. RUTF is 95% effective as a treatment**
- c. RUTF is the treatment of choice for SAM Disease since 2007 of all the World Health organizations, including WHO, USAID, UNICEF and Doctors Without Borders**
- d. Most of the RUTF is purchased in developed countries and transported to the areas of need at a higher cost**

- e. Project Peanut Butter is about producing RUTF in the country of need**
- f. Once a program is started in a country, the government and world health programs will contract with PPB to provide for the needs of the children of that country at a lower cost.**
- g. What is needed is start up funding in each country to set up PPB**
- h. RUTF has proven effective in augmenting the treatment of TB, Malaria, AID and other diseases**
- i. Additional formulas have been developed for older children, adults with chronic diseases, and pregnant women**

#### **Maternal and Child Health**

- a. SAM Disease is a disease of children from 6 months to 3 years with 75% death rate if untreated, 25% permanently disabled physically and mentally**
- b. Thousands of children saved in 10 years in Malawi, 7 years in Sierra Leone and 3 years in the Philippines**
- c. Mothers are educated in their children and their own health issues and also I family planning and birth spacing**

#### **Economic and Community Development**

- a. A Nonprofit organization (NGO) if formed in the country of need**
- b. The products are bought locally. Approximately 6000 farmers in Malawi and 2000 farmers Sierra Leone provide ingredients**
- c. Products are transported by local individuals**
- d. The NGO is structured to operate on it's own**
- e. The Factory, Health Clinics and Education programs hire and train local individuals. Individuals are**

**promoted to supervisory and training position within the organization**

- f. Emphasis is placed on hiring and promoting locals especially women, who often struggle to find position in the workforce**

### **Education and Literacy**

- a. Mothers are educated about family health needs**
- b. All the employees are trained in marketable skills**
- c. The children saved have a greater ability to go to school and learn. Thousands of children have been able to enter school**

### **Clean water and Sanitation**

- a. Need to be done in a structured form like PPB and in conjunction with the other four areas of focus**

### **Peace and conflict resolution**

- a. Very important, but is dependent on the health and welfare of the countries involved**

### **Rotary Presentation, Dennis E. Spurgin, DC, Chairman**

- a. Rotary International Convention booth**

**New Orleans 2011**

**Bangkok 2012**

**Lisbon 2013**

**Sydney 2014**

**San Paulo 2015**

**Seoul 2016**

**Atlanta 2017**

**Toronto 2018**

- B. Invited speaker for Project Peanut Butter**

**Bangkok Rotary International Convention  
Breakout Forum speaker 2012**

**Lisbon Rotary International Convention  
Breakout Forum speaker 2013**

**Sydney Rotary International Convention  
Breakout speaker 2014**

**San Paulo Rotary International Convention  
Breakout Forum Speaker 2015**

**San Diego Rotary District #5340 Assembly 2015**

**Northern Illinois Rotary District #6490  
Conference 2016**

**Portland, Oregon Rotary District #5100  
Conference 2016**

**Toronto RI Convention Breakout speaker 2018**

**150 Rotary club presentations 2010 to Present**

### **Rotary International Grants to date**

**Proposed Global Grant for Project Peanut Butter in Pakistan is in the planning stage.**

**2016-2018 Rotary International Global Grant  
GG1747173 Sierra Leone Final approval pending 2 reports  
due to TFR by Host Club**

**This TRF Global Grant is an expansion program in Sierra Leone in association of Project Peanut Butter with the government of Sierra Leone and contracts with WHO (World**

**Health Organization), UNICEF and WFP (World Food Program).**

**a. International Club-Palm Springs Sunup**

**b. Host Club-Freetown**

**c. \$161,261**

**d.**

**e. District 5330 Clubs participating**

**Riverside East**

**Yucca Valley**

**San Bernardino Sunset**

**Rialto**

**Vista Del Largo HS**

**Lake Elsinore**

**La Quinta**

**Norco**

**Temecula New Gen**

**Jurupa**

**Beaumont**

**San Gorgonio Pass**

**Lake Arrowhead**

**Corona**

**Perris**

**Rancho Mirage**

**Lake Arrowhead Mountain Sunrise**

**Murrieta**

**Indio**

**Jurupa**

**Hemet Sunrise**

**Palm Springs Evening**

**Big Bear Early Act**

**Childrens Health International Program**

**Rancho Mirage**

**Wildomar**

**Beaumont**

**Redlands Sunrise**

**Coachwlla East**

**LifeStream**

**Lake Arrowhead**

**Crestline Lake Gregory**

**Temecula**

**f. District 5060**

**Salmon Arm**

**Salmon Arm Daybreak**

**g. District 5100**

**Vancouver, Washington**

**Camas Washougal**

**h. District 7040**

**Montreal**

**i. District 5400**

**Boise Southwest**

**j. District 5300**

**Emerald City/Seattle**

**k. District 7070**

**Coboug**

**l. District 5240**

**Cambria**



- Arroyo Grande**
- Paso Roble**
- Thousand Oaks**
- Westlake Village**
- m. District 7040**
  - Montreal**
- n. District 5370**
  - Morrinville**
- o. District 7500**
- p. District 2982**
- q. District 5340**
  - North County San Diego**
- r. District 5495**
  - Phoenix**

*Proposal for expansion of Project Peanut Butter (PPB)  
in Sierra Leone*

- I. Cure for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM Disease)**
  - A. Ready to Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF)**
  - B. Treatment approved by World Health Organization (WHO)  
and World Food Program (WFP)**
  - C. Area recommended by WHO and WFP**
- II. Project Peanut Butter (PPB)**
  - A. Fully Sustainable history**
    - 1. 14 years Malawi**
    - 2. 10 years Sierra Leone**
    - 3. 2 years Ghana**
  - B. Works cooperatively with WHO, WFP, USAid and UNICEF**
  - C. Complete sustainability: Farms, Factory, Clinics and Family  
Education**
- III. PPB Sierra Leone Prepared to expand programs**

- A. Sierra Leone endured a 18-month fight against the Ebola Virus, a fatal disease with a death toll of almost 4,000.**
  - B. The epidemic traumatized families and communities across the country, disturbing all aspects of life.**
  - C. With the help of a Global Grant through the Rotary Foundation, Project Peanut Butter expanded program and saved lives when the Board closed due to the Ebola crisis.**
  - D. Sierra Leone must endure a long road to recovery. Improvements seen prior to 2013 evidently reversed, the country must persevere, restoring stability in all sectors of the country.**
  - E. Project Peanut Butter is instrumental in this recovery.**
- IV. Project Peanut Butter new TRF Global Grant GG1747173**
  - A. In addition to the current program in Sierra Leone, and in cooperation with the Government of Sierra Leone and WHO (World Health Organization) Project Peanut Butter has selected a new target location in the Southern province for nutrition and health interventions.**
  - B. Pujehun District a large district with a population of about 375,000, but has one of the lowest population densities.**
  - C. World Food Program (WFP) selected this area as a major need in Sierra Leone and has agreed to work with Project Peanut to start work in this area.**
  - D. This district had the second largest percent of stunted children under 5 at 46 percent and under 5 mortality rate, 217 deaths per 1,000 live births.**
  - E. An area with many barriers within the district that made access to healthcare difficult and coverage scarce.**
  - F. A program in Pujehun is not going to be effortless, but hungry kids, malnutrition, can't wait for roads and bridges to be built.**
- V. Pujehun has the highest percentage of young mothers with almost half of (48%) adolescents between ages 15-19 already**

**in motherhood and has the highest fertility women on average having 6 or more children.**

**A. These adolescent mothers are still growing themselves , consequently the fetus has to compete for nutrients, the outcome is smaller, shorter, and preterm babies. These poor infant outcomes are often then related to poor growth in childhood**

**B. Project Peanut Butter therefore will concentrate on maternal health and education as well.**

## **2014-16 Rotary International Global Grant GG1528449**

### **Ghana**

**Special award from the US Ambassador to Ghana**

**A start up program in Ghana in association of Project Peanut Butter with the government of Ghana, contracts with WHO (World Health Organization), UNICEF and a Grant from Hersey Foundation.**

**a. International Club-Palm Springs Sunup Rotary Club**

**b. Host Club- Kumasi-East**

**c. District 5330 clubs participating**

**Redlands Sunrise**

**Cathedral City**

**Fontana**

**Redlands**

**Riverside Sunrise**

**San Jacinto**

**Hemet Sunset**

**Wildomar**

**Riverside East**  
**Temecula Sunrise**  
**Yucaipa**  
**Norco/Eastvale**  
**Crestline/Lake Gregory**  
**Palms To Pines**  
**Rancho Mirage**  
**Twenty Nine Palms**  
**Lake Arrowhead Mountain Sunrise**  
**Rialto**  
**Temecula**  
**Corona**  
**Redland Sunrise**  
**Palm Springs**  
**Lake Elsinore**  
**Beaumont/Cherry Valley**  
**Moreno Valley**  
**Coachella Valley**  
**Palm Springs Sunup**  
**Children's Health International Program**  
**U of Redlands Rotaract**

**d. District 5370 Cash Commitment**  
**Morinville, Ab.**

**e. District 7070 Cash Commitment**  
**Brighton, Ont.**  
**Cobourg, Ont**

**f. District 5060 Cash Commitment**  
**Salmon Arm, B.C.**

**Salmon Arm Daybreak, B.C.  
Revelstroke, B.C.**

**g. District 5060 DDF**

**Washington and British Columbia**

**h. District 7360 DDF and Cash**

**MD, PA and WV District Governor**

**i. District 6450 Cash Commitment**

**Aurora, ILL.**

**j. District 5300 Cash Commitment**

**Pasadena, Ca.**

**Upland, Ca.**

**k. District 5240 Cash Commitment**

**Cambria, Ca**

**Arroyo Grande, Ca**

**Pismo Beach, Ca**

**Woodland Sunrise, Ca.**

**Eclub one world DDF**

**l. District 5300 Cash Commitment**

**Upland, CA**

**m. District 5340 Cash Commitment**

**Poway, CA**

**Chula Vista, Ca**

**Old Mission, Ca.**

**Le Mesa, Ca.**

**Chula Vista Sunset, Ca.**

**San Diego Downtown Breakfast, Ca.**

**Santee Lakeside**

**n. District 5051 Cash**

**San Mateo, Ca.**

**San Mateo Sunrise, Ca.**

**o. District 5160**

**Woodland Sunrise, Ca**

**p. District 5100**

**q. \$177,851**

**r. Approved August 1, 2016**

**s. Funded September 30, 2016**

**Global Grant for Ghana, Rotary International sent me the following:**

**"Congratulations! Your global grant application for funding to provide renovations, peanut processing equipment and a vehicle to the peanut butter factory producing Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food to treat malnutrition in children in Ghana, submitted by the Rotary Clubs of Kumasi-East and Palm Springs Sunup, has been approved by The Rotary Foundation and The Rotary Foundation Canada. The award is in the amount of \$177,851."**

**Two checks came in at the last minute so the grant will be increased. These came from District 5100 and District 5330 Coachella Valley Club.**

**Final TRF report accepted**

**2013-14 TRF Global Grant GG1412488 for expanding the factory in Sierra Leone**

**A factory expansion program in Sierra Leone in association of Project Peanut Butter with the government of Sierra Leone and contracts with WHO (World Health Organization), UNICEF and WFP (World Food Program).**

**a. International Club-Palm Springs Sunup Rotary Club**

**b. Host Club-Freetown Rotary Club, District # 9100**

**c. District 5330 clubs participating**

**Wildomar**

**Idyllwild**

**Yucaipa**

**Murrieta**

**Temecula**

**Riverside East**

**San Jacinto**

**Rialto**

**Beaumont/Cherry Valley**

**Indian Wells**

**Redland Sunrise**

**Lake Arrowhead**

**Temecula Sunrise**

**San Bernardino Crossroads**

**Indio**

**Norco/Eastvale**

**Hemet Sunrise**

**Big Bear Interact**

**CHIP (Children Health International Project)**

**d. Clubs from other districts**

**North Branford                      District 7980**

**Arroyo Grande                      District 5240**

**Cambria                              District 5240**

**Brighton, Ontario      District 7070**

**Worcester, England District 1100**

**e. Funded \$78,172**

**f. Final Report finished and accepted February 2016**

**g. Update**

**"This is the kind of advantage that doing projects Sustainable in countries allow."**

**Newest update for Sierra Leone:**

**Project Peanut Butter (PPB), with the support of Rotary International Global Grant GG1412448, strengthened its production capacity in 2015. This enables PPB to initiate a Pujehun project, a plan to deliver treatment for severe and moderate malnutrition district wide in 2016. Twenty-eight clinics will be opened for malnourished children, and feeding will start in October 2016. It is anticipated that 10,000 children will be treated in the first 14 months.**

**Also:**

- 1. The TRF Global Grant for Project Peanut Butter Sierra Leone is eligible for The Rotary Foundation Centennial Celebration – Outstanding Project Recognition:**

**The Project Peanut Butter plant in Sierra Leone prior to the TRF Global Grant was only large enough to furnish RUTF (Ready To Use Therapeutic Food) for half the country. The Global Grant came in with perfect timing to prove the necessity for production inside the country. When the Borders closed during to the Ebola crisis, RUFT was not able to come into the country to meet the need increase. However, with TRF Global Grant, Project Peanut Butter was able to increase production and meet the increased need.**



**Therefore PPB is saving thousands of children who would have died.**

**In country sustainability works!**

**Rotary Works!"**

**2012-13 Global Grant GG1412483 for equipment to expand factory in Malawi**

**TRF Global Grant to factory expansion program in Malawi in association of Project Peanut Butter with the government of Malawi and contracts with WHO (World Health Organization), UNICEF and WFP (World Food Program).**

**a. International Club-Palm Springs Sunup Rotary Club**

**b. Host club-Limbe Rotary Club, District #9210**

**c. 24 more District 5330 Rotary Clubs Participating**

**Temecula**

**Idyllwild**

**Crestline-Lake Gregory**

**Lake Arrowhead**

**Hemet Sunrise**

**Indian Wells**

**Rialto**

**Coachella Valley**

**Yucaipa**

**Palm Springs**

**Riverside East**

**Perris**

**Fontana**

**San Bernardino Sunset**  
**Temecula Sunrise**  
**Desert Hot Springs**  
**Wildomar**  
**San Jacinto**  
**Redlands Sunrise**  
**Murrieta**  
**Beaumont/Cherry Valley**  
**Menifee**  
**Big Bear Lake Interact**  
**Lake Arrowhead Mountain Sunrise**  
**CHIP (Children Health International Project)**

**d. Clubs from other Districts:**

**Rancho Cordova District 5180**

**Morinville, Canada District 5370**

**e. Children's Health International Project**

**f. Submitted July 18, 2013**

**g. \$56,535**

**h. Approved by RI September 5, 2013**

**i. Funding received**

**j. Final Report approved by TRF**

**2011-12 Matching Grant for expanding Payatas Clinic in the Philippines**

**a. International Club-Palm Springs Sunup Rotary Club**

**b. Host Club-Rotary Club of Loyola Heights, Rotary District #3780**

**c. 9 other Rotary Clubs**

**Perris**  
**Indian Wells**  
**Beaumont**  
**Temecula**  
**Palm Desert**  
**Hemet Sunrise**  
**Redland Sunrise**  
**Indio Sunrise**  
**Temecula Sunrise**  
**Palm springs**

**d. \$35,356**

**e. Funded**

**f. Final report approved by TRF**

**2006 Grant for equipment in Sierra Leone**

**a. International Club Rotary Club of Temecula**

**b. \$6000**

**Contact Information:**

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**Chairman: Project Peanut Butter Multiple year district project**

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