Words of Wisdom

Al Jubitz, Founder of Rotarian Action Group for Peace
March 12, 2014

“Rotarians are leaders, and leadership is understanding reality and taking appropriate action. In this case, we need to apply our leadership skills, voices and passion to an issue that poses the number one threat to our planet: nuclear weapons.”

Pope Francis
December 7, 2014

“Nuclear deterrence and the threat of mutually assured destruction cannot be the basis for an ethics of fraternity and peaceful coexistence among peoples and states... The youth of today and tomorrow deserve far more... A world without nuclear weapons is a goal shared by all nations and echoed by world leaders, as well as the aspiration of millions of men and women. The future and the survival of the human family hinges on moving beyond this ideal and ensuring that it becomes a reality.”

International Committee of the Red Cross
Feb. 18, 2015

“Protecting humanity from the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons requires courage, sustained commitment and concerted action. We know now more than ever before that the risks are too high, the dangers too real. It is time for States, and all those of us in a position to influence them, to act with urgency and determination to bring the era of nuclear weapons to an end.”

Connect and Join

Rotarian Action Group for Peace
Email: contact@rotariansforpeace.org
Web: rotarianactiongroupforpeace.org/nuclear-peace-education

International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War
IPPNW, the recipient of the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize, is the only global medical federation focused solely on promoting peace, ending armed violence, and ridding the world of nuclear weapons.
Email: ippnwbos@ippnw.org
Web: ippnw.org || Blog: peaceandhealthblog.com

Physicians for Social Responsibility
PSR, the U.S. affiliate of IPPNW, with 50,000 members and activists, is the largest physician-led organization in the country working to stop nuclear weapons proliferation, climate change and toxic degradation of the environment.
Email: psrnatl@psr.org || Web: psr.org

NUCLEAR WEAPONS: THE GREATEST THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH

ROTARIANS CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE
The Medical and Public Health Imperative

Abolish Nuclear Weapons

We need a fundamental change in our thinking about nuclear weapons. It is not just the arsenals of the nuclear superpowers that threaten all humanity. Even the smaller arsenals of emerging nuclear powers like India and Pakistan pose a global threat of climate disruption and nuclear famine. Banning and eliminating nuclear weapons entirely is the only way to ensure that this humanitarian catastrophe never happens.

-- Dr. Ira Helfand, IPPNW Co-President

Support a Healthier World

The threat of nuclear weapons and climate change unites us even as it threatens our very existence. This reality can also be remembered in the words of Martin Luther King when he said, ‘We must all learn to live together as brothers or we will all perish together as fools. We are tied together in the single garment of destiny, caught in an inescapable network of mutuality. And whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly.’

-- Dr. Robert Dodge, PSR National and Los Angeles Board Member

Become Part of the Solution

Learn More and Amplify the Message
Advocates for nuclear abolition don’t need to be experts to work on this issue. Rotarians with no medical background played a decisive role in eradicating polio. Below are two resources on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear war, and Rotary can develop its own materials to help get out this critical message.

Report on Nuclear Famine
[ippnw.org/nuclear-famine.html]

The report Nuclear Famine: Two Billion People at Risk? documents the climate, economic, and health impacts of a “limited” nuclear war involving less than 1% of the world’s arsenals.

Toolkit and Talking Points
[hinwcampaignkit.org]

IPPNW has produced a website with a free downloadable pdf on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons.

Recent Successes

Following the Nuclear Famine report, more than 160 countries have agreed that nuclear disarmament is an immediate priority. As of May 2015, a significant subset (96 and climbing) have committed themselves to the Humanitarian Pledge.

Links for more information:

The “Joint Statement on the Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Weapons” was presented to the 2015 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference (NPT).
[goo.gl/mUJBxm]

The Humanitarian Pledge: Member States at the NPT pledged to fill the legal gap for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons.
Background [goo.gl/3OnRK6]
List of states [icanw.org/pledge]