PAN-AFRICAN WEEK against Hepatitis





THE **BIGGEST MOVEMENT** EVER SEEN ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT FOR THE **ERADICATION OF HEPATITIS**

In July 2019, the whole of Africa will come together for one objective: to fight against hepatitis. It will be the **Pan-African Week**, a project of Hepatitis Zero, a project that fights for the global eradication of this disease.

Pan-African Week will involve a huge task-force that will act simultaneously in all 54 African countries. Volunteers will test half a million people free-of- charge to detect the hepatitis virus.

The test is very simple and efficient: just a simple prick of the finger and put the blood sample in contact with the reagent. The diagnosis is immediate; the person will know immediately.

Africa's
54 countries
will test and
treat the
population

Those discovered to be infected will be referred for treatment and receive the appropriate medicine. It is necessary to locate and identify these people urgently. **Hepatitis has a cure, but** it is a silent disease that does not show symptoms until it is too late. In Africa, it is estimated that 10% of the population is infected without knowing they carry the virus.

HEPATITIS PASSED **AIDS**IN THE NUMBER OF DEATHS

It is estimated that there are **500 million people infected** with hepatitis B and C worldwide, but only **5% have been diagnosed**. About **3,000 die every day** because they never know they had the virus. That's two deaths a minute!

WHY SHOULD **YOUR CLUB** PARTICIPATE?

Hepatitis Zero is a project for the eradication of hepatitis with a global reach. Created by a Brazilian, **Humberto Silva**, who is a survivor of Hepatitis C, the project has already tested one million people free of charge. Thousands of sufferers from the virus were diagnosed throughout Brazil and in various parts of Latin America thanks to Hepatitis Zero Project and its partners. Today **Hepatitis Zero is an important Rotary program** for humanity and is being rolled out in several countries.

Hepatitis Zero Week has been held every year since 2015. It has had programs several times in Brazil and recently in Argentina. All of these actions were very successful. In all, 890,000 people attended, 8,000 identified and referred for treatment, 1,100 volunteers, 600 Ambassadors involved, with wide coverage in the national media.

PUBLIC IMAGE AND SYMPATHY FOR **ROTARY**

The humanitarian value of fighting hepatitis until it is eradicated is **priceless**. For Rotary and our Ambassadors, the positive image generated contributes to the support for future causes and consequently the mission of getting people together and bringing about lasting change in their communities and around the world.

In all countries where the Hepatitis Zero Weeks had actions they attracted media attention. **TV stations, newspapers, magazines, radios and news sites have made Rotary highly visible**, contributing to the expansion and consolidation of its public image. All events had the support and support of the general public, often through donations and voluntary work, as these great humanitarian actions generate sympathy and support for the

cause. And most of the time, the nurses are vo-



