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TOLEDO ROTARY CLUB

SPOKE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 23RD, 2025 | ISSUE 460



WENDY GRAMZA | TOLEDO REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Join us on Monday, October 27th at the Glass City Center, when we return to our normal meeting space and welcome Wendy Gramza as our guest speaker.

Wendy Gramza is the President & CEO of the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce. She began this role on July 1, 2014, after serving as Executive Vice President for eleven years. During her over 25 years as a Chamber professional, she has also served as vice president of Business Development Services and held several other positions within the organization.

She is a graduate of the University of Toledo, holding a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Marketing. Wendy is also a graduate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for Organizational Management.

She is a board member of Junior Achievement as well as a board member of the Boys & Girls Club of Toledo and the Alzheimer's Association, Northwest Ohio Chapter. She is also a member of the Northwest Ohio Business Advisory Council.

She holds the designation of Certified Chamber Executive (CCE) from the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives, and has been appointed to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100, an elite group of chamber chief executives that represents the perspectives and needs of chambers and their members to the U.S. Chamber.



Zoom LinkMeeting ID: 827 0168 4208

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS!













































































YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK IN TOLEDO, AND BEYOND!

Annually, the Toledo Rotary Club Foundation annually supports over 30 local and international nonprofit organizations by funding over \$250,000 in grants. Foundation funding is made possible through the generous contributions of members of the Rotary Club of Toledo and its friends.

This \$7,500 grant to Believe Center, Inc. for "The Nourishing Futures" was used to support Believin' in Summer Camp, a summer program offered to youth within the Old South End of Toledo, OH, the greater Lucas County Area, and beyond. With the help of their support staff and youth counselors, the camp served ~50 campers from mid-June to early August, Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, offering breakfast, lunch, and snacks. Various camp week themes included STEM, Arts, Wilderness skills, and more.

They created dynamic and exciting programs in collaboration with major community partners, including BESNx, Unbounded Artists and more. Their campers gave them overwhelmingly positive feedback and are very excited to join again next year.

Please consider making a gift to our <u>Foundation</u> today, to help support grants like this.











UPCOMING PROGRAM SPEAKERS



Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center
Dr. Christie Jenkins, CEO
Meeting at Glass City Center
in Main Ballroom



Toledo Rotary Club Annual Foundation Day Hear about our impact! Meeting at Glass City Center in Main Ballroom



Doug Swiatecki - Toledo's Jazz History Meeting at Glass City Center in Main Ballroom

NEW THIS YEAR!

At the start of the year, President Scot came up with a creative idea for our members to give back to
Toledo Rotary Club's Foundation,
while directly highlighting their business.

We now offer a new monthly meeting sponsorship level in which 50% of the cost goes directly back to our Club's Foundation!

For the month of October, we are pleased to introduce our first Rotarian and business with this new sponsorship option.

If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity for yourself, please email Carin Stramel directly.

carin@toledorotary.org

THANK YOU TO OCTOBER'S MONTHLY MEETING SPONSOR!

ABOUT DR. PERRYMAN: Dr. Tracee Perryman has been a Toledo Rotarian since July of 2024. Locally, she is the CEO and Co-Founder of <u>Center of Hope Family Services</u>, <u>Inc.</u> She has dedicated her entire career to civic service and engagement in her community. Dr. Perryman has developed evidence-based programming for positive youth development that empowers families and communities. She is an award-winning author, featured in USA Today and Newsweek, and has been recognized by Success Magazine as a Top 10 Female-Led Company in 2024.

ABOUT HER ORGANIZATION:

Center of Hope Family Services (COHFS) is a leading voice for removing barriers to achievement through culturally relevant and innovative programs and services that close the opportunity gap for those in need. By increasing access to high quality education, mental wellness services, job readiness, court advocacy, and family support, COHFS elevates life outcomes for low-wealth and marginalized children and adults.

Dr. Perryman also leads ELEVATE!, an after-school program in Ohio, which has earned statewide recognition for its outstanding work in literacy enrichment. Under her guidance, ELEVATE! has helped quadruple the number of students reading at grade level in one of the city's most challenged schools.

We invite you to connect with her directly and learn more about the Center of Hope Family Services, Inc. today!













OCTOBER HAPPY HOUR: POLIO FUNDRAISER

WORLD POLIO DAY

In support of **World Polio Day** and Rotary International's efforts to eradicate Polio from the face of the planet, we will be having October's Happy Hour on Thursday, October 23rd, with the opportunity for members to donate directly via QR Code (at the event) or via this <u>LINK</u>.

Our goal is to raise \$500 today!

JOIN US AT TOLEDO PICKLE FROM 4-7 PM.

[TOLEDO PICKLE IS LOCATED AT 1030 WATER STREET, TOLEDO, OH]



Why does this matter?

Rotary International, along with their partners, has helped immunize more than 2.5 billion children against polio in 122 countries. Together, we have reduced polio cases by 99.9 percent worldwide and won't stop until we end the disease for good.

Learn more about World Polio Day and Rotary International's efforts HERE

TOLEDO ROTARY SWAG SHOP

Now Open! Grab some apparel today!





Keep "checking in" to each Rotary event you attend to earn points and prizes!

We will update our leaderboard again at the end of the month!













STAY CONNECTED

If you aren't following our Club's social pages yet, click here:











Watch Past Meeting Videos Here!



Missed a meeting that you wanted to catch? Not to worry! You can always view past meeting videos here: <u>Past Meeting Videos</u>

BOOK CLUB

Join us for Book Club

<u>TUESDAY, November 18th</u> at 5:30 PM.

Happening at Poco Piatti
on Central Avenue.

All Rotarians are welcome!

The book selection is "We'll Prescribe You a Cat" by Syou Ishida.

If you are interested in attending, please email Mari Davies at mdavies@artstoledo.com.

Care for Kids Coat Drive

Youth Services Committee is pleased to support this annual coat drive again!

Coats can be dropped off at the Rotary Office or at Rotary Luncheons from now thru November 24^{th.}

(Note: Coats must be new, guaranteeing equal quality and condition for all).

We have collected 11 coats thus far, and look forward to keeping a running total all season long!

To learn more about this drive, visit: icareforkids.org

Save the Date: Toledo Rotary Glub's Annual Foundation Dayl

Each year, we host one luncheon to tell our Foundation's story and kick off our Annual Campaign. We hope you will mark your calendars for *Monday, November 10th*, when we will be joined by multiple grant recipients who will speak to the work they have done thanks to our Foundation grants. You are welcome to bring your spouse, colleague, friend, or other individual that you know would enjoy hearing about our impact through our Foundation. We look forward to seeing you there!

Hosted at Glass City Center in the ballroom at 12 noon.





Upcoming External Volunteer Opportunities



MOBILE MEALS OF TOLEDO | SIP, SIP, HOORAY! UNDER THE BIG TOP Thursday, November 13th

Parkway Place, 2592 Parkway Plz, Maumee, OH 43537

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE //

Shifts are 2-4 Hours throughout the day.

11 am - 2 pm; 11 am - 3 pm; 6-10:35 pm; and 10pm - midnight

CONTACT: Lisa Anderson, Toledo Rotarian

via email at lisa.d.anderson@owenscorning.com

If you or someone you know would like to promote a volunteer opportunity, please email Jaci in the Rotary Office to get started, or connect with the Community Services Committee directly.



OCTOBER 2025

Thanks to Rotarian Curt Church for creating a Google Calendar for you to sync to your personal calendars! Here is the link: GoogleCalendar

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 Bowling League Family Night at Bowlero 4:30 PM	2	3 Coffee Connection 8:00 AM House of Coffee Downtown	4
(To review committee grants)	Service Above Self Day Disability Com. Meeting at Barr's Public House 4:30 PM	7	8 Bowling League Season Starts!	9 Enviro Com. 11:30-12:30 (Virtual)	10	11
12	13 No Meeting Federal Holiday Finance 12 noon (Virtual)	14 Zoo Day Event with Dis. Committee Youth Services 10 am (Virtual)	15	16	17	18
19	20 Rotary on the Road at The Toledo Zoo in the Malawi Event Center 12 noon	21 PLEASE RSVP HERE	22	23 Polio Fundraiser Happy Hour at Toledo Pickle! 4-7 PM	24	25
26	27 Speaker: Wendy Gramza Com. Services 4 PM	28	29	30 NOTE: Date changed to FRIDAY	31 Foundation Advisory Committee Mtg. 8 AM Glass City Center	Nov. 1
2	3 Speaker: Dr. Christie Jenkins Program Committee 1 PM	4	5	6	7 Coffee Connection 8:00 AM	8