



ROTARY CLUB OF SARASOTA FOUNDATION
USE OF 2015 GIVING CHALLENGE FUNDS

**2016-17
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The Rotary Club of Sarasota Foundation (RCSF), the charitable arm of the Rotary Club of Sarasota, used \$20,000, including the \$16,000+ dollars contributed through the Giving Challenge, as a match to the Education Foundation of Sarasota County. The Education Foundation agreed to try to match the \$20,000 so it could start more Digital Learning Labs, with a priority on establishing one at Tuttle Elementary School.

The Education Foundation generated \$15,000 from the Bank of America Foundation and, with help from the Rotary Club of Sarasota, \$5,000 from the Rotary Club of Longboat Key. As a result, the Digital Learning Lab at Tuttle Elementary School was put into operation before the beginning of the 2016 summer session. More information regarding the success of Digital Learning Labs and how they have helped students increase their math and reading scores by 58% and 56% respectively is available on the RCSF's website at www.rotaryclubofsarasotafoundation.org.

This has inspired the Rotary Club of Sarasota members to become more interested in supporting its charitable arm. As a result, the RCSF offered a match of up to \$25,000 for the Sarasota County Health Department to order the necessary equipment to start a school-based dental protectorant program for second grade students, expanding it to other grade level students in the future. The Patterson Foundation and the Community Foundation of Sarasota County agreed to match the funds, up to \$25,000. As a result, the Sarasota County Health Department has ordered the necessary equipment (approximately \$24,500) and have begun interviewing Dental Hygienists for the position.

This type initiative may not have had the backing of the Rotary Club of Sarasota had it not experienced the success in the 2015 Giving Challenge and the Digital Learning Lab matching grant to the Education Foundation.

Thank you for your support,

Jim Henry,
Secretary



Tuttle Elementary Digital Learning lab