

Catalina  
**Rotary**  
Club



Changing The Lives of  
Young People in Need

# Catalina Rotary Club of Tucson “Big Idea” Grant Proposal 2025

# Catalina Rotary Club of Tucson

## “Big Idea” Grant Proposal

### Introduction

The Catalina Rotary Club of Tucson is soliciting proposals for a major grant or grants, to be funded over a two to three-year period, commencing in 2025. Before your organization submits its proposal, please acquaint yourself with these facts about Rotary and the Catalina Club.

Rotary International

<https://www.rotary.org/en>

Rotary started with the vision of one man — Paul Harris. The Chicago attorney formed the Rotary Club of Chicago on February 23, 1905, so professionals with diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas and form meaningful, lifelong friendships.

Over time, Rotary’s reach and vision extended to humanitarian service. Today, Rotary boasts approximately 1.4 million members in 45,000+ clubs located in 200 countries. Through financial donations and hands-on projects, Rotarians support efforts locally and worldwide to:

- Promote peace
- Fight disease
- Provide clean water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Save mothers and children
- Support education
- Grow local economies
- Protect the environment

Internationally, Rotary’s signature effort is the eradication of polio. Rotary’s fight against the disease began in 1979 with a project to immunize 6 million children in the Philippines. Today, thanks to the efforts of Rotary and its partners, polio remains endemic in only two countries — down from 125 in 1988.

## The Catalina Rotary Club of Tucson

<https://catalinarotary.org/>

The Catalina Rotary Club was chartered on February 5, 1948. It holds the honor of being the first “second club” in the world, receiving its provisional charter immediately after Rotary International decided to permit more than one club in any given community.

The club and its members have supported a wide array of charitable causes and community service projects since 1948. In 2018, club leaders embarked on a visioning process designed to help the club more clearly define its identity and focus its efforts. The result was a new strategic plan for the club, which included the following mission statement:

“The primary purpose of the Catalina Rotary Club of Tucson is to change the lives of children in need by supporting their development academically, in wellness, and in life skills while providing an engaging, inclusive, and stimulating experience to our members and friends.”

Proposals for the club’s “Big Idea” grant must align with the club’s mission statement.

### “Big Idea” Projects Background

Catalina Rotary Club members believe in thinking big. While the club has funded many smaller requests over the years, Catalina Rotarians are truly excited about underwriting sizeable projects that have a long-lasting beneficial impact in our community, provide our members with hands-on opportunities for service, and raise our profile among the general public in Tucson.

Information about a number of the club’s service projects is available in the Service Projects area of the club website: <https://catalinarotary.org/service-projects/>

The club is currently soliciting proposals for projects of up to \$100,000, in honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Tucson Rodeo. Each year, Catalina Rotarians, family, and friends staff the beer booths at the rodeo. The club’s share of the profits, as well as tips, fund its charitable donations.

As stated earlier, your project proposal must align with the Catalina Rotary Club’s mission statement. The proposal must be clearly defined, and incorporate measurable goals and outcomes, as well as realistic time frames. Ideal projects will also offer

Catalina Rotarians opportunities for hands-on service, AND provide PR opportunities for both the Catalina Rotary Club and your organization.

Please submit your grant application electronically as a Word document or PDF file to Catalina Rotary Club President B.J. Cordova at [wildcatbeej@hotmail.com](mailto:wildcatbeej@hotmail.com) and to Club Secretary Charles (Matt) Matthewson at [charlesmatthewson66@gmail.com](mailto:charlesmatthewson66@gmail.com).

Only projects based in the Tucson metro area will be considered.

All submissions must be received by: April 23, 2025.

The club's grants committee will review all proposals, and may be in touch with questions.

The committee will invite the two to three most promising candidates to make presentations to the entire Catalina Rotary Club membership. After receiving feedback from the members, the grants committee will make the final selection.

Funds will be disbursed over a two to three-year period.

Thank you for your interest – and good luck!



**Application for Up to \$100,000 "Big Idea" Grant**

1. Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Address: \_\_\_\_\_
3. City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Executive Director: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Contact person & title (if different): \_\_\_\_\_
6. Preferred phone/email: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Name of Catalina Rotary member involved in your organization and in what capacity:  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Is your organization a 501(c)(3) organization? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Please attach a list of your Board of Directors with names and titles.
10. What is your organization's total annual budget? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What is the overall budget for the project for which you seek funding?  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. How much are you requesting? \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit your grant application and project description electronically as a Word document or pdf file to Catalina Rotary Club President B.J. Cordova at [wildcatbeej@hotmail.com](mailto:wildcatbeej@hotmail.com) and to Club Secretary Charles (Matt) Matthewson at [charlesmatthewson66@gmail.com](mailto:charlesmatthewson66@gmail.com).

## Community Development Grant – Project Description

Using the guidelines below, please describe your request/project in a separate letter **signed by your Executive Director and Board President**

1. The mission of the Catalina Rotary Club is to change the lives of young people in need. Priority will be given to projects that contribute to our mission. Please describe the overall mission of your organization, and how it relates to the Club's mission (one paragraph).
2. Describe the program or project for which you are requesting funding (no more than 2 paragraphs).
3. How will these funds specifically be used (one paragraph only)?
4. If Catalina Rotary funding does not cover the entire cost of the project, how will the additional funds be raised (one paragraph)?
5. What are the ***specific and measurable*** goals or outcomes expected related to your grant request (one paragraph only)?
6. In addition to funds requested, how could Catalina Rotarians assist you with hands-on volunteer support for your project?

**If your organization is awarded funding**, you agree to submit a written report of outcomes from the effort within 6 weeks of the completion of the project to the Catalina Rotary Club.

\*Any Catalina Rotarian associated with an applicant organization will not be eligible to serve on the Awards Selection Committee.

**All submittals must be received by April 23, 2025 at 5:00 pm. Finalists may be asked to present to club members at a site/organization visit.**

**Presentations to the Catalina Rotary Club will be held at dates to be determined.**

**Grant awards will be announced by June 30, 2025.**