

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

# Rotary Club of Akron



Since 1914, the **Rotary Club of Akron** has exemplified Rotary International's motto of "Service Above Self" by inspiring members to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, and promote goodwill and peace in the world.

In 1924, Akron Rotarians established their primary project, the Rotary Camp for Children with Special Needs. Initially, the Camp served children afflicted with polio and cerebral palsy. Today, it serves annually over 1900 children and adults with a wide range of disabilities including, but not limited to, behavioral, mental and physical diagnoses.

Rotary campers are never turned away for their family's inability to pay. To support "camperships," the Club conducts its annual fundraising event, the Chili Open Golf Classic, which has raised more than \$3.5 million in its 26-year history. The event's success is driven by dedicated Club members who are committed to providing and raising resources for the camp they love.

The Club also engages in numerous local and international service projects, such as supporting and/or volunteering with Akron Canton Regional Foodbank, Keep Akron Beautiful, Mobile Meals, Salvation Army, United Way of Summit County, Rotary Youth Exchange (housing exchange students from countries all over the world), Shoeboxes for the Children of the Dump, vocational exchange training partnership between Akron Children's Hospital and a hospital in Haiti, and much more.

Rotary Club of Akron has long been leading positive, philanthropic change and volunteerism in our community, but more importantly, continually sets the stage for expanding their global impact.

nominated by  
**Akron Rotary Camp**