CAN OPEN DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY FOR OTHERS



RALPH C. SMEDLEY MEMORIAL FUND®

# JUST LIKE THEY WERE OPENED FOR YOU



Do you remember how you felt when you first joined Toastmasters? Perhaps you saw the doors of opportunity opening to your personal and professional growth. Nearly a century ago, Dr. Ralph Smedley had a vision of how he could help you and millions of others learn communication and leadership skills in a positive and supportive environment.



— **Dr. Ralph C. Smedley** Founder of Toastmasters International

Now you have the opportunity to share the benefits of Toastmasters with others.

# YOUR CONTRIBUTION MATTERS

As a nonprofit organization, Toastmasters International relies on the support of its volunteers, members and contributors. Your contribution to the Ralph C. Smedley Memorial Fund® supports research and development and guides the creation of future programs. Examples of these programs include educational materials, geographic initiatives, youth outreach, hardship assistance and emergency relief.

#### **Educational Materials**

Your contribution can enhance and expand the member learning experience to meet the specific needs of more individuals in culturally diverse environments. Potential uses of funds include advanced educational technology, expanded translated materials, development of a contemporary program for adults in colleges and universities, and materials for the disabled.

The Smedley Fund enables the development of superior educational resources. Each gift leaves a legacy of excellence that delivers dynamic, high-value programs to our worldwide membership. This investment pays big dividends in personal and professional growth. \*\*J\*\*

— Michael Notaro

Distinguished Toastmaster, 2011–2012 International President, United States





## **Geographic Initiatives**

Although Toastmasters serves more than 345,000 members in 142 countries, it is essential to invest in new and developing markets in order to make the program accessible to more people.

#### **Youth Outreach**

Many young people today lack opportunities to practice and build public speaking and leadership skills. An area of study will include strategies on how to build the confidence of tomorrow's leaders. Funds can also help offset the costs of programs and materials, such as the Youth Leadership Program, for those younger than age 18.

It's inspiring to watch students grow the confidence and leadership skills that will help them throughout their life!

— Sarah Rollins

Competent Communicator, Youth Leadership Program Coordinator, United States





### **Hardship Assistance**

People in hardship situations, such as homelessness, domestic abuse, transitional living or in rehabilitation or correctional facilities, need encouragement and hope for the future. Through research, Toastmasters International will explore possibilities that will enable the organization to make a positive impact in these people's lives.

### **Emergency Relief**

In recent years, many individuals have experienced economic challenges as a result of natural and man-made disasters. Your contribution may provide relief to those suffering losses due to extreme economic hardship or disasters by covering the costs for their Toastmasters membership.



During one of the worst natural disasters in modern history, Hurricane Katrina, many Toastmasters members were affected. They experienced a disruption of services and club meetings. Dues were waived and any lost materials were replaced without charge. ""

— Jon Greiner

Distinguished Toastmaster, 2004–2005 International President, United States





Thank you for being a part of Toastmasters. Would you like to give the experience	

that has transformed you to others? Visit www.toastmasters.org/smedley to

learn more about how you can help.

#### TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL MISSION

We empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders.

#### ABOUT THE RALPH C. SMEDLEY MEMORIAL FUND®

The Ralph C. Smedley Memorial Fund® ("Smedley Fund") exists to advance the Toastmasters International mission through the research, development and distribution of educational programs and materials relating to communication and leadership. The purpose of the fund is to meet the educational needs of the membership and community in a wide range of cultural, social and economic situations.

The Smedley Fund which is a part of Toastmasters International, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was established in 1965 and named after the founder of Toastmasters International.

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