

# Illini Rotaract

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign





#### Rotaract Network





- > Worldwide
- Started in 1968
- One of the largest collegiate organizations
  - 9,522 clubs
  - 291,006 members
- ≻ Ages 18-30
- College Based Clubs
- Community Clubs
- > Partnerships between clubs
- ➢ District 6490 Clubs
  - Illini Rotaract at UIUC
  - Douglas County
  - Champaign County
  - Bloomington / Normal

#### About Illini Rotaract

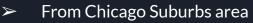


- > Part of the large network of Rotaract clubs
- Community service organization
- > Diverse network of students across all backgrounds and academic disciplines
- > Collegiate branch of Rotary International
- > RSO at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- ➤ 2019-2020 Leadership:
  - President: Jessica Nicholson
  - Vice President: Nicole Lach
  - Treasurer: Sarah Gale
  - Secretary: Mathilde Hanchard

- $\succ$  Committee Heads:
  - Community Service: Jamie Boone
  - Professional Development: Matthew Larson
  - Membership: Connor
- Rotary Liaisons: Nick Voss and Gerry Smith of Champaign West Rotary, Mike Murphy of Urbana Rotary



#### About Me, Jessica Nicholson



- Sophomore in Mechanical Engineering
- Minor in Business
- > Career goal of working with renewable energy
- History with Rotary
  - Involved in Interact at my high school, Rotary district 6440
  - Elected to an officer position with Interact
  - Attended Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
  - Involved with Illini Rotaract at UIUC since last year
  - President of Illini Rotaract for Sophomore year
- > Other Experience in Community Service
  - Member of the Illinois Student Government as an elected Student Senator
  - Outreach Committee member of SWE
  - Involved with Women in Renewable Industries and Sustainable Energy
  - Individual volunteer projects







#### Our Focus as a Club



- > Identify areas of need within the community
- > Raise awareness for issues and community needs
- Serve the community of Urbana-Champaign through volunteerism, education, and community outreach
- Professionally develop
- > Network and collaborate with people of various academic disciplines and fields
- Work to make the best use of our time and opportunities at UIUC to benefit the community



#### Illini Rotaract Past Service Events



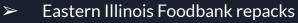
- ➤ Salt and Light
  - Resale store
  - $\circ \qquad {\sf Managing} \ {\sf donated} \ {\sf items}$
- > Community Dinner at Uniplace Church
  - $\circ \qquad {\sf Free \ dinner \ for \ community \ members}$
  - Making food and serving food
- CU's Got Talent Show
  - Coat Check
- ➢ Feed My Starving Children
- Boneyard Creek Cleanup
- Habitat for Humanity
  - ReStore Center
  - Local Projects







### Illini Rotaract Past Events (cont.)



- ≻ iHelp
  - UIUC Campus-wide day of community service
- ➤ Fundraisers
  - Rotary Conference
  - Shot Glass Sales
  - On campus
    - Succulent plants
    - Making blankets
    - Donut sales with St. Thomas More HS
- > Socials
  - Ice Skating
  - Bowling
  - Picnics









### This Year: Our Meetings



- > Every two weeks on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm
- Mumford Hall room 320
- Meeting Agendas
  - Recap of events
  - Updates on upcoming events and activities
  - Service project suggestions/brainstorming
  - Guest speakers for professional development
  - Social events



#### U of I Urbana-Champaign Rotaract



Meeting Agenda [Date, Time]

I. New Business



#### Our Current Goals



- > Ongoing goals
  - Community Service: at least twice monthly
  - Social events: at least monthly
  - Professional Development programs and Speakers: at least monthly
  - Fundraising: Raise \$1500 dollars toward a charitable cause
    - Shelter box
    - Polio Plus
    - CU at home
  - Fundraising: Raises \$750 dollars toward club admin and subsidizing
- > New goals
  - Grow membership at least 1.5x by the end of the year
  - Community Service: at least 3 times monthly
  - Professional Development programs and Speakers: at least twice monthly
  - Create volunteer hour requirements for members



#### **Recent Service Events**





- Community Service:
  - Feed My Starving Children
  - iHelp Campus Day of Service
    - Working at the Daily Bread Soup Kitchen
  - Community Oktoberfest
    - Clean up
  - Jubilee Cafe
  - Orpheum Children's Museum
    - Running activities at a children's activity day
  - Dial-a-Carol
    - UIUC housing tradition during finals
    - Students can call in and hear Christmas carols



#### Recent Events (cont.)





- ➤ Fundraising
  - Shelterbox fundraiser
    - Sold themed shot glasses at tailgate
    - Raised \$471
- Professional Development / Speakers
  - Brice Hutchcraft: Chair of numerous local charities
  - Darlene Kloeppel: Vice President of Urbana Rotary and County Executive
  - Thomas Hodson: Shelterbox
  - Jeffrey Lehmann: Toastmasters
- Socials



### Challenges and Solutions



- Main Challenge: Membership
  - Common issue from past years
- Steps taken to address this
  - Strong Quad Day presence
  - Invited former Interactors, exchange students and other interested students
  - Had regular events, met event goals
  - Gave members many opportunities to get involved
  - Created leadership structure and committees
- Current Outcome
  - Membership: About 15 consistent members out of around 25 at each meeting
  - Many community service activities were accomplished
- ➤ Future steps
  - Have a strong January Involvement Fair presence
  - Use more social media tools to promote club
  - Create informational events for prospective members



#### Future Events





- Scare Away Hunger
  - Haunted House
  - Food Drive
- > Purple Pinky Polio Fundraiser
- Salt and Light Resale Store
- > CU's Got Talent Show
- ➢ CU at home shelter
  - Volunteer work
  - Supply drives and donations
- > Professional Development programs
  - More guest speakers
  - Workshops Connecting field of study and community service
  - Group dynamics
- International Service Projects
  - Long-term
  - Partnership with Rotary Projects



## Partnerships / Prospective Partnerships

- > Champaign Rotary
- Champaign West Rotary
- > Urbana Rotary
- > Office of Volunteer Programs at UIUC
  - Connects students to volunteer opportunities
  - Can feature our events
- Student Alumni Ambassadors
  - iHelp
- Illinois Student Government
  - Creates policy/resolutions to benefit the University
  - Prospective partnership





#### STUDENT ALUMNI AMBASSADORS





#### Final Remarks



- > Started fresh this semester, with no initial involvement
- > Regular meetings on Wednesdays, 5:30 pm
- > New leadership and involvement structure
- Gained consistent membership
- > Had regular community service events
- Ongoing goals and future plans
- > Always looking for new opportunities
- > Would love to get involved with Local Rotary projects
- > Open to further guest speakers for some of our meetings
- > Let us know if interested
- Questions / suggestions / comments?



# Thank You!

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https://www.facebook.com/Illini Rotaract/