



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
- 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



- From Chicago Suburbs area
- 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
 - Managing donated items
- Community Dinner at Uniplace Church
 - 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



*Service
Above Self*



Illini Rotaract Past Events (cont.)

- Eastern Illinois Foodbank repacks
- 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





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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