

Hello,

My name is Milena Gramann (17) and I have been a Rotary Exchange Student in 2011/2012 in Castlegar, BC (Sunrise 2000 Club, District 5080). In August I will return to Germany to attend school for two more years. After that, I am planning on becoming an orthodontist. In the past I did two two-week long work placements at the tooth clinic of the Medical University in Hannover, Germany where I became aware that some children are born with a cleft lip/palate. Since then, helping children with a cleft lip/palate has become one of my interests and during my exchange year in Canada I started a fundraiser for Rotaplast selling three dimensional Origami stars. In January I started folding three dimensional origami stars. They are made out of thirty similar pieces and it takes about an hour to make one. When I had a few of these stars I decided to sell them but I wanted to give the money to someone. Due to my interest in cleft lip/palate I looked for cleft lip/palate organizations. Some people from my Rotary Club, the Castlegar Sunrise 2000 Club, told me about Rotaplast. Being a Rotary Exchange student Rotaplast was the organization I wanted to give the money to. In June I started selling my stars in school and in my Rotary club. The support of the community was wonderful so I collected 459 USD. In my Digital Media Class I made a video about my fundraiser and Rotaplast which can be found on youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qyvqolOVxIE&feature=plcp>

When I am an orthodontist I would love to join the Rotaplast team on missions.

Have a successful and safe trip to India in August!

Milena Gramann

Rotary Exchange Student from Hannover, Germany in Castlegar, Canada