

Founder and CEO

Rotarians for Family Health & AIDS Prevention

A Rotarian Action Group

Marion brings a personal and passionate perspective to the battle on AIDS because of the loss of her son to this disease in 1994. Because of her loss, she became aware of the increasing HIV infection rate among young people in the United States, especially Georgia and created a partnership in 1998 between Georgia Rotary Clubs and AID Atlanta (an AIDS service organization). Together they developed an AIDS awareness program implemented in Georgia schools that has reached 500,000 students to date. In 2002 Marion was asked by Rotary International President, Bhichai Rattakul, who heard her speak to help him create a program for the orphans and vulnerable children in Africa. She responded by creating a multi-sector partnership that helped support 122,000 orphan children in six African countries through a USAID grant of \$8 Million. In addition, she was appointed Rotary's Special Advisor on AIDS for two years. In 2004, the Rotary Board of Directors approved Marion's application to become a separate Rotarian Action Group that focuses on mobilizing Rotarians, partners and communities into implementing disease prevention programs – known as Rotarians For Family Health & AIDS Prevention (RFHA). RFHA initiated the "Rotary Family Health Days" in partnership with Rotary Clubs in response to the multiple health care needs of families in Africa. This event began in 2011 in Uganda (at 120 sites), then expanded to Lagos, Nigeria (100 sites), and added the country of South Africa at 180 sites. The 1st year launch was in May 9 to 11, 2013. Marion also engaged this year the support of the South Africa Department of Health and the South African Broadcasting Corporation as primary partners for this event. Marion has spoken all over the world on HIV/AIDS for Rotary International and has served as a Rotary President's Representative. She has won multiple Rotary awards and community awards for her work in HIV/AIDS, including the prestigious Service Above Self award granted to a limited number of Rotarians by the Rotary Board of Directors. Prior to 2008 when Marion was asked by her board to do this work fulltime, she was a 15 year partner in the Atlanta-based agency for Wilson Learning Corporation, a global training and development company. She holds a B.A. in Applied Behavioral Sciences from National Louis University and Indiana University. She is married to Austin Bunch and together they have five children and six grandchildren.