Hello Superheroes,

I chose my theme this year "Be A Superhero". The definition of a hero is "distinguished courage or ability admired for their brave deeds and noble qualities" and when you add "Super" to that the hero becomes someone with special powers that are used for helping people. I want to thank all of you that donate to the foundation for being a "Superhero". As Optimist we can support the foundation by having an open mind and heart to listen and understand what the OI Foundation is about, what and how it supports our clubs and districts and ultimately our youth and communities.

I think it is important to communicate and educate about the importance and value of becoming a donor to the OI Foundation to include all the ways the Foundation supports clubs through the Scholarship Programs, Club Grant Programs, Childhood Health and Wellness and much more. We are all Philanthropists because we donate our time, experience, skills and talent to help create a better world. For some of us that includes donating money. My goal is to increase our donations from 8% to 15% through education and communication. Communicating especially with our District and Club Foundation Reps who in turn will communicate with our members.

Optimists can first and foremost support the Foundation by having an open mind and heart to listen and understand what the foundation is about, what and how it supports our clubs and programs through many Foundation Programs. The easiest way to support the foundation is to become a Dime-A-Day member with a \$36.50 donation. But in reality, any amount that a member is able to donate supports the foundation's efforts. In addition, support can come from fundraising done by the club and put into the club's yearly budget. There is a great quote by Jesse Jackson that says, "If my mind can conceive it, and my heart can believe it, then I can achieve it."

I am honored to be President of the foundation and will be working with a dynamic and dedicated Board of Directors and Foundation staff that are dedicated and passionate about this foundation which supports Optimist International.

Teri Davis

OI Foundation President