

Interact Howard County



Tree planting at Robinson Nature Center

Interact is a Rotary-sponsored organization in which 12-18 year olds develop leadership skills while discovering the power of *Service Above Self* – the Rotary moto.

Rotary is the largest volunteer service organization in the world with over 1.2 million Rotarians in approximately 35,000 clubs. A Rotary club is made up of regional business leaders whose mission is to provide service locally, regionally,

nationally, and internationally. There are seven Rotary Clubs in Howard County alone.

A new Interact club, the **Interact Club of Howard County** (IHC) was established in September of 2020. IHC is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Columbia-Patuxent (www.columbiarotary.com) (RCCP), the largest of the seven Rotary clubs in Howard County, Maryland. Chartered in 1986, RCCP members include a diverse group of business and professional leaders from the Columbia and Howard County area who take an active role in their communities while enriching their personal and professional lives. There are currently approximately 350,000 Interactors spread across nearly 15,000 clubs in 145 countries.

Interact members will:

- Take action to make a difference
- Discover new cultures and promote international understanding
- Promote leadership among fellow Interactors in the community
- Have fun and make new friends



Little Potions Farm

The new ICHC is a community-based Interact Club, meaning that it draws from throughout Howard County and is not affiliated with any particular school. Interact clubs are self-managed by the leadership of the club – typically high school age teenagers who themselves have a passion for community service – with the active mentorship of the sponsor Rotary club. ICHC will draw from local middle and high public and private schools, from local churches, and from the community at large. ICHC is intended to provide a forum for these young people to volunteer their time in concert with Rotarians to make a difference in Howard County.



Freetown Farm Quonset Hut Replacement



Courtesy of RCCP



Interact Club of Hammond High School

Interact clubs in Howard County have already been involved in many regional volunteer projects, including:

- Planting trees with local organizations like Robinson Nature Center
- Road cleanup
- Assisting in ongoing maintenance of the Freetown Farm site
- Assisting in research of the Freetown history
- Stream cleanup
- Assisting in emergency response to Ellicott City flooding

Want to learn more? Visit our website at www.hocointeract.org, email us at hocointeract@gmail.com, or join us for our next meeting. Details for the meeting (virtual or in-person) can be found on the website. Join us in helping to assist our community while you enrich yourself, and together we can "make a difference".