

# District Hearing Preservation, Awareness and Action Chairperson's Award



*"I am just as deaf as I am blind. The problems of deafness are deeper and more complex, if not more important, than those of blindness. Deafness is a much worse misfortune for it means the loss of the most vital stimulus – the sound of the voice that brings language, sets thoughts astir and keeps us in the intellectual company of man."*

Helen Keller

**The mission of the Lions Clubs International Hearing Preservation, Awareness and Action Program is:** *"To demonstrate concern and respect for the dignity and independence of people who have hearing or speech challenges, with the goal of improving their quality of life."*

The award certificate should be presented to the district chairperson who has shown outstanding leadership in furthering the *Hearing Preservation, Awareness and Action Program* by meeting the following criteria:

1. Outlining and implementing a district plan of action for a public awareness program to understand the needs of persons with hearing and speech impairments
2. Motivating a substantial number of clubs to participate in the Hearing Preservation, Awareness and Action Program
3. Playing a key role in planning and initiating a hearing and speech action program in the district

Examples of a hearing and speech action program may include:

- Participating in the Lions Hearing Aid Recycling Program (HARP) and sponsoring a Lions hearing aid center
- Providing support to local health care professionals in organizing and conducting hearing screenings for children and adults
- Supporting or assisting with a hearing ear dog school
- Providing funding for communication aids/assistive devices for people with speech and hearing impairments
- Providing support services for the deaf and hearing impaired
- Establishing a recreation camp for adults and/or children who are deaf or hearing impaired
- Presenting a program to promote healthy hearing habits at a Lions district or multiple district convention
- Purchase or support of a mobile screening unit
- Utilizing resources and information gathered from the country's official associations for people who are deaf or hard of hearing

For more information, log onto the Lions Web site at [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)  
or contact: [programs@lionsclubs.org](mailto:programs@lionsclubs.org)