

District 11-B1
Parade of Checks - Understanding the Needs of our Supported
Projects
October 22, 2022

Every year the needs for individual projects and committees change based on their current balance, expected expenses, and anticipated needs.

Lions Clubs International Foundation – This is where funds come from for emergency grants, and for specific grants to fund local projects beyond the scope of the District, such as the \$10,000 grant for emergency services for Dexter Tornado victims. Historically the US receives more funds than are donated from within the US.

Lions of Michigan Service Foundation – This is where we get our Lions Mints, but more so, they provide grants for cataract surgery, hearing aids, and eye surgery beyond the scope of the club level. They also provide emergency grants for home fires and flooding. Every year they provide many grants, only limited by the donations received.

District Projects (Undesignated) – Funds designated to specific projects can only be used for that project. A project that does not receive adequate donations or has unexpected costs arise can request support from this undesignated fund.

Michigan Youth Challenge Academy – The MYCA cadets have been instrumental in supporting a number of district events as the honor guard and invaluable support at the Winter Camp for the Blind. A donation to them ensures the continued educational and vocational success for these at risk individuals.

Winter Camp – Every year camp costs continue to increase and although the adult participants pay a registration fee, we try to keep the fee reasonable. Campers come from all over southern and mid-Michigan. Travel expenses, housing, and food comprise the bulk of the expenses. With COVID risks in recent years, camp has been virtual (on Zoom) but not without expenses (ie. mailings, craft supplies). We are gearing up for in-person camp this year so generous donations are appreciated!

Children's Services – This fund is the basis of funding for several special projects involving children. The committee is expanding the service opportunities for visually impaired and autistic children and opening doors for shared commitment to supporting our needy children. (NOTE sent to Roberta Sexton)

Diabetes – The diabetes committee has been very active in bringing diabetes awareness to people within our district and is involved in sending young adults to Camp Midichi for diabetic youth, which for some is a life changing experience.

Hearing & Speech (Deaf and Hard of Hearing Picnic) – The Lions of Michigan Foundation offers an Affordable Hearing Aid program through which we as a district assist in obtaining hearing aids for very low income applicants. If an applicant cannot afford the cost of

both the aids and the fitting fee costs, or a Lions Club is not able to sponsor (pay for) one of those fees/costs, a request for payment is made for funds from the Hearing & Speech account.

The picnic is held the second Saturday in September of each fiscal year. The picnic provides an opportunity for district club members to volunteer their time and talent during this picnic which is provided free to our deaf and hard of hearing friends and their families.

While food is donated by area stores and prizes are normally donated by Deaf and Hard of Hearing Picnic committee members and several clubs in the district, the cost of the deaf interpreters, invitations and paper goods are paid with monies from the **Hearing & Speech** account.

KidSight (District Expenses) – The Lions of Michigan Foundation provides central management for the administration of KidSight throughout the state. They provide permissions and follow-up with those children who are referred for further evaluation. They provide insurance on the equipment, administrative supplies, and reimbursement of expenses. Accumulated funds will be used to upgrade and maintain equipment or supplies in the future. (NOTE to Teresa Gest)

Leos of the District – This supports the Leos so they can participate in district activities and Leo functions beyond their own clubs' limited resources. We encourage their attendance at the Banner Exchange, Fall Conference, and District Convention. Funds can also be used to start new clubs and support existing clubs within our district.

Peace Poster – The district provides awards for the top Peace Poster winners and has some administrative expenses. It is a great way for clubs to connect with local schools and encourage artful representations of peace.

Reading Action Program - The Reading Action Program is celebrated in March each year and allows Lions to provide additional funds to schools, day care centers, and individuals to put books into the hands of young readers. It is a great way to promote literacy and benefits from your financial support.

Sight Conservation – The Sight Conservation committee promotes the preservation of sight and prevention of blindness. Funds are kept in reserve to augment purchasing glasses for the needy when and if a club cannot afford the expense. In recent years, funds have helped provide white canes and white cane repairs at Winter Camp for the Blind. The account has a healthy balance and doesn't require additional funds.

Childhood Cancer – The Childhood Cancer committee depends on District 11-B1 Clubs to help with items or monetary donations to provide lap blankets, encouraging cards, backpacks full of goodies, and other supplies for children dealing with cancer.

Youth Exchange – Donations to this project can be used to provide supplemental funding for the students to ensure they are able to participate in the Youth Exchange. Individual YE participants will send letters to all the Lions Clubs requesting funding for their specific exchange trip, but differences in projected costs and variations in donations can leave some students in need of additional funding. This fund has a healthy balance so a minimal donation is requested.

Youth Outreach, Drug Awareness & Quest – Lions Quest is a comprehensive and universal, evidence-based social and emotional learning program. SEL is a process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. LCIF supports the research and development of quality social and emotional learning tools and resources as part of its global humanitarian effort to promote a safe, healthy approach to life, free from the harm of tobacco, alcohol and other drug use. Clubs of District 11-B1 have been fortunate to receive LCIF grants in recent years to further the program.

Administrative:

When a Lion Dies – This is actually an ADMINISTRATIVE program, so funds should come out of that account. This program provides remembrances and ceremony to honor the deceased and at the district convention. There are administrative costs to provide this service but the account has a healthy balance.