



District 33S
Mid-Winter Conference
Donation Narratives



Section 1

For donations to the causes listed in this section, **make out a separate check for each donation with checks payable to the cause.**

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is the grant-making arm of Lions Clubs International. LCIF supports the efforts of Lions around the world in serving their local communities and the world community through humanitarian service projects.

Lions Clubs International Foundation (Area of Greatest Need)

With every Lion worldwide both doing and giving, we're increasing our service impact in vision, youth, disaster relief, and humanitarian efforts; fighting the global diabetes epidemic; and expanding our causes to childhood cancer, hunger, and the environment. Donations to this cause benefit those who desperately need Lions help.

Lions Clubs International Foundation (Empowering Service Fund)

Lions are uniting our global service around five areas of need: Diabetes, Hunger, Environment, Vision, and Childhood Cancer. These Global Causes present significant challenges to humanity, and Lions believe it's our turn to meet them. A donation to LCIF's Empowering Service Fund bolster all of the causes the foundation supports.

Lions Clubs International Foundation (Melvin Jones Fellowship)

Donations to this designation count towards the \$1,000.00 fee for a club (or a club member) to be able to award a "Melvin Jones Fellowship" to a club member or community member.

Lions Clubs International Foundation (Disaster Relief Fund)

A donation to LCIF's Disaster Relief Fund provides funding to address preparedness and immediate needs that allow Lions and their partners to be among the first on the scene in the wake of the world's most devastating hurricanes, earthquakes, floods and other disasters. Donations to this fund are specifically reserved for disaster relief.

Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc. (MLERF)

The Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc. was chartered and incorporated on January 20, 1958 as a charitable organization in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by and under the jurisdiction of Lions Clubs International Massachusetts Multiple District 33, and was given 501(c)(3) tax exempt status in February, 1959. The Purpose of MLERF is to:

1. Provide an organization that enables the Lions of Massachusetts to fulfill the mandate of the Lions State Constitution which designates the MLERF as the primary State project.



District 33S Mid-Winter Conference Donation Narratives



2. To obtain donations and funds to provide grants to Massachusetts organizations. Grants are to be use for research dedicated to preventing loss of vision and improving and restoring the sight of the visually impaired.
3. To promote, engage, and coordinate the support of the Lions Clubs of Massachusetts
4. To conduct current operations with an eye to the future in order to perpetuate the continued growth of the MLERF grants.
5. To provide a forum for the cooperation, common understanding, and open discussion of all matters necessary to achieve these objectives.

The Fund's research grants as of this writing exceed \$36,000,000. Every penny donated to the Fund has been given back in grants to the Eye Research institutions of Massachusetts. The grants are directed toward pure research and not "brick and mortar" improvements. These initial grants from the MLERF are the "seed" money that allows researchers to perform initial trials and preliminary studies to see if further research is warranted. Once this initial data is confirmed, then the institution can apply for federal funding grants which are usually matched on a 10 to 1 basis. Because of this support, Boston has become one of the leading eye research centers in the world.

MLERF Journey for Sight

Journey For Sight is a project of the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund for all the special fundraising projects. Clubs are encouraged to take on a dedicated "Journey for Sight" project at the club level. Every penny raised helps Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund achieve its and our Lions goal: the eradication of preventable blindness.

MLERF Journey for Sight "SeeSide Walkfest"

The Lions District 33S "Seeside" Walkfest is a re-imagined version of the event that used to be held at Scusset Beach in Sagamore, MA. It is an annual event created as a district-wide Journey for Sight project. All proceeds from the event go directly to the MLERF. Activities for the weekend event include live bands, food trucks, a walk along Buzzards Bay Park, and games.

MLERF Pennies for Sight

The Pennies for Sight program of the MLERF involves the collection of pennies throughout the District, both in canisters, and by other means. Clubs earn banner patches and/or banner rockers to accompany previously earned banner patches for each year of participation.

District 33S Eyemobile (Maintenance Fund)

Donations are directed to the maintenance and upkeep of the Lions District 33S Eyemobile and its equipment. The District Eyemobile is operated and administered by a nine member Committee plus the second Vice District Governor. The Massachusetts District 33S Eyemobile Inc. is a chartered corporation within the state of Massachusetts. It is solely



District 33S Mid-Winter Conference Donation Narratives



supported by donations from District Clubs. The Eyemobile provides screenings for Blood Pressure, Visual Acuity, Intra-Ocular Pressure (a risk factor for Glaucoma), and hearing.

District 33S Eyemobile (Replacement Fund)

Donations are directed to the reserve account designated for the future purpose of replacing the current District 33S Eyemobile.

District 33S Hearing Foundation

The purpose of the Massachusetts Lions District 33S Hearing Foundation is to identify individuals residing within the District who are in need of professional hearing evaluation, hearing aid evaluation, and/or hearing aid, and do not possess the means of paying for such services. When such a person is properly identified by the local Lions Club, and upon approval of the Lions District 33S Hearing Foundation Committee, services are rendered by one of the approved facilities.

The Morton Hospital and Medical Center, Inc. Speech, Hearing, and Language Center (Taunton, MA), Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital of the Cape and the Islands (Sandwich, MA), and Ascent Audiology and Hearing (Dartmouth, MA) have agreed to provide these audiological services upon approval of the Lions District 33S Hearing Foundation Committee. Payment for all audiological services rendered is negotiated between the Lions District 33S Hearing Foundation and the facilities.

Section 2

For donations to the causes listed in this section, **make out a separate check for each donation with the check payable to "District 33S" and the cause listed in the Memo field.**

Activities for Special Children

Donations typically help to provide two special activity fun family events for visually impaired/multi-handicapped children and their families. A Summer Cookout event is offered along with a December Holiday Party. Presents are purchased for all the children including siblings. Special guests, arts and crafts, refreshments, and music are provided in the events.

Diabetes Camperships

This cause provides an opportunity for students to attend one of the 3 diabetes camps in our Multiple District (Clara Barton, Joslin, and Jack Rua). The camps offer a friendly place where youth with diabetes, ages 5 through 14, their siblings, and their friends benefit from hands-on learning experiences in diabetes management and support within a fun and welcoming environment.



District 33S Mid-Winter Conference Donation Narratives



Eyeglass Recycling

Efforts over several years have resulted in giving 20,000 pairs of eyeglasses to support a Rotary International mission to Peru; fulfilling a commitment to the people of Sri Lanka with over 33,000 pairs of eyeglasses; and multiple other missions to needy areas around the world such as the homeless in Haiti and an orphanage in Tibet. In one year alone, our district has distributed more than 70,000 pairs of eyeglasses. This program has the added benefit of providing meaningful service to inmates (who “read” the glasses using a district-supplied lensometer) through our partnership with the State prison system.

Lions Quest

Lions Quest began as one teenager’s passion to find a better way to prepare young people to handle life’s challenges. Today, it is one of the most widely used social and emotional learning programs in the world. Lions Quest goes beyond academics to teach students how to make responsible decisions, set goals, be accountable for their actions, develop healthy relationships, resist peer pressure and engage in community service. Donations to this cause support the program through local funding, coordinating teacher training, co-hosting parent meetings, speaking to youth and undertaking joint service projects with students.

LEOs

"Leadership, Experience, Opportunity." That’s what makes a Leo. Members of Leo clubs embody the best qualities of our incredible organization. They are devoted young people who realize the power of action. Together, Leos and Lions form a powerful partnership. Donations to this cause support District efforts to provide leadership and learning opportunities for Leos in the forum of symposiums and regional forums.

Operation Shoebox

This cause provides "shoeboxes" containing a wide assortment of personal items (batteries, books, magazines, munchies, razors, soap, toothbrushes, puzzles, etc.) for military personnel, men and women, located around the world. The boxes are packaged and shipped via the US Postal Service to service members, along with a letter from the District, thanking the service member for their service.

Peace Poster

Lions clubs around the globe have been sponsoring a very special art contest in schools and youth groups. Creating peace posters gives children everywhere the chance to express their visions of peace and inspire the world through art and creativity.



District 33S Mid-Winter Conference Donation Narratives



Youth Speech

A statewide Lions youth program to provide an opportunity for students, in Grades 9-12, sponsored by a Massachusetts Lions or Leo Club, to speak publicly on a designated topic of general interest. The competition starts at the local Club level, and advances through Zone, Region, and District levels, ending at the Lions State Convention in the Spring.

Area of Greatest Need

Not sure which cause is in the most need of your support? Following LCIF's lead, the District provides this option to the clubs of District 33S. Your donation under this category will be directed to one of the District causes listed above, based upon each particular cause's financial needs this Lions year, or to a special project designated by the District Governor.

Section 3

For donations to the causes listed in this section, **make out a separate check for each donation** with the **check payable to "MD33"** and the **cause listed in the Memo field**.

Massachusetts Lions All State Band Scholarship

Donations to this cause support students from all over the state, who perform at the Massachusetts Lions Multiple District Convention to give two performances. Donations directly support the costs of student participation (lodging, food, etc.). The Band provides an opportunity for students to perform under the guidance of renowned conductors and display their musical abilities.

Youth Exchange and Camp

An International exchange program, sponsored by Lions Clubs International for youth and young adults ages 15-21. The Lions Youth Exchange Program provides young people with an opportunity to participate in everyday life in another culture, reside with a host family, and to learn and participate in local customs. Clubs can participate by helping to sponsor a young person financially, or by actively volunteering to be a host family.

State Flag Committee

The State Flag Committee is a newly formed committee (as of the 2024-2025 Lions year). This committee is responsible for maintaining and replacing over 100 flags that are used at all Midwinter Conferences, the Multiple District (State) convention, and other special occasions. The flags represent the member countries of our international organization, as well as the flags of our Armed Forces, Lions Clubs International, Lions Clubs International Foundation, Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, LEOs, and many others. These flags are available to be displayed by clubs at their events, provided they have coordinated with the district representative on the committee to obtain and return the flags.