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LIONS CLUB FACTS

Lions Clubs International is the largest service club organization in the world.

We have more than 1.4 million members in more than 49,000 clubs worldwide.

Where there's a need, there's a Lion. We're individuals serving in more than 200 countries and geographic areas.

Lions serve. Our motto is “**We Serve.**” Founded in 1917, we are best known for saving sight, but we also feed the hungry, aid seniors and the disabled, care for the environment and so much more. Lions are a global service network of volunteers that make a difference in their local communities.

Lions give sight. By conducting vision screenings, equipping hospitals and clinics, distributing medicine and raising awareness of eye disease, Lions work toward the goal of providing vision for all. Through the support of the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), Lions have helped provide more than 251 million treatments for river

blindness and 80 million doses of a sight-saving trachoma medication through the SightFirst program alongside our partners. Lions and LCIF have also helped provide vision screenings for more than 42 million children through the Sight for Kids partnership program.

Lions serve youth. Our community projects often support children and local schools through scholarships, recreation and mentoring. Internationally, we offer many programs to empower youth, including the Peace Poster Contest; youth camps and exchanges; and Lions Quest, an LCIF positive youth development program.

Lions receive grants and the world receives benefits. Since 1968, Lions Clubs International Foundation has awarded more than 19,000 grants totaling more than US\$1.2 billion in support to Lions' humanitarian projects. As the official charitable organization of Lions Clubs International, LCIF helps Lions improve the lives of millions of people through four pillars of service: saving sight, supporting youth, providing disaster relief and meeting humanitarian needs.

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

VISION STATEMENT

To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service.

MISSION STATEMENT

To empower Lions clubs, volunteers and partners to improve health and wellbeing, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian service and grants that impact lives globally, and encourage peace and international understanding.

LIONS PURPOSES

To Organize, charter and supervise service clubs to be known as Lions clubs.

To Coordinate the activities and standardize the administration of Lions clubs.

To Create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.

To Promote the principles of good government and good citizenship.

To Take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.

To Unite the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.

To Provide a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.

To Encourage service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavors.

LIONS CODE OF ETHICS

To Show my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

To Seek success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

To Remember that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

Whenever a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.

To Hold friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one another, but that true

friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

Always to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state, and my community, as to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, act, and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor and means.

To Aid others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

To Be Careful with my criticism and liberal with my praise; to build up and not destroy.

MELVIN JONES

Melvin Jones was born on January 13, 1879 in Fort Thomas, Arizona, the son of a United States Army captain who commanded a troop of scouts. Later, his father was transferred and the family moved east. As a young man, Melvin Jones made his home in Chicago, Illinois, became associated with an insurance firm and in 1913 formed his own agency.

He soon joined the Business Circle, a businessmen's luncheon group, and was shortly elected secretary. This group was one of many at that time devoted solely to promoting the financial interests of their membership. Because of their limited appeal, they were destined to disappear. Melvin Jones, however, had other plans. "What if these men," he asked, "who are successful because of their drive, intelligence and ambition, were to put their talents to work improving their communities?" Thus, at his invitation, delegates from men's clubs met in

Chicago to lay the groundwork for such an organization and on June 7, 1917, Lions Clubs International was born.

Melvin Jones eventually abandoned his insurance agency to devote himself full time to Lions at International Headquarters in Chicago. It was under his dynamic leadership that Lions Clubs earned the prestige necessary to attract civic-minded members.

The association's founder was also recognized as a leader outside the association. One of his greatest honors was in 1945 when he represented Lions Clubs International as a consultant in San Francisco, California, at the organization of the United Nations.

Melvin Jones, the man whose personal code "You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else" became a guiding principle for public-spirited people the world over, died June 1, 1961 at 82 years of age.

HELEN KELLER'S SPEECH

1925 International Convention

Cedar Point, Ohio USA June 30, 1925

Dear Lions and Ladies:

I suppose you have heard the legend that represents opportunity as a capricious lady, who knocks at every door but once, and if the door isn't opened quickly, she passes on, never to return. And that is as it should be. Lovely, desirable ladies won't wait. You have to go out and grab 'em.

I am your opportunity. I am knocking at your door. I want to be adopted. The legend doesn't say what you are to do when several beautiful opportunities present themselves at the same door. I guess you have to choose the one you love best. I hope you will adopt me. I am the youngest here, and what I offer you is full of splendid opportunities for service.

Will you not help me hasten the day when there

shall be no preventable blindness; no little deaf, blind child untaught; no blind man or woman unaided? I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness?

THE LIONS NAME and EMBLEM

On June 17, 1917 delegates met in Chicago to select the name for the new organization. Melvin Jones was convinced that the lion stood for strength, courage, fidelity and vital action. On a secret ballot the name Lions was chosen over several others.

The name Lions stands not only for fraternity, good fellowship, strength of character and purpose, but above all, its combination of **L-I-O-N-S** heralds to the country the true meaning of citizenship: **LIBERTY, INTELLIGENCE, OUR NATION'S SAFETY.**

Our name was not selected at random, neither was it a coined name. From time immemorial, the lion has been the symbol of all that was good, and because of the symbolism, that name was chosen. Four outstanding qualities Courage, Strength, Activity and Fidelity had largely to do with the adoption of the name. The last mentioned of these qualities,

Fidelity, has a deep and peculiar significance for all Lions. The lion symbol has been a symbol of Fidelity through the ages and among all nations, ancient and modern. It stands for loyalty to a friend, loyalty to a principle, loyalty to a duty, loyalty to a trust.

The emblem consists of a gold letter "L" on a circular area. Bordering this is a circular area with two Lion profiles facing away from the center. The word "Lions" appears at the top and "International" at the bottom. The Lions face both past and future showing both pride of heritage and confidence in the future.

The following are specified Pantone colors for Lion logos:

- **One color logo: PMS 287**
- **Two color logo: PMS 287 & PMS 7406**



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL HISTORY

1917: The Beginning Chicago business leader Melvin Jones asked a simple and world-changing question

— what if people made a commitment to improving their communities? More than a century later, Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization, with more than 1.4 million members in more than 48,000 clubs and countless stories of Lions acting on the same simple idea: when Lions come together for the good of humanity, there's nothing we can't achieve.

1920: Going International Just three years after our founding, Lions became international when we established the first club in Canada. Mexico followed in 1927. In the 1950s and 1960s international growth accelerated, with new clubs in Europe, Asia and Africa.

1925: Saving Sight Helen Keller addressed the

Lions Clubs International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio, USA, and challenged Lions to become "knights of the blind." Since then, we have worked tirelessly to aid the blind and visually impaired.

1945: Uniting Nations The ideal of an international organization is exemplified by our enduring relationship with the United Nations. We were one of the first nongovernmental organizations invited to assist in the drafting of the United Nations Charter and have supported the work of the UN ever since.

1957: Organizing Youth Programs We started the Leo program to provide the youth of the world with an opportunity to serve and lead with Lions. There are approximately 180,000 Leos and 7,400 Leo clubs in more than 147 countries worldwide.

1968: Establishing Our Foundation Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) assists Lions with global and large-scale humanitarian projects. Through our Foundation, Lions have received more

Lions Clubs International History (contd.)

than \$ 1 billion in grants to help meet the needs of their local and global communities.

1990: Launching SightFirst Through LCIF, Lions are restoring sight and preventing blindness on a global scale with the SightFirst program. Launched in 1990, Lions have raised more than \$415 million for this initiative. SightFirst targets the major causes of blindness: low vision, trachoma, river blindness, childhood blindness, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma.

2017: Celebrating Our Centennial Lions celebrate a century of service by serving more than 250 million people around the world through a special Centennial Service Challenge.

2018 : The Association elects the 1st Woman President.

2019: LCIF launches Hunger grant program to provide food to people when they need it most and launches Childhood Cancer grant program to improve the quality of life for children receiving treatment and their families.

2020: As our world unites to address the COVID-19 Pandemic, LCIF is responding to the immense challenges facing humankind.

2021: LCIF goes virtual with Foundation Fridays! Lions and Leos around the world are finding new ways to connect with LCIF and their communities.

The LCIF-Special Olympics partnership is celebrating 20 years of free vision screenings for athletes through the Opening Eyes program.

2022: LCIF exceeded the Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service goal. Total funds raised during the campaign were US\$325 million.

Sight For Kids is celebrating 20 years of providing equitable access to vision care through comprehensive eye than 42 million children have been screened and more than 600,000 provided eyeglasses or other treatment.

OBLIGATIONS OF CHARTERED CLUBS

The obligations of each chartered club shall be as follows:

- a.** To hold regularly scheduled meetings or events.
- b.** Except as otherwise provided herein, to collect from each member minimum annual dues to cover international and district (single, sub- and multiple) dues and such other expenses as are necessary for club administration.
- c.** To encourage and motivate regular participation in club activities.
- d.** To conduct activities for the advancement of the civic, cultural, social or moral welfare of the community and for the promotion of international understanding.
- e.** To report monthly to the International Office such information as may be called for by the board of directors of the association.
- f.** To report to the International Office the financial condition of the club upon request.

- g.** To elect officers, annually, not later than April 15, whose terms of office shall commence on July 1 following their election.
- h.** To thoroughly investigate the background of all persons proposed for membership in the community where the proposed individual resides or has a place of business or is employed.
- i.** To uphold, preserve and enhance the image of The International Association of Lions Clubs.
- j.** To abide by the policies and requirements as determined, from time to time, by the International Board of Directors.
- k.** To further the Lions Clubs International Purposes and Lions Code of Ethics.
- l.** To resolve all disputes arising at the club level according to the Club Dispute Resolution Procedure set out, from time to time, in the Policy of the International Board of Directors.

MEMBERSHIP TYPES

Every club needs members in order to achieve its service goals. To help clubs recruit new members, Lions Clubs International offers several membership options to community members who want to volunteer and serve their communities as Lions. In addition to regular membership, Lions International offers special membership programs for families, college students, former Leos and young adults.

New member- New members pay an entrance fee of US\$35 or must submit the proper waiver certification form. International dues total US\$43 annually. Dues are billed on a semi-annual basis. Additional club, district multiple district dues may apply.

Transfer member- Transfer members in good standing pay no entrance fee when transferring to an existing club within 12 months.

Family member- The Family Membership Program provides families with the opportunity to receive a special dues discount when they join a Lions club together. The first family member (head of household) pays full international dues (US\$43), and up to four additional family members pay only half the international dues (US\$21.50). All family members pay the one-time entrance fee (US\$35).

The Family Membership Program is open to family members who are (1) eligible for Lions membership, (2) currently in or joining the same club and (3) living in the same household and related by birth, marriage or other legal relationship. Common household family members

Membership Types (contd.)

include parents, children, spouses, aunts and uncles, cousins, grandparents, inlaws and legal dependents. Submit via MyLCI, or include the Family Unit Certification Form with the Monthly Membership Report (MMR).

Student member- Students enrolled in an educational institution who are between the age of legal majority and through age 30 pay no entrance or charter fee and half international dues (US\$21.50). Students over age 30 who are joining a Campus Lions club pay a US\$10 entrance fee and full international dues. Submit the Student Member Certification Form (STU-5) for each student.

Current or former Leo - Current or former Leos seeking membership, who are through the age of 35 and have served as a Leo for at least a year and a day, pay half international dues and receive an

entrance/charter fee waiver under the Leo-Lion membership program. Leo-Lion should be selected as the membership type in MyLCI. Leos over age 35 who have served as a Leo for at least a year and a day receive an entrance/charter fee waiver.

Young adult - Young adults through the age of 30 receive an entrance fee waiver and pay half international dues when joining a Leo-Lion club.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

For prospective members who may not be able to meet the obligations of active membership, Lions International offers several membership categories to fit their needs.

Active member- Active membership is the “typical” category of Lions membership. Active members who meet all requirements of Lions membership receive all benefits.

Affiliate member- An affiliate member is someone who is not able to participate as an active member of the club but desires to support the club and its community service initiatives.

Associate member- An associate member has active membership in one Lions club and associate membership in a second club in their community of residence or employment.

Honorary member- An honorary members is not a member of the Lions club but may be granted

honorary membership by a Lions club for having performed outstanding service.

Life member- A life member is a Lion who has maintained active membership for at least 20 years, or at least 15 years if the member has reached age 70. Life membership may also be granted to a Lion who is critically ill.

Member-at-large- A member-at-large is a member of a club who is unable to regularly attend club meetings but desires to retain membership in the club.

Privileged member- A privileged member is a Lion who has been a member 15 or more years but must relinquish active status because of illness, infirmity, advanced age or other reason.

*Detailed information regarding the obligations, rights and privileges of all membership categories can be found in the *Standard Club Constitution and By-Laws*.

Membership Categories (contd.)

ACTIVE	DUES			DIST. OR INT'L OFFICE	VOTING PRIVILEGES	DIST. OR INT'L CONV. DELEGATES
	CLUB	DIST.	INT'L			
ACTIVE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
AFFILIATE	YES	YES	YES	NO	CLUB MATTERS ONLY	NO
ASSOCIATE*	YES	NO	NO	NO	CLUB MATTERS ONLY	NO
HONORARY	NO	CLUB PAYS	CLUB PAYS	NO	NO	NO
LIFE	YES	YES	ONE-TIME US\$ 650	YES	YES	YES
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	YES	YES	YES	NO	CLUB MATTERS ONLY	NO
PRIVILEGED	YES	YES	YES	NO		

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues are annual and billed twice a year. They are based on the club membership reports entered as of June 30 and December 31.

New member dues are billed the first of the month in which the person becomes a member. The total amount billed for a new member will appear on the monthly club statement along with the member's name, number and join dates. The total amount includes:

- Entrance fee established by International Board of Directors
- Prorated dues in accordance with months remaining in billing period

Reinstated or Transfer Member

Any former Lion who later applies for reinstatement or transfer is considered a new member if his/her prior membership is greater than twelve months. The club will be billed accordingly.

Dropped Members

Full credit is automatically issued when dropped

members are reported during July and January following the respective semi-annual dues billing provided the monthly membership drops are reported to headquarters by July 31 and January 31 of respective semi-annual periods. Credit for dropped members is not issued any other months of the year.

Confirmation of Membership Changes

Clubs are billed for new charter fees on the first of the month following the date on which the members were reported. The billing is issued a prorated basis for the remaining months of the current semi-annual dues period.

Charter Members

Clubs are billed for charter members from the first of the month following the date on which the members were reported. The billing is on a prorated basis for months remaining in current membership dues period.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP REPORTING

All Lions and Leo clubs are asked to report any membership changes on a monthly basis. Even when there are no changes in membership, clubs should report "No changes for the Month." Monthly reporting ensures accurate statement billing, magazine and miscellaneous mailings, award(s) criteria and other benefits.

To access the MyLCI website, click Member Login on the Home Page.

Club presidents and secretaries can submit their monthly membership changes using the MyLCI website. Membership changes reported using MyLCI are recorded immediately and available to view by LCI headquarters, club, district and multiple district officers and chairpersons. The current reporting month is open for submission of reports throughout the entire month – from the 1st through the last current day of each month. When "No Changes for the Month" has been selected, subsequent reporting entries are permitted for that month. Related reports will be updated accordingly. The reporting

month closes on the last calendar day of each month at 12:00am (midnight)

Central Standard Time (CST).

Note: the MyLCI site only accepts the current calendar month's report. You may backdate transactions up to two (2) months but, they will be displayed in the detail section of the current calendar month's report. For reports dating back further than two (2) months, you will need to submit a paper MMR form (c23a) to the Member Service Center.

Membership reports cannot be submitted, in advance, of upcoming months.

Lions club presidents and secretaries can also submit their monthly membership changes using the paper MMR form (c23a). Membership reporting forms received by the 20th calendar day of the month (for example, July 20, August 20) will be entered in that same month. The paper MMR form is available to download on the LCI association website or can be obtained from the Member Service Center.

THE LION PORTAL

Evolving our digital tools

In mid-2023, LCI will be combining MyLion, MyLCI and Insights, along with some additional tools and functionality, into a new unified experience called the Lion Portal. The new system will offer the same features and functionality currently available, but with a more consistent and efficient experience

The Member Portal – allows you access to all Lions applications: MyLion, MyLCI, Insights, Learn, Shop.

MyLion - Connect.Serve.Report! This site is where clubs report service, plan their service projects, connect with other Lions and create personal profiles.

MyLCI – Tools for the Lion leaders! This site is where the club can manage their membership, create district and club profiles, check club voter eligibility, document and plan conventions as well as check new club charter application status.

◆ **Insights** – Comprehensive overview of LCI in the areas of Membership, Service Activity, Donations and Club strength. Also featured is District Goals Progress and Learn.

◆ **Learn** – Provides Lions a central location to complete Lions Learning Center (LLC) courses, search for LCI International-institutes (ALLI, FDI and LCIP), view local trainings as reported by Multiple District and District GLT Coordinators and allows an individual Lion or Leo to access their “My Learning Record” report.

Lions Shop—An easy way to order the most common club supplies and Lions Clubs International branded merchandise. Club presidents, secretaries or treasurers can login to their Shop account through the Member Portal and use club funds to purchase items.

SERVICE ACTIVITY REPORTING GUIDE

Sharing your impact is important to members, to clubs and to our organization as a whole. It helps us chart our progress as an organization, tell our story to prospective partners and much more.

From simple community service projects to large, comprehensive screening projects, reporting will shine a light on how—and where—local clubs are making a difference in their communities and in the world.

How to report and celebrate service

1. On lionsclubs.org, select "Member Login"
2. Log in to your Lion Account
3. Select the MyLion icon
4. Select "Report Past Activity"
5. Click "Report +" (*Only reporting officers will see this button*)
6. (A) Complete the form, (B) Select "Report"
7. Select "OK"

What is a reportable service activity?

There are two types of reportable service activity: direct and indirect.

Direct Service: Lions and Leos plan and implement a service project to serve community needs and interact directly with the people being served.

Indirect Service: When Lions serve but do not interact directly with beneficiaries.

In MyLion[®], you or project by reporting the following metrics:

- ◆ Number of **people served** (adults and youth)
- ◆ Number of **volunteers who participated** (Lions, Leos and non-members)
- ◆ Number of **volunteer hours** spent in planning, fund raising and implementing the activity or project
- ◆ Additional metrics to report environment and community improvement service activities.

Service Activity Reporting Guide (Contd.)

Number of volunteer hours

Track and report the total number of hours volunteers spent planning, fundraising and implementing the service activity.

Planning and fundraising hours: For each volunteer, record the total number of hours spent planning and fundraising for the project.

Service hours: For each volunteer, record the total number of hours spent implementing and serving on the project.

Community outcome

Share how your service activity will improve your community. This can be an explanation on how your service activity will continue to improve the livelihood of people, communities, the environment, etc. You can also include the total amount of funds raised/donated within this section.

How to report environment and community improvement

Environment-related service projects are often longer term than other types of projects. To avoid overestimation and maintain credibility, LCI is focusing on the number of people educated through your project. So enter only the number of people who were educated when reporting the number of people served for environmental service activities.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee serves in an advisory and administrative capacity to the district governor and the cabinet. It is composed of: zone chairperson who serves as the committee chairperson, presidents and secretaries of clubs within the zone. Consider inviting the district GMT /GLT/GST coordinator to present new membership, leadership and service development opportunities.

The duties of the District Governor's Advisory Committee are to:

- ◆ Ensure that every club is operating effectively, following the International Constitution and By-Laws and policies, and meeting the needs of its members.
- ◆ Ensure that clubs provide meaningful service, inspire membership growth and leadership development.
- ◆ Promote the programs offered by the district, multiple district and LCI.
- ◆ Ensure that each club installs club officers, inducts new members and recognizes member achievements in a way that is meaningful.

- ◆ Encourage clubs to participate in district, multiple district and international conventions.
- ◆ Promote inter-club meetings and encourage clubs to attend charter nights and other district events.
- ◆ Set and discuss fund raising goals for the district.

At least three meetings of the District Governor's Advisory Committee should be held during the year.

1st meeting: within ninety days after the international convention - with a **Focus on Service**

2nd meeting: November - with a **Focus on Membership**

3rd meeting: February or March with **Focus on Leadership Development**

4th meeting (optional): Focus on the Future-

This meeting is often a celebration that accomplishes both current and incoming officers. Advisory committee meetings are reported to the district governor using the DA-ZCM Form.

STATUS QUO CLUBS

Regular status quo:

Status quo is a temporary suspension of the charter, rights, privileges, and obligations of a Lions club. The Executive Administrator and divisions as designated by him, acting on behalf of the International Board of Directors, has authority to place a Lions club in status quo or release it from status quo.

Lions clubs may be placed in the following categories of status quo:

- Failure to comply with the purposes of the association, or conduct unbecoming a Lions club, such as, but not limited to, failure to solve club disputes or involvement in litigation;
- Failure to fulfill any obligations of a chartered Lions club, such as, but not limited to, failure to hold club meetings or events regularly, or failure to report membership for three or more consecutive months;
- The club is non-existing or fictitious;
- The club has asked to disband or participate in a club merger.

While in status quo, the club cannot conduct service activities, fund-raising activities, participate in district, multiple district, or international functions or seminars or in any voting procedures outside of the club, endorse or nominate a candidate for district, multiple district and international office, submit the MMR and other report forms or sponsor a Lions club, or organize a Leo club.

In order for a status quo club to regain the status of good standing, the club must correct the reason for which the club was placed in status quo, pay all outstanding balances in the district, multiple district and international accounts, submit a completed Reactivation Report to report membership and leadership changes if needed.

Protective status quo:

War, civil insurgency, political unrest, natural disasters, and other special circumstances, which prevent a Lions club from functioning properly. A protective status quo club shall be allowed to function normally.

RECOMMENDING STATUS QUO FOR A CLUB

Requests for placement into status quo for failure to fulfill the obligations of a Lions Club are made by the district governor with the approval of the first vice district governor and the zone chairperson. Sufficient documentation demonstrating that the club is not in compliance with the International Constitution and By-laws or Board Policy and the actions taken by the DG Team to encourage compliance is required to be submitted along with the request. Requests must be received 90 days or more prior to the district and/or multiple district conventions. The club will be placed in status quo once there is significant documentation that the club is not complying with the International Constitution and By-Laws.

NOTE: The placement of a sponsoring Lions club on status quo also affects the standing of any Leo club.

Assistance for Status Quo Clubs

Every effort should be made to assist status quo clubs before charter cancellation. The following

procedures are to be followed to give assistance and support to status quo clubs:

- (1) When a Lions club is placed in status quo for failure to comply with the obligations of a club, the District Governor Team or the Coordinating Lion, shall start working with the club immediately toward its release from status quo. The District Governor Team must keep LCI informed about the progress of the status quo clubs in the zone.
- (2) If helpful, the district governor may assign a Certified Guiding Lion to help bring the club back into good standing. The Certified Guiding Lion must have the approval of both the club and the DG Team.
- (3) The district governor or the Coordinating Lion must review the progress and inform LCI headquarters in writing of the progress made or the recommendation of cancellation.

The club reactivation report (DA-970) is to be co-signed by the 1st vice district governor and zone chairperson.

PRIORITY CLUB STATUS

Priority designation gives the district the ability to focus on strengthening clubs that need additional assistance so they continue to serve far into the future.

It allows members of the DG Team to make up to two additional club visits to the club funded by the existing district governor budget. This designation does not change the status of the club nor change the clubs rights or obligations and is designed to provide support to clubs that need additional attention.

Priority clubs automatically include all clubs that have been chartered over the previous 24 months, clubs in status quo or financial suspension and clubs that have been cancelled over the previous 12 months that could be reinstated.

The district governor may request priority designation for five additional clubs. To request priority designation for clubs that are not newly formed, recently cancelled, in status quo or financial

suspension as noted above, the district governor must indicate why additional support is necessary, provide a plan outlining the needed activities and assign a Guiding Lion to the club. The plan must be approved by the club, the district governor, and the first vice district governor and then submitted to the District and Club Administration Division. These clubs must continue to pay dues and fulfill the responsibilities of a Lions Club or may risk being placed in financial suspension and cancelled. If measurable progress is not made within six months, these clubs may lose their priority designation. A club is considered to have achieved success when it has reached the goals set by the club when priority designation was granted. More than five additional clubs may be given a priority designation with the approval of the District and Club Service Committee.

FINANCIAL SUSPENSION OF CLUBS

A club, which has an unpaid balance in excess of US\$20 per member or US\$1,000 per club, whichever is less, outstanding past 120 days will be suspended, including the suspension of the club's charter, and all the rights, privileges, and obligations of the Lions club.

In the event the club does not acquire good standing on or before the 28th day of the month following suspension, the club's charter will be automatically cancelled.

Suspended clubs can hold meetings to discuss the future of the club and to identify actions to take to regain an active status, as well as make payments to clear the existing outstanding balance, or request a payment plan. However, the clubs cannot conduct service and fund-raising activities, participate in

district functions and seminars, endorse or nominate a candidate, submit the MMR, sponsor new clubs.

The district officers can avoid unnecessary charter cancellations by encouraging suspended clubs either to pay the outstanding balance or negotiating a payment plan with the Finance Division at International Headquarters.

CHARTER CANCELLATION

Club charters may be cancelled for the following reasons:

1. Members of the club vote to disband. When this decision is made, the club notifies the district governor. The district governor advises the English Language Department of the club's request for cancellation along with a proof of payment for any outstanding balance the club owed the association.

Coordinating Lions recommend cancellation of clubs in undistricted areas.

2. A status quo club is not returned to active status in 90 days.

Club Boundaries

The boundaries of the club are the boundaries of the municipality or equivalent government subdivision in which the club is located.

Club Mergers and Name Changes

Two or more Lions clubs may wish to merge into one. The district governor submits the Merger Request form (DA-979) to the English Language Department.

The newly merged club may request a Certificate of Merger to recognize the members of the newly merged club.

A Club Name Change Request form (DA-980) is submitted from the club to the English Language Department. These forms are available on the LCI website and can be easily found by typing the form code into the search box.

Replacement charters with the new name are available for \$25.00.

SINGLE CLUB TRANSFERS

A club may transfer from one district to an adjacent district, and the boundaries can be changed accordingly without having to follow formal redistricting procedures, provided that such a transfer does not substantially change the existing district boundaries.

A club transfer will be considered when the following information is submitted to the English Language Department:

A copy of the minutes of the club meeting at which the majority of the members approved the transfer.

The written approval of each of the current governors of the respective districts.

A copy of the minutes of the cabinet meetings, indicating the approval of the respective district cabinets.

A map showing the exact present and new location of the club and the new boundaries of each district.

A single club transfer will become effective immediately, upon approval.

Send single club transfer requests to:

Lions Clubs International

English Language Department

300 W. 22nd Street

Oak Brook, Illinois 60523-8842, USA

Fax: 630-706-9273

Email: englishlanguage@lionsclubs.org

SPECIALTY CLUBS

Launched in August 2017, the Specialty Club program was designed to create clubs in which members share a common interest or passion, allowing them to connect with one another on a deeper level. For example, they may share a hobby, profession, culture, common cause or life experience.

Forming specialty clubs allows groups of people around the world to turn their passions into rewarding service projects that directly benefit their communities.

Joining a specialty Lions club is a great way to meet people who share common interests and build leadership skills while serving your community.

ACHIEVE GOALS

- Engage Specialty Club Program (SCP) Coordinators to support district new club development goals!
- Contact your District GAT for a list of local SCP Coordinators.
- Increase district resources through SCP program features and benefits.

EMPOWER MEMBERS

- Promote SCP features and benefits through seminars and workshops.
- Consider virtual workshops to reach larger audiences.
- Inspire Lions to apply for the SCP Coordinator role

PROMOTE NETWORKING

- Share success stories on social media and MyLion.
- Connect with other Specialty Clubs to broaden service impact.
- Exchange best practices locally and globally.

ENCOURAGE DIVERSITY

- Broaden Lions' volunteer base by welcoming unique qualities and ideas.
- Research new ways to serve and meet changing needs locally and globally.
- Ask, "How can Lions Clubs support your service passions?"

CAMPUS LIONS CLUB

Campus lions clubs are a way for students, faculty, administrators, alumni and people from the surrounding area serve the campus community together. Campus club members have the same rights and responsibilities as traditional club members.

Students as well as Colleges and Universities benefit from having a lions club in the campus.

The students enrolled in the club must be between the age of maturity and through age 30.

Eligible students receive a charter/ entrance fee waiver and pay only half international dues, billed semi-annually.

Students enrolled in a Campus Lions Club over the age of 30 receive a discount of USD \$10.00 on their charter or entrance fee when they join.

Students in campus clubs and clubs with a majority of students are required to prepay one year international dues at the student member rate at the time of charter.

To receive the due credit a Student Member certification form is required.

Faculty, staff, community members pay a onetime charter fee and full International dues.

To accommodate the typical school schedule, campus clubs receive an extended billing adjustment period for the semi annual billing.

Campus Lions Club Benefits

Gain service hours: Serve locally and globally.

Build your resume: Receive in-person and online training.

Network: Connect with local leaders and international organizations.

Lead the change: Plan service events and advocate for humanitarian and environmental causes.

Save money: Get a special discount with the Student Member Program.

CLUB BRANCH PROGRAM

A club branch enables a small group of people to form a Lions club. Forming a branch creates an opportunity for Lions clubs to expand when there are less than 20 members and chartering a new club is not possible, or for members who might not fit into the parent club because of meeting times, dues, demographics, etc.

Branch members are part of an existing parent club, but hold independent meetings and select their own projects and activities. With the ability to make decisions about projects, attendance requirements, use of funds and more, club branches have nearly the same autonomy as Lions clubs.

How many members does it take to form a branch?

A minimum of five members are required to form a new club branch including a president, secretary and treasurer.

How does the parent club maintain communication with the club branch?

The parent club appoints a branch liaison to serve as

the go-between for the parent club and the club branch. The branch liaison attends branch meetings and is a helpful advisor to ensure branch growth and success.

What are the appropriate fees?

Regular entrance fees and international dues apply when joining a club branch. When the branch converts and charters a new club, branch members in good standing receive a charter fee waiver. The parent club secretary signs and submits the Club Branch Conversion Form (CB-21) to certify transfer of membership.

Could the Club Branch Program be used with other groups?

Yes. In places where spouses typically belong to separate clubs, or want to join separate clubs, they too can be part of club branch just for spouses—and benefit from the family dues structure. Clubs may also use the Club Branch Program as an opportunity to invite a younger generation to join Lions or start a campus club branch.

LEO LIONS CLUB PROGRAM



29

Leo Lions clubs are designed to provide a transition for graduating Leos to build upon the skills they learned as a Leo and apply these skills as a Lion. To make this transition easy, Lions Clubs International is extending a special dues discount and an exciting new club opportunity to former Leos and other like-minded young adults.

Active Membership: Individuals who qualify as a former Leo or a young adult are active members and entitled to all rights and privileges, including full voting rights and subject to all obligations which membership in a Lions club confers or implies.

Leo to Lion Dues Rate: Current and former Leos and qualifying young adults receive a charter/entrance fee waiver and pay only half international dues billed semi-annually.

Who qualifies for the Leo to Lion Program dues rate?

1. Former Leos

Current and former Leos between the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction in which they reside and

through the age of 30. Current and former Leos are required to provide documentation verifying age and Leo participation. Leos also have the opportunity to charter a new Lions club and recruit their peers.

2. Qualifying Young Adults

Young adults between the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction in which they reside and through the age of 30 also qualify when joining a Leo Lions club. Qualifying young adults are required to provide documentation verifying age.

Does the reduced dues rate apply to traditional clubs?

All students and former Leos involved in traditional clubs are eligible to receive the student member and Leo to Lion dues rate. Young adults only qualify when they join a club chartered by 10 or more former Leos. For questions regarding the Student Member and Leo to Lion Programs, contact student@lionsclubs.org or leo2lion@lionsclubs.org. With questions related to certifying qualifying members online, please contact the Member Service Center at mylci@lionsclubs.org

STUDENT MEMBER PROGRAM

The Student Member Program offers a special dues discount to students to encourage student participation in campus-based and traditional Lions clubs and ensure the dynamism of student involvement in Lions.

Student discount benefits

Join or charter a club as a student and save on membership dues and fees.

- ◆ Students ages 30 and younger joining any club type pay half international dues and get a charter or entrance fee waiver.
- ◆ Students over age 30 joining Campus Lions clubs pay a discounted charter or entrance fee and full international dues.

Important billing and dues information

Special billing adjustment for Campus Lions clubs

To charter a Campus Lions Club, at least five (5) of the required twenty charter members must be **Student members.**

Campus Lions clubs qualify for a special billing adjustment period. These clubs may pay January dues by March 31 and July dues by September 30. Lions Clubs International will give credits to Campus Lions clubs for roster adjustments submitted within this time period without penalty.

Dues requirements for chartering student members

In the case of a newly chartered Campus Lions clubs or clubs with a majority of student members, each charter member who qualifies for the Student Member Program is required to prepay one year international dues at the student member rate. Such dues must be submitted with the club charter application. Once the club is established, prepayment of dues is not required.

Complete the **Student Member Certification Worksheet (Stu5)** to assist with age and enrollment verification.

For more information about the Student Member program, contact the **Membership Division**.

CERTIFIED GUIDING LION PROGRAM

Designed for New, Existing and Clubs Rebuilding

The Guiding Lion Program is designed to assist clubs that are newly chartered, established or rebuilding. Guiding Lions are assigned for a two-year term by the district governor in consultation with the sponsoring or established club president. Guiding Lions are limited to serving no more than two new clubs at any point in time.

Guiding Lions assist a club to:

- ◆ Be successful in its first two years of operation
- ◆ Orient and train club officers and members
- ◆ Motivate and support club growth and development
- ◆ Locate resources available to assist the club

Guiding Lion Support for Established Clubs

Club Rebuilding: Support to help strengthen clubs and reactivate those that are experiencing difficulties. The Club Rebuilding Program allows more flexibility for District Governors to focus efforts to support weak clubs by eliminating the limitations of visits. Club Rebuilding focus on the areas of rebuilding, recruiting new members, training officers

and providing meaningful community service. For clubs needing assistance, please fill out the Club Rebuilding Application and obtain the appropriate signatures.

Plan for Your Club's Success: Use this planning guide to discover your club's strengths, ways to improve and new opportunities that will help your club grow and thrive! Planning forms help develop a vision, assess your club's needs and organize your plan for a successful implementation.

Guiding Lion Assignment Form: Complete this form to assign a Guiding Lion to a club and ensure they receive the monthly Club Health Assessment.

Certified Guiding Lion Rebuilding Assessment: This checklist tool designed to identify the club's strengths and areas for improvement so that the Guiding Lion can develop training and support specific to the needs of the club.

Certified Guiding Lion Course

Guiding Lions are encouraged to complete the Certified Guiding Lion Course to improve their skills in club support. The course is designed to be completed individually or facilitated by an instructor. All Certified Guiding Lions are required to take the Certified Guiding Lion (CGL) every three years.

CLUB SUCCESS

Why Members Drop

Working Together: Dwelling on differences can lead to poor communication and unsatisfied members. This new clinic has been created to address the retention challenges that most directly affect the ability of a club to form a productive, cohesive group.

Lengthy/Boring Meetings: Always one of the chief reasons given for leaving a club. Interesting and productive meetings are very important to the efficient functioning of your club. They are also important to your members. Planning and running effective meetings that follow a well prepared agenda will help accomplish this.

Club Politics/Cliques: Are politics getting in the way of club business? Member feedback indicates that too often club politics do get in the way. Do cliques within the club snub new members, making it difficult for them to feel a part of the group? Breaking down the cliques and politics will make

your club environment welcoming and productive. All members will feel more interested and involved.

Lack of Involvement: Once your club inducts new members, be sure to engage them in activities that interest them and allow them to take on leadership roles. Members who see they play an active, important part in the club are far less likely to drop out.

Retention is an ongoing team effort, led by the club president. Keeping your club efficient, productive, and meaningful to your members will result in many benefits:

- ◆ a club that is a vital, respected part of your community
- ◆ the ability to help people in need locally, and globally
- ◆ a club that offers personal and professional growth opportunities for members

THE CLUB QUALITY INITIATIVE (CQI)

Club Quality Initiative is a strategic planning tool to help clubs identify opportunities for improvement.

Three Suggested Ideas for Implementing Club Quality Initiative in Your Club.

Single Working Session: One working session to identify areas of improvement, establish priorities and give initial ideas to committees to further develop.

Meeting Series: Assess and plan over a series of meetings.

Half Day Workshop: Break into working groups to discuss club assessments and potential solutions in detail.

Change is critical for each club. By understanding our current operation, identifying areas that may be improved and taking measured steps to accomplish our goals, every club can be even better! This guide provides five unique steps to initiate change.

Step-1: Understanding the Process of Change and LCI Forward

LCI Forward provides a strategic framework to help clubs to strive for excellence. It is a platform for action that will help your club develop priorities to significantly expand humanitarian service, improve current operations, and pursue new ways to unite people in Lions' service.

Step-2: Determine the need for change

The assessments that follow were designed to help club members determine possible areas of improvement and are focused on the areas featured in LCI Forward. Each assessment includes a series of questions to help focus thought and guide discussion as well as resources designed to support club development.

Step-3: Set Goals

Once the assessments has been discussed, the club will need to establish SMART goals. This will help the club determine priorities and will be the basis for future planning.

The Club Quality Initiative (CQI) (contd.)

Step-4: Develop Plans

Establish Priorities and Assign Goals. Once the goals are established, determine long and short-term priorities and assign goals to committees or task forces. You may find some goals are easily assigned to a standing committee, while others may need special attention or the support of multiple committees. In any case, encourage all club members to become involved in finding solutions.

Step-5: Implement and sustain change

Implementing Change- Setting and achieving benchmarks — To keep plans moving forward, track the achievements of benchmarks. Each benchmark should have an agreed upon deadline. Regular status reports should be included in every club meeting until completion. Remember to celebrate the benchmarks and the end success!

Sustaining Change- Change often results in more change. During the implementation process new opportunities are often found that may be incorporated into new or existing plans. Involve all club members in the process so they can contribute and be involved.

THE YEAR-ROUND GROWTH PROGRAM

The Program recognizes Lions and their respective club for member invitation successes during a given fiscal year.

Individual Invitation Awards

Each Lion who sponsors a new member is eligible to receive a certificate of sponsorship from the international president. Both the sponsorship certificate and new member certificate are included in the New Member Kit, which may be ordered free of charge through the Club Supplies Department.

Additionally, Lions who sponsor three (3) or more members during a given fiscal year will receive the Year-Round Growth Membership Excellence Lapel Pin.

Club Invitation Awards

Clubs that bring in the number of members in their category, as specified below, during a given fiscal year receive a Year-Round Growth Membership Excellence Banner Patch. The club categories, and number of new members necessary to receive the patch for the category, are as follows:

- ◆ Clubs with 21 or fewer members: bring in 3 or more new members

- ◆ Clubs with 22-40 members: bring in 5 or more new members
- ◆ Clubs with 41 or more members: bring in 8 or more new members

Additionally, the top three clubs (one from each of the three size categories above) from each constitutional area with the greatest number of new members and positive net growth during the fiscal year will receive a Lions Clubs International Flag Set.

Year Round Growth Outreach Strategy

Consider utilizing a calendar to guide or focus your invitation efforts. Give each month a different membership demographic, enabling your club to concentrate on the wide range of potential members available in your community. Consider the following sample calendar:

- ◆ August/September - Students & Leo Lions
- ◆ October - Traditional membership growth
- ◆ November/December - Family members
- ◆ January Target demographic groups
- ◆ February/March Women members
- ◆ April New member induction

May/June Club development

JOIN TOGETHER PROGRAM

The Join Together program was created to grow membership and service by encouraging other community-based non-profit organizations to join Lions Clubs International.

The price structure for this program will have two different options, using the same model as the pilot program:

Existing groups of 15 or more people can form a new self-standing Lions club.

- The expense for a Lions Club charter fee is reduced to a flat rate of US \$300 per club.

Existing groups of five or more people can form a club branch of an existing Lion.

- For club branches, the entrance fee for new members is waived.

Any organization that partners with a Lions Club must be in place for at least three years.

Goal for this program is to connect with local non-government organizations to create best practices to

recruit young professionals in their communities. With these best practices gained, look to put these best practices gained into Lions.

The Join Together program will create stories of impact for Lions in the community.

- Success story collected through GAT
- Collect testimonials from the non-governmental organizations, to state the benefits of working with local Lions Clubs.
- Create a focus group with non-governmental organizations to continue growth of best practices of Lions to assist other Lions in building partnerships in their communities.

Program Material Resources

- New Club Online training course
- Start a New Club webpage
- Join Together Power Point Presentation
- Join Together Flyer
- Partnership Guide

LIONS WORLDWIDE INDUCTION DAY

The program provides an organized event to encourage membership recruitment and coordinated public relations to increase public awareness.

Concept

The program is planned around a high-profile induction ceremony conducted in April by each district on the same day around the world, preferably during a district and multiple district convention or another event. Each district develops a special program to honor new inductees. Many districts will organize a single district-wide event; other districts will encourage clubs and zones to develop their own program to honor the day. Lions Clubs International will provide participating districts and clubs with a planning guide, special commemorative new member certificates for each new inductee, and news releases for participating club presidents.

Implementation

The ceremony may include all Lions inducted during the year or during a membership campaign

designated by the governor and may feature a special speaker or unique program. To make the program memorable, clubs and districts may consider organizing a group service project to show Lions' commitment to service, design a special presentation that underscores the importance of Lions clubs to the community or host a reception in honor of the new members. To gain media coverage, participants are asked to invite city officials and the media to participate in the event.

This year has been a year like no other, many clubs and districts have been successful in forming new clubs and recruiting new members. Let's celebrate that accomplishment together on Worldwide Induction Day.

A planning guide and special certificates are available to help you organize your event. For more information, please send your request to the New Clubs and Marketing Department:

Lions Clubs International

New Clubs and Marketing Department

300 W. 22nd Street, Oak Brook,

IL 60523-8842 USA Fax: 630-571-1691

E-mail: inductionday@lionsclubs.org

REDISTRICTING

All redistricting proposals require the International Board of Directors' approval. Redistricting includes: Creating a multiple district from a single district, Adding sub-districts to an existing multiple district, Dividing or combining any one or more sub-districts, Any changes to the boundary of existing sub-districts, and Merging of adjacent sub-districts. All redistricting proposals be submitted and filed with District and Club Administration Division 60 days prior to the October board meeting.

REDISTRICTING OF DISTRICTS:

Districts (single, -sub or multiple districts) seeking to redistrict must submit the following: A list of clubs with membership that would comprise each proposed sub-district, with each sub-district having minimum of 35 clubs with 1,250 members in good standing 60 days prior to the board meeting. A map clearly defining the proposed boundary lines or changes in boundary lines for each district. Payment of US\$500 as a redistricting fee. Districts and

multiple districts submitting a request must include copy of the minutes duly certified. It should be noted that only a majority vote, and not a two-third vote, is required for consideration by the International Board of Directors.

MERGER/REDUCTION OF DISTRICTS:

A multiple district that is consolidating one or more sub-districts that have fewer than 35 clubs and 1,250 members to increase the number of members per sub-district must also submit the documentation but is not required to submit a payment. Approval is required from the convention of the multiple district.

MULTIPLE DISTRICT REDISTRICTING:

A multiple district proposing to redistrict, but is not changing sub-district lines, must also submit Minutes showing the approval of the proposal and subsequent district name changes by a two-thirds vote of the district cabinet members from two-thirds of the districts.

KEY MESSAGES

When talking to the media and others in your community about your Lions club and Lions Clubs International, it is helpful to know what messages you want to get across. Please review the Key Messages below now and prior to interviews, activities where the media might be present and visits to other organizations and schools.

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization, with a network of 1.4 million men and women in more than 210 countries and geographical locations. We serve where we live, as well as globally, and we have fun doing it.

Our global foundation raises funds to provide grants and develops programs to empower the service of Lions and Leos around the world. LCIF has awarded more than US\$1.2 billion in grant funding since its inception in 1968 to magnify the impact of Lions and bring sustainable solutions to the communities that

need us. One hundred percent of every donation goes to support LCIF grants and programs.

Though well known for its successful initiatives and many ways Lions serve locally, we also work together to support global causes such as the Childhood Cancer, Diabetes, Disaster Relief, Environment, Hunger, Vision and Youth.

Lions give 100 percent of donations to our causes. We cover all our costs through our dues.

Lions make a difference everyday everywhere. Whether by organizing a pancake breakfast fundraiser or building a wheelchair ramp for someone in need, we are a hands-on organization.

KEY QUESTIONS

Please take time to review the following Key Questions and suggested answers. Practice answering these questions with your fellow Lions and always remember to accentuate the positive.

Who are the Lions?

Lions are an international network of 1.4 million individuals dedicated to making a difference locally and globally. It may be noted that women are the single fastest growing segment of Lions.

What do Lions do?

Lions meet the needs of our communities and the world, ranging from assisting the visually impaired and working with local youth to medical missions and disaster relief.

How are Lions relevant to today's world?

Since 1917, Lions have met the needs in their communities and continued to improve the areas in which they live. As long as there are needs around the world, we will work to meet those needs.

How do I become a Lion?

If you are interested in becoming a Lion, contact your local Lions club and express interest in learning more.

A club locator can be found on the Lions Clubs International Web site www.lionsclubs.org.

As in other community organizations, is the membership of Lions declining?

No. Lions membership is increasing. Programs such as Family Clubs, Leo Clubs, Campus Lions Clubs and New Century Lions Clubs, are helping us adapt to meet the growing needs of the world around us.

I would like to volunteer in my community but why should I do so as a Lion?

Lions meet the needs of those in their own communities as well as around the world and we have fun doing it. Working together locally and internationally, the worldwide network of Lions has vastly more resources and is able to accomplish much more than individuals and small groups working alone.

PROTOCOL ISSUES

Head Table Seating

The presiding officer or meeting chairperson must always be seated at the most central seat at the table. When there is no central podium-seat, the principal speaker would occupy seat 2, then other Lion dignitaries in accordance with the general order of precedence. If possible, there should be the same number of seats to the right and left of the chairperson or presiding officer.

Figure 1 (Audience)

7	5	3	1	2	4	6
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As shown in figure 2, seating at a head table with a podium is essentially the same, except the meeting chairperson or presiding officer is always seated at the left of the podium (facing the audience) and the principal speaker at the right.

Figure 2 (Audience)

7	5	3	1	Podium	2	4	6	8
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When spouses are present, they should be seated to the member's left when on the left side of the table, and to the member's right when on the right side of the table.

General Comments

When a Lion holds more than one title, he/she shall be recognized for the highest one. In areas that have positions in addition to those listed, they should be recognized in accordance with local customs, provided that elective officers always have precedence over appointive ones. It is recommended that Melvin Jones Fellows be recognized as a group. In introducing speakers, their status as Melvin Jones Fellows should be mentioned.

National Anthems

When official representatives of the International Board of Directors (whether or not currently serving on the board) from another country are present at an event where national anthems are normally played, they should be extended the privilege of having their anthem played.

LIONS MENTORING PROGRAM

The objective is to help every member achieve the goal of better serving his or her community through a program of personal development that helps members realize the potential that their unique skills and knowledge offer. It prepares them for leadership in clubs, association and in their personal lives as well.

The Lions Mentoring Program is completed in two parts, basic and advanced. Each part is completed in two levels.

Basic Mentoring Program

- **Level One, The Responsibility of Being a Lion:** The first level of the Basic Mentoring Program is devoted to developing an understanding of who Lions are, their vision of humanitarian service, the traditions, the organizational structure and the responsibility of being a Lions club member. It should be a goal of every club that all new Lions complete the level one in their first three months of membership.
- **Level Two, Relationships:** The second level of the Basic Mentoring Program is for developing

relationships and organizational skills in preparation for leadership at the club level. Level two should be completed in the new Lion's first six months of membership.

Advanced Mentoring

The goals of the Lions Advanced Mentoring Program are to see results and to provide replication.

- **Level One, Results:** The emphasis of this level is upon developing accountability for results by focusing on community projects and programs that provide useful and needed humanitarian service. Completion of this level provides a stepping-stone for accepting a leadership role within the club.
- **Level Two, Replication:** This level concentrates on the mentee's role in developing others for leadership in the association and for humanitarian service. It ensures long-range growth and can serve as a basis for leadership within the district structure. This phase can be augmented with additional training at district level and at area forums.

PEACE POSTER CONTEST

For over three decades Lions clubs around the world have proudly sponsored the Lions International Peace Poster Contest in local schools and youth groups. This art contest for kids encourages young people worldwide to express their visions of peace.

The theme of the 2023-2024 Peace Poster Contest is "Dare to Dream".

To a young person, a dream isn't just a wish, hope or desire- it's a path, a goal, an ambition. But achieving that dream takes hard work. So this year, we're asking young people to show how they'll turn their dream of a peaceful world into reality.

Students, ages 11, 12 or 13 as of November 15, are eligible to participate.

Peace Poster Contest Judging

Each poster is judged on originality, artistic merit and expression of the theme.

Posters advance through several judging levels: local, district, multiple district and international. At

the international level, judges from the art, peace, youth, education and media communities select one grand prize winner and 23 merit award winners.

Peace Poster Contest Awards

International winners will be notified on or before February 1.

- ◆ One international grand prize winner will receive US\$5,000 and a trip to a special award ceremony.
- ◆ Each of the 23 merit award winners will receive a cash award of US\$500 and a certificate of achievement.

Peace Poster Contest Participant Information

To learn more about the Lions International Peace Poster Contest, please view the LCI website.



LIONS INTERNATIONAL PEACE POSTER CONTEST

PEACE ESSAY CONTEST

International Peace Essay Contest created to give an opportunity for visually impaired young people to express their feelings of peace, the International Essay Contest is a staple of Lions clubs around the world. Lions work with local schools and area families to identify young people who are interested in participating and who could benefit from this program. One grand prize winner will receive an award and US\$5,000.

The theme of the 2023-2024 Essay Contest is "Dare to Dream".

To a young person, a dream isn't just a wish, hope or desire — it's a path, a goal, an ambition. But achieving that dream takes hard work. So this year, we're asking young people to show how they'll turn their dream of a peaceful world into reality.

Contest Guidelines

Students who are visually impaired, ages 11, 12 or

13 on November 15, are eligible to participate. Each essay must be submitted with a completed entry form. Essays must be no longer than 500 words in length, submitted in English, typed in black ink and double-spaced



LIONS INTERNATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

Essay



LEO PROGRAM

Leading for Life

Leo clubs provide young people with an opportunity for development and contribution – individually and collectively – as responsible members of their local, national and international communities.

Leo Club Motto

- ◆ Leadership: Leo members acquire skills as project organizers and motivators of their peers.
- ◆ Experience: They discover how teamwork and cooperation can bring about change in their community and the world.
- ◆ Opportunity: Leos develop positive traits and receive recognition for their contributions.

For Young People Who Care

Leo clubs are open to young people with good character who have an interest in serving their communities. Leo clubs are divided into two tracks: Alpha and Omega.

Alpha Leo Clubs are designed for youth between 12

and 18 years old. This track focuses on the individual and social development of teens and preteens.

Omega Leo Clubs are tailored for young adults between 18 and 30 years old. This track encourages the personal and professional development of young adults.

Youth interested in joining a Leo club can use the [Club Locator](#) tool to find a Leo club in their community and visit the [Leos section](#) in our Member Center for more information.

Make a Difference – Sponsor a Leo Club

Sponsoring a Leo club provides Lions with opportunities to mentor and empower young leaders while fostering a commitment to community service. Through involvement with a Leo club, Lions can energize and inspire members and even increase the sponsoring club's community exposure, attracting potential members such as young professionals, students, parents and families.

LCIF GRANT PROGRAMS

SightFirst Grants



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

SightFirst supports high-quality, cost-effective, equitable, and sustainable eye care projects that focus on infrastructure development, human resource training, eye care service delivery and eye health education. Applications for SightFirst grants are due no later than 90 days prior to the start of the SightFirst Advisory Committee meetings.

Regional SightFirst Technical Advisors should be consulted throughout the entire application process.

Hunger Grants

Through the LCIF Hunger Grant, Lions can support school based feeding programs, food banks, feeding centers, and similar facilities that provide food to people when they need it most.

Grants are available to Lions districts in amounts of US\$10,000 to US\$100,000. Hunger Grants support infrastructure and equipment acquisition of Lions'

projects focused on alleviating hunger. Funds can be used for a project's capital needs and select project operational expenses during the start-up period.

Childhood Cancer Grants

Childhood Cancer Grants are available to Lions districts and multiple districts in amounts from US\$10,000 to US\$150,000. Projects must be implemented in coordination or collaboration with existing government or charitable childhood cancer medical facilities.

District & Club Community Impact Grants (DCG)

Through the District & Club Community Impact Grants program, 15 percent of unrestricted contributions to LCIF are transformed into grants that fund local projects on a club and/or district level.

Donations may be made throughout the year, and grants can be applied for in the following Lions year. The District & Club Community Impact Grant

LCIF Grant Programs (contd.)

requires a US\$5,000 minimum donation for clubs and a US\$10,000 minimum donation for districts. The minimum donation must be achieved within the fiscal year (i.e. July 1 – June 30).

Diabetes Grants

Diabetes Grants support diabetes youth camps and retreats, diabetes screening activities with comprehensive follow-up care plans, infrastructure and equipment acquisition for existing diabetes care facilities and training of professionals and community diabetes educators.

Lions districts are eligible for grants up to US\$150,000; Lions multiple districts are eligible for grants up to US\$250,000.

Leo Service Grants

Grants are available to Lions districts and multiple districts in amounts from US\$1,500 to US\$5,000 to address unmet humanitarian needs in their community. Leos must be directly involved in organizing and implementing the project.

Lions Quest Grants

Lions Quest Grants aid the implementation and expansion of Lions Quest in schools around the world. Typical project activities include workshops to train educators, the purchase of textbooks and materials for workshops, program evaluation and research. Grants can go toward the initial implementation of Lions Quest or the expansion of an existing Lions Quest program.

Up to \$50,000 for on single or sub-district, or \$150,000 for multi-districts; 3-to-1 matching grants.

Matching Grants

Matching grants provide equipment and construction for large-scale projects that address unmet humanitarian needs.

The project must serve a large population. Grants awarded are between US\$10,000 and US\$ 100,000.

Emergency Grants are awarded in amounts up to US\$10,000 immediately following natural disasters to fund distribution of relief aid.

Disaster Preparedness Grants support districts interested in partnering with local authorities and other community organizations to plan and prepare for future relief efforts. Lions' district governors may submit proposals for Disaster Preparedness Grants. Grants are awarded for up to US\$10,000.

Community Recovery Grants aid districts interested in supporting short-term cleanup and repair efforts in situations where other organizations have already addressed immediate needs. Lions' district governors may submit proposals for Community Recovery Grants. Grants awarded provide up to US\$20,000.

Major Catastrophe Grants are directed by the

LCIF Executive Committee and cannot be applied for by Lions. These grants provide significant funds for catastrophes of major international impact, such as the China earthquake, the South Asian tsunami, Hurricane Katrina and the Haiti earthquake

Designated Grants represent funds donated to LCIF restricted for specific activities and projects.

Grant Application Deadlines

Due to the establishment of the new LCIF [Board of Trustees](#), board meeting times and some grant application deadlines have changed. View the [Calendar of Events](#) on the website for updated meeting dates and application deadlines.

WAYS TO SUPPORT LCIF AND AWARDS

Contributing Member: Donors receive a colorful lapel pin for a gift of US\$20. Silver and gold levels are given for donations of US\$50 and US\$100 respectively.

Honor Roll: A certificate is given to individuals who contribute US\$100 and the recipient's name is entered on LCIF's Honor Roll at International Headquarters for the year in which the gift is received.

Melvin Jones Fellowship: Individuals who donate US\$1,000, and persons for whom such donations are made, are recognized as Melvin Jones Fellows. Melvin Jones Fellows receive a lapel pin and a personalized wall plaque.

Melvin Jones Fellowship Progressive Program: Individuals who give from US\$1,000 to US\$100,000, beyond their initial MJF donation. Melvin Jones Fellows receive a diamond, sapphire,

ruby, emerald or amethyst set in a lapel pin, consistent with the amount donated.

Humanitarian Partners: The Humanitarian Partner program honors individuals whose cumulative donations exceed US\$100,000, \$200,000, \$300,000 and \$500,000, respectively.

Friend of Humanity Award: The LCIF Friend of Humanity Award recognizes a few Lions each year who have supported LCIF at the highest level. The LCIF Chairperson determines the recipients, who are awarded with a medal.

Helping Hands Award: The LCIF Helping Hands Award recognizes Lions who promote greater awareness of and support for LCIF at the club, regional, district or multiple district level or through the media.

Corporate Recognition: An engraved plaque is presented to corporations that provide an unrestricted gift of US\$1,000 or more to the foundation.

Ways to Support LCIF and Awards (contd.)

Club Recognition: Clubs that donate US\$1,000 for which no other form of recognition is received will be given an inscribed plaque.

LCIF Legacy to Lions: Individuals may support the foundation through gift annuities and through direct gifts of cash, gifts of stock and appreciated assets.

Memorial Donations: LCIF recognizes individuals who donate to the Foundation in the memory of another.

Lions Share: Lions Share is an annual program that recognizes individual donors for three levels of support: US\$50, US\$100 and US\$200. Lions Share donations are MJF-eligible and used to support LCIF humanitarian grant programs.

LCIF DONATION FAQ

1. What is the difference between unrestricted and restricted donations?

Unrestricted donations are the most important gifts to LCIF. They are not designated for a specific need, but are used to support all LCIF programs. Restricted donations are designated to specifically created funds, such as for major natural disasters, or special initiatives, like Campaign SightFirst II.

2. Should contributions be accumulated and periodically sent to LCIF?

Funds should be forwarded without delay. Doing so ensures prompt crediting of the donor's record and issuance of LCIF recognition and awards.

3. I want to give a charitable donation directly to a humanitarian project and do not want to have it used for administrative purposes. Can I be assured of that?

Absolutely. By ruling of LCIF's Board of Trustees, all of LCIF's administrative and promotional expenses

must be paid from interest on investments. Donations are used solely for grants.

4. Can a form of recognition, such as a Melvin Jones Fellowship, be sent out before donation is received by LCIF?

LCIF board policy requires that donations must be received at headquarters before recognition can be sent. To ensure accurate and timely processing and the prompt issuance of recognition, please include necessary documentation such as a completed Melvin Jones Fellowship application form.

5. Are there donor reports available from LCIF?

Yes, LCIF provides district governors, multiple district and district LCIF coordinators with a quarterly recap of donations and several other reports. These officers can use the reports to provide information on donations and Melvin Jones Fellowships.

6. Are there other ways to make a gift to LCIF?

Yes, stocks, planned gifts, gifts of property and securities can all be made to LCIF. For more information, please visit www.lcif.org or contact LCIF staff.

SIGHT FIRST : LIONS' VISION FOR ALL

LCIF is a leader in providing support for preventing avoidable blindness and restoring sight for people around the world. Our sight programs range from developing and improving eye care systems to providing sight-restoring surgeries and treatments to distributing medications to those most at-risk for eye diseases.

Since 1990, SightFirst has played a major role in helping restore, improve and preserve the vision of millions around the world.

- ◆ More than **US\$382** million approved for over **1,437** projects in **118** countries
- ◆ **9.7** million cataract surgeries performed to restore sight
- ◆ **1,372** eye centers and training institutions built, expanded or equipped

- ◆ **2.4** million professional eye care and community health workers trained
- ◆ **204.4** million doses of Zithromax® distributed to control trachoma and more than **955,000 955,900** trachoma surgeries performed
- ◆ **327.9** million doses of Mectizan® distributed to halt the progression of onchocerciasis



LIONS QUEST

LIONS QUEST



A Program of Lions
Club International
Foundation

Lions Quest is a series of school-based education programs that provide children with essential skills to help them lead healthier lifestyles, resist drug use, and develop a positive self-image. Skills for Growing (for ages 5-10) helps primary school children develop basic social competency skills. The Skills for Adolescence program (ages 10-14), which is most widely used, guides children in developing self-discipline, good judgment, and a sense of responsibility while teaching them how to set goals and make healthy decisions. Skills for Action (ages 14-19) exposes older adolescents to volunteerism and teaches them important skills including conflict resolution. The three programs are designed to work together as children advance through critical stages into adulthood.

Lions Quest Grants

Lions Quest Program Grant

Amount: Up to \$50,000 for on single or sub-district, or \$150,000 for multi-districts; 3-to-1 matching grants.

Application: Due 90 days prior to the Lions Quest advisory meeting. May 1 application deadline for

August meeting, October 1 application deadline for January meeting and February 1 application deadline for May meeting.

Purpose: This grant opportunity is designed to support the development or expansion of the Lions Quest program where Lions have a detailed plan with commitment from local schools to implement the program, or in areas where Lions quest has been active for years but where a considerable number of schools are not covered. Applicants should also identify specific communities where needs are greatest and focus extra attention on those areas.

Lions Quest Promotional Grant

Amount: \$1,500; no matching funds required.

Applications: No deadlines—rolling applications.

Purpose: To introduce Lions Quest to a community. The grant is intended to jump start Lions Quest activities in a new area by introducing the program to community members. Funds are used for informational seminars for Lions, community members and/or educators.

Community Partnership Grant

Amount: Up to \$15,000; no matching funds required.

Application: No deadlines—rolling applications.

Purpose: To start Lions Quest programs in new areas, or reactivate dormant programs.

GLOBAL CAUSES



DIABETES



VISION



HUNGER



ENVIRONMENT



CHILDHOOD
CANCER



YOUTH



DISASTER
RELIEF



HUMANITARIAN

Every journey begins with a single step. One act of service, one encouraging word, one gift of generosity is often all it takes to bring hope where it's needed most.

Over the last 100 years, the kindness of Lions and Leos has multiplied across borders, oceans, and continents. With over 1.4 million members, we now have an opportunity to truly change our world.

That's why we're uniting our global service around eight areas of need. These Global Causes present significant challenges to humanity, and we believe it's our turn to meet them.

DIABETES

We serve to reduce the prevalence of diabetes and improve quality of life for those diagnosed.

VISION

We serve to prevent avoidable blindness and improve quality of life for people who are blind and visually impaired.

HUNGER

We serve to ensure all community members have access to nutritious foods.

ENVIRONMENT

We serve to sustainably protect and restore our environment to improve the well-being of all communities.

CHILDHOOD CANCER

Lions and Leos provide support for the needs of children and families affected by childhood cancer through impactful service activities.

YOUTH

We are committed to providing youth and young adults with opportunities to succeed.

DISASTER RELIEF

When disaster strikes, we respond. We provide 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.

HUMANITARIAN

Lions support the wide variety of humanitarian efforts implemented and coordinated by Lions and give grants to increase their scale and effectiveness.

DISTRICT & CLUB COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS

Through the District & Club Community Impact Grants program, 15 percent of unrestricted contributions to LCIF are transformed into grants that fund local projects on a club and/or district level.

About

Donations may be made throughout the year, and grants can be applied for in the following Lions year. The District & Club Community Impact Grant requires a US\$5,000 minimum donation for clubs and a US\$10,000 minimum donation for districts. The minimum donation must be achieved within the fiscal year (i.e. July 1 – June 30). Clubs and districts that meet this requirement are eligible to receive a grant, which they must apply for in the following fiscal year.

Learn More

District and clubs qualifying for the program will have the option to use earned funds to carry out local projects and access those funds through the submission of a District and Club Community Impact Grant Application or use them as part of the local matching funds component of other LCIF grant program applications. Clubs have the opportunity to retain their DCG funds for the use of their club, or to release those funds to their district to be counted toward the district's DCG account.

Additional information on the District and Club Community Impact Grants program can be found at lionsclubs.org.

NEW MEMBER'S PLEDGE

"I (name) do hereby accept membership in the Lions Club of

knowing that the membership obligates me to participate in all functions of the Club. To the best of my ability I will abide by the Lions Code of Ethics, attend meetings regularly, accept such assignments as are given to me and contribute my share to the programmes of my Club, my District and Lions International."

SPONSOR'S PLEDGE

"I (give your name) having sponsored (give new member's name) as a member of Lions Club of do hereby pledge myself to see that he is properly indoctrinated in the activities and functions of the Club and Lionism. I further pledge myself to the best of my ability to see to it that he attends all club functions and that he becomes a good Lion.

REDEDICATION PLEDGE

Recongnising the debt we owe to the vision and leadership of the founders of Lionism, Melvin Jones, at the International, as well as the club level, I hereby reaffirm my dedication to the high principles of our organization, as reflected in our Code of Ethics and Lions Objects, and pledge myself to meet with renewed vigour the challenge to service wherever the need may be found.

GAT



The GAT is a powerful bridge between Lions and the international association. It's a field team specifically designed to connect clubs, districts, leaders and beyond to tools and resources developed to improve their service impact.

Global Action Team (GAT) Focus Areas

1. District Goals

The district goals process gives incoming district teams the opportunity to develop goals and action plans that support the needs of their districts and unify the teams' vision for a successful year ahead. In turn, these teams will have a year devoted to reinvigorating, rebuilding and reviving our districts through increased service activities, membership growth, leadership development and support for LCIF.

2. Feedback Loop

Feedback is essential to success in our work as Lions and members of the GAT. Specialists from Lions

Clubs International will rely on all levels of the GAT to collect feedback on new initiatives, challenges and successes.

3. Success Stories Funding

The GAT message is best shared through storytelling: stories that focus on a one-team approach and highlight how each pillar of the structure contributes to the others. Stories may be featured in social media or the Lions blog, so send your GAT success story to GAT@lionsclubs.org.

The GAT Success Story Funding program offers the opportunity to receive funding to support the needs of their area through the sharing and celebration of successes.

Marketing and Communication

Social Media: In order to drive membership growth and retention, leadership, and service at the club and district level, empower Lions to use social media.

Blog: The GAT utilizes the [Lions Blog](#) to highlight success stories. Discover what Lions around the world have been doing and share your own story on GAT Webpage.

GAT (contd.)

Branding: The Lions Clubs International [Brand Guidelines](#) help us consistently represent our identity as the world's premier service organization.

Product Ambassador Program: Launched in 2020, the Product Ambassador Program is a smaller group of engaged Lions who work closely with staff at Lions Clubs International to provide constructive feedback that will help improve our digital products.

Virtual Engagement : COVID-19 has changed the way we live, work and serve. Lions around the world are finding new ways to connect in their communities. GAT Leaders are encouraged to work with their Lions virtually in order to maintain member engagement.

GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP APPROACH

The Global Membership Approach equips districts to develop membership through a strategic process focused on:

- ◆ Rejuvenating districts with new clubs
- ◆ Revitalizing clubs with new members
- ◆ Re-motivating existing members with fellowship and exciting service.

The approach has universal applicability, with the ability to customize based on regional needs and circumstances.

The goal of the Global Membership Approach is positive membership growth. This goal is fundamental to the broader goal of the strategic plan: to be the global leader in community and humanitarian service.

Similarly, many of the strategies outlined in the strategic plan will directly and indirectly support the objectives of the Global Membership Approach.

The Global Membership Approach will be delivered at the district level. Many of the programs and resources developed through the strategic plan will

be implemented at the international level, such as repositioning the global causes, or club level, such as increasing member satisfaction with their club experience. As such, the strategic plan will support, not replace the district action plans developed through the Global Membership Approach.

Global Membership Approach Defined

Global Membership Approach combines a strategic process and a set of resources. The goals are focused on membership growth through new club development. The 4-step process is universal, and customizable based on regional needs:

1. Build a Team

Build a team to support the Global Membership Approach.

2. Build a Vision

Conduct an analysis of your district and develop goals to best serve its needs.

3. Build a Plan

Build a plan as a team to achieve the established vision.

4. Build Success

Execute your plan, maintain accountability and adjust as necessary.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Leadership Development Institute Grant Program

The Faculty Development Institute (FDI) provides Lions and Leos with foundational knowledge and skills to train at the club, district and multiple district levels. The curriculum focuses on training delivery and techniques to facilitate in-person instruction.

The Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI) prepares Lions and Leos for leadership positions throughout the association and may be customized to accommodate the needs of each area. Qualified candidates are ready to pursue leadership roles within their Lions communities. Club leaders would benefit from attending

The Advanced Lions Leadership Institute (ALLI) focuses on developing leadership skills

including project management, conflict resolution and team building. Qualified candidates are Lions and Leos who have completed a successful term as club president and have a desire to lead at the zone, region and district levels.

The Lions Certified Instructor Program (LCIP) provides training and certifies Lions who wish to serve as faculty at the international level, including the FVDG/DGE Seminar. Qualified candidates have prior experience (Lions or professional) in training or education. The curriculum is designed to enhance existing knowledge and optimize skills for adult learning.

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT THEME: 2023-2024

Changing the World

There's an old saying – It's the journey, not the destination. Changing the world is a journey. There's no middle and no end. There is, however, a beginning.

With every small act of service, you contribute one step towards change. It's up to each of us to simply begin. Like rain filling a bucket, we can change the world one drop at a time.

In fact, we are all changing the world with every decision we make. Truly meaningful changes will occur when we are intentional about the *kind* of changes we want to make. When we strive to make positive changes—in our lives and in the lives of others—we put *good* into the world.

Lions have been doing our part to change the world for more than 100 years. In every project we do, with every donation we make, we contribute to positive

change in our communities. As we fill our own buckets, our communities rise with us.

We are all connected. When we see that connection, boundaries and barriers disappear. We realize that while global challenges may seem daunting, there is always a place where we can begin. The place is here. The time is now.

Our world is a beautiful place. Let the rain fall. Drop by drop, fill your bucket. Help those around you fill theirs. Every day, in big ways and in small, let's serve to make our world an even better place for all.

BE THE CHANGE

Change Begins One Step at a Time

We change the world one life, one relationship, one community at a time.

Here are some great ways to get started.

Create a greener, cleaner environment. Protecting and improving our environment is a great way to engage with our communities. By helping to protect and restore our natural resources, we can

International President Theme: 2023-2024 (contd.)

literally change the world. Let's act boldly, and let's act now.

Share your story with the world.

Developing great marketing skills can help you tell the world who you are and what you do. Social media and local media, and online and offline marketing give you new ways to tell your stories. Shine a light on your club and invite your community to be a part of the change as Lions and Leos.

Reach your service potential.

People want to be a part of something that matters. So set service goals that push your capacity and create opportunities for even more impact with new members. Find ways to ensure your club is inclusive and welcoming to all.

Empower even greater good.

Our foundation empowers us to do so much more than we can do alone. LCIF enables us to think big and undertake projects that can truly change the world. So, support LCIF, and let LCIF support you.

MISSION 1.5

Mission 1.5 Goal and Objectives

This is an initiative to grow the Association to at least 1.5 million members no later than the end of LY 2026-27, so as to be able to serve at least 1 billion annually. Towards this end of growing membership:

- All CAs to achieve positive net growth no later than July 2027.
- All districts to achieve a net gain in the number of clubs.
- All clubs to be encouraged to induct new members during the campaign.
- Districts to be encouraged to incorporate strategies to attract a more diverse membership.

Towards the achievement of the goal of 1.5 million, recognitions would be provided to those individuals and clubs who contribute for the same.

The Executive Officers will work closely with the GAT team on a regular basis for accomplishment of the goal.

Benefits of Membership Growth

The need to grow membership will help strengthen districts and clubs in all parts of the world. By achieving Mission 1.5, Lions will have:

- ◆ **An increased capacity for service:** With more members, Lions Clubs and their districts will be able to serve more communities and individuals.
- ◆ **Greater diversity and inclusion:** This creates a deeper understanding of community needs, and more effective service delivery.
- ◆ **Increased reach and Influence:** More members will raise awareness and support for important causes and bring about positive change in the world.
- ◆ **Stronger Clubs and Districts:** More members will mean that clubs and districts will have more resources, providing funding and manpower for more service activities and initiatives and creating a greater impact on the communities served.