

# 5M4 Newsletter



## Time to Serve



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## Spring is here!

The green grass is starting to appear, some are mowing their lawns already, spring planting is about to begin and club visits are in full swing! More and more clubs are starting to meet in person as Lions members have been vaccinated and are ready to get out, meet and start serving their communities again in many of the traditional ways...ditch walking, smelt/ fish fries, food drives, shoe collecting for Souls for Soles, popcorn stands and so much more!

Please consider doing a membership drive or bring a friend to Lions for your next meeting! We are down in membership and need to reverse that by the end of June! I launched my membership contest last month and want to encourage all clubs to actively participate and recruit new members! This contest runs from April 1st-June 1st and the club with the most new members will win a cookout!! Remember, new member dues are waived through June 30th! I can't wait to see your clubs and District 5M4 grow our membership!

Please make sure you register for the FREE MD5M convention on Saturday, May 1st, ASAP! We need Lions members from 5M4 and delegates to get registered PRIOR to the meeting date! We will be voting to endorse PDG JoAnn Odgen from Canada for International Director of CA-2.

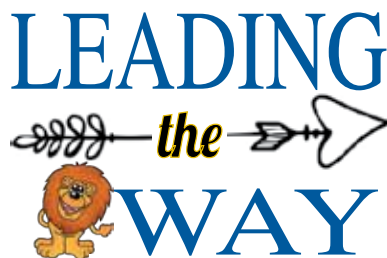
Lastly, I encourage you to look at your calendars and contact me to schedule a club visit.

Thank you for your service and being a Lions member!  
District Governor Kellie Knudson



District Governor Kellie Knudson

**CONTACT KELLIE  
NOW  
TO SET UP YOUR  
CLUB 'VISIT'!  
320-226-4156  
OR E-MAIL:  
lionkellieknudson  
@gmail.com  
FORM INSIDE**



DG Kellie Knudson is pictured with Lion Mark Reicks of the Osakis Lions presenting a check for \$50 payable to Can Do Canines. DG Kellie visited the Osakis Lions on April 19. She presented information and encouraged the Osakis Lions to recruit and retain new members. COVID prevented the club from celebrating their 50th anniversary in 2020. Plans will begin to observe the milestone event at a later date.





**Lion Karla Athman and  
 1st VDG Lion Marty Athman**

## Greetings everyone

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable Easter Season.

Spring continues to be a busy time, lots of summer planning going on, lots of spring clean up to do. Thank goodness that it stays light later into the evening now so that I have a bit more time to complete some of these things.

I am just now starting my Virtual DGE Training Seminar. This is replacing the in-person training that we were supposed to have in Illinois last February. This will continue for the next 6 weeks. My group is Group #18, and consists of 26 Lions from Illinois, Texas, California, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Idaho, Australia and

New Zealand. It's been fun getting to know them all virtually with the meetings we have been able to have so far. We usually let the Australians do most of the talking since they have the coolest accents!! J

We are still trying to fill a last few positions on next year's Cabinet. Contact myself, DG Kellie, or 1st VDGE Rob if you or someone you know, would have any interest in serving on the Cabinet.

We are in the middle of our Membership Contest. The Club with the most new members between April 1 and June 1 gets a burger cookout from probably 3 of the best cooks in our District!! I don't think I am giving away any secrets here, but I have it on good authority that Rob does an amazing little dance while he is grilling burgers!! "You have to see it to believe it" is the word on the street! I hope that everyone gives the contest a good effort. It's a win-win, your club gets new members AND a scrumptious meal!

### *Some upcoming dates to remember are:*

*International Conv. June 25-29.*

*USA-Canada Leadership Forum Sept 9-11.*

*Regional Lions Leadership Institute – Detroit Lakes October 21-24.*

*Thanks for ALL that you do!!*

DGE Marty



## What's happening!?

*Sunday I was running the a/c in my car at noon and the heater at 4pm. In just hours complete change. This is how things have been going lately. With what is happening in the world around us adaptability is key to success. There are a lot of things we can not control. There are more things we can control. Some of the things we can control is our attitude and our ability to be helpful and encouraging to others. We can lead by example. The time has come to give others the opportunity to be part of this great organization.*

*District Governor Kelly has a goal to be plus 2 members per club this year. That does not only mean we need to add two new members to our clubs we need to retain the members we have also. The easiest way to get new members is ask. Most people won't ask you, but as soon as you ask them they feel wanted. Ask in a different way. Offer them the opportunity to be part of the club. Let them know not everyone gets this opportunity. Let them know Lions is the largest service organization in the world. It is a privilege to be part of such a great organization. Remember DG Kelly's challenge. Let's do our part to help her reach her goals.*

*On the GLT front I am still interested in doing successfest. I have just not received a lot of positive feedback on any type of training. I am willing to do one on one training for MY LION or MY LCI. If you have any questions on either one please don't hesitate. Contact me and I can either come to you or talk you through it over the phone. Remember USA/CANADA forum is live this year in Des Moines Iowa. What a great opportunity. It is just a scenic drive from anywhere in the district. Take advantage of the closeness of this great event. Me and my wife will be attending.*

*Lastly on the DG front I am excited to say we will be doing more in person training this year. I am truly looking forward to learning as much as possible. So I can help lead the greatest district in the multiple. (At least in my opinion it is)*

*Like I always say, if you have any questions thoughts or concerns. Do not hesitate to contact me. I may not have all the answers, but I do have the phone to one who does.*



**2nd VDG Lion Rob Wiener  
and Lion Jo Wiener**

1VDGE/GLT

Lion Rob Wiener

5m4lionrob@gmail.com, 320 241 7100



### 2021 MD5M Convention – status updates as of 3.11.2021

District 5M2 would like to invite you to the 2021 MD5M convention “Bend in the River III - Join the Jamboree” on May 1, 2021 for a one-day virtual convention!

REGISTRATION IS FREE!!! **Register today** via online registration on the MD5M website ([lionsmd5m.org/Conventions/MD5M Multiple Convention/2021 Online Convention Registration](https://lionsmd5m.org/Conventions/MD5M%20Multiple%20Convention/2021%20Online%20Convention%20Registration) (Eventbrite). An in-depth letter explaining the convention changes was sent to all club Presidents and Secretaries in the Multiple with email addresses at the end of February. If you either your club president or secretary did not receive a copy of the letter, please contact your District Governor or [convention@lionsmd5m.org](mailto:convention@lionsmd5m.org).

As the convention nears, there will be links available to access Zoom and Facebook live for convention participation. This is an exciting year for the 2021 convention that will give the opportunity for all of you to join! There is no traveling required, no registration fee, no hotel or meal costs. An exciting fun filled day will be had by all! Do not miss this opportunity to Join the Jamboree!

#### Tentative schedule—beginning at 8 a.m.

- Welcome
- Service of Remembrance (2020 & 2021)
- Opening Ceremony
- Business meeting with online voting, which will include voting to endorse PDG Joanne Ogden, District 5M10, as International Director representing Constitutional Area 2, Canada
- Keynote speaker—PIP Frank Moore. Past International President Frank was President in 2001-02 and has been our current LCI Executive Administrator and Secretary in Oakbrook for numerous years.
- Awards—Peace Poster, International Essay Contest, Hall of Fame (2020 & 2021), Al Jensen Awards (2020 & 2021)
- Afternoon speakers (online) - three University of MN speakers -
  - MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation, Dr. Lucie Turcotte from Masonic Childrens Hospital
  - MN Lions Hearing Foundation, Dr. Bevan Yueh, Department of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery.
  - MN Lions Vision Foundation, Dr. Joshua Hou – Medical Director, Lions Gift of Sight and Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Neurosciences

Watch for additional information on virtual voting, silent auction and annual Foundation meetings as well as a separate flyer explaining a service project challenge to all MD5M clubs.

District 5M-2 is Looking forward to seeing you all ***Joining the Jamboree at the Bend in the River III – MD5M 2021 Convention!***



# Lions Children's Hearing Center 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WALK



## JUNE 5, 2021 9:30AM

We are going virtual this year for our walk to D-Feet Hearing Loss! Although we won't gather, the important work of the Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation doesn't stop so join us on June 5th wherever you are to support hearing health!

Your participation in this fundraiser helps us continue to meet our commitments to the Lions Children's Hearing Center at the University of Minnesota and the Department of Otolaryngology at the U of M. Kids are diagnosed and treated six days a week at the Lions Children's Hearing Center. Thanks to the Foundation's pledge to fund the new sound booth construction and equipment purchases, you can help us and the U of M provide support to even more kids! In addition, we continue funding research projects to find new cures and treatments for patients experiencing hearing issues and our Professorship endowment will facilitate teaching students who will help those with hearing loss well into the future.

YOU can help continue this important work by participating in our virtual walk on June 5. TOGETHER, we can all do our part to help D-Feet Hearing Loss!



To learn more visit us at:  
[5mhf.org](http://5mhf.org) or at [facebook.com/5mhf.org](https://facebook.com/5mhf.org)

**WANTED**  
APPLY TODAY

**2022 CABINET MEMBERS**

**DESCRIPTION**

- ENERGETIC
- FORWARD THINKING
- CREATIVE
- DETERMINED

INDIVIDUALS.

**REWARD**

MANY REWARDING EXPERIENCES

**ELBOW LAKE LIONS CLUB**  
4-9 P.M.  
**Augtoberfest**  
BEER • FOOD • MUSIC • GAMES  
**Sat., August 28, 2021**  
Barrett MN Lakeside Pavilion & Grounds  
**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Your Ticket includes: Authentic German Food, 1 Adult Beverage, Free Games, Live Music, Dancing, Prizes!

# Walleye Tournament

Osakis Lions Club will be hosting their 40th Annual Lake Osakis Walleye Tournament on Saturday, June 19, 2021, in Osakis, MN. This will be a one-day CPR (Catch-Photo-Release) tournament. First place prize money of \$8,000 will be awarded to the winning team with \$4,000 for 2nd place, \$2,000 for 3rd place, and prizes for the top ten teams. In addition, \$1,500 for the largest walleye and \$375 for the 2nd largest walleye will be awarded. Cash payoff is based on a full field of 75 teams – payoff decreases proportionately to the number of entrants.

More information can be found on Facebook @ Osakis Lions Walleye Tournament. For inquiries and/or entry forms, please call Shad at 320-760-8777 or Dan at 320-250-3078.



Mn Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation Inc.

**Believe Award  
Application**

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Recipient:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please check:

\_\_\_\_\_ Memorial Donation \$1,000.00, given in memory of a deceased Lion or non-Lion.

\_\_\_\_\_ Cumulative Award - Accumulated gifts over time resulting in a \$1,000.00 donation.

Mail or Email Application to:

Lion Genia Sjerven  
14496 Geneva Ave N  
Hugo MN 55038  
[sjerven@gmail.com](mailto:sjerven@gmail.com)

Mail Award to: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_



**2020-2021 CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD APPLICATION**  
*Club must be chartered prior to January 1 of the fiscal year to qualify*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Club Number	Club Name	District
Member Number	2020-2021 Club President's Name	Email Address

**1. MEMBERSHIP**

Achieved a net growth of: \_\_\_\_\_ **or** Chartered new Lions club, Leo Club or Club Branch:  
Name of club, or branch: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. SERVICE**

- Contributed to LCIF
- Started a new service project. *Consider one of our Global Causes!*
- List Three projects/events hosted by the club:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**3. ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

Club is in Good Standing: Not in Status Quo or Financial Suspension. District dues paid and no unpaid balance with LCI greater than US\$50 outstanding 90 days or more.

Key Officers participate in one or more of the following leadership training events. *Select all that apply:*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District              | <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple District |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International         | <input type="checkbox"/> Webinars          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lions Learning Center |  |

Improved club operations. Use the Club Quality Initiative to identify opportunities for improving your club.  
Improvements include: \_\_\_\_\_

**4. MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION**

The club has publicized its service activities through local media or social media. Choose all that apply:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook                | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Paper                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Instagram               | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Twitter                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Website                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Billboards              | <input type="checkbox"/> Posted or Distributed Flyers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentations to Groups |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____             |   |

District	2020-2021 District Governor Signature*	Member Number	Date
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**Due by:** August 31, 2021

**Send to:** [clubexcellenceaward@lionsclubs.org](mailto:clubexcellenceaward@lionsclubs.org) or fax to (630) 468-6828

**Awards Mailed to:** 2021-2022 District Governors

\*If sent from district governor's registered email, it qualifies as signature on applications submitted electronically.

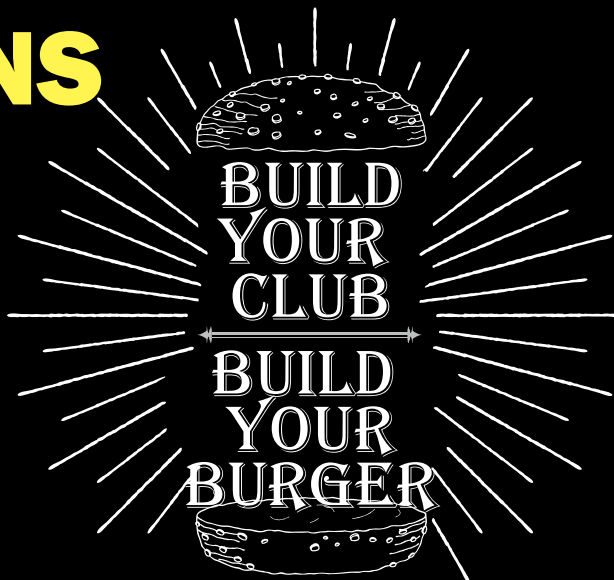
Request for review of award eligibility from a disqualified club will be considered only if received at International Headquarters within 12 months after completion of the fiscal year, provided that the original application form is already filed at LCI.





# 5M4 LIONS

## MEMBERSHIP CONTEST



**April 1st to June 1st, 2021**

The club with the most new members during this time period will win a burger cook out from District Governor Kellie Knudson, DGE Marty Athmann and 1st VDGE Rob Wiener!

### TRY ONE OF THESE EASY ITEMS TO BUILD MEMBERSHIP!

Try a membership drive

Bring a guest to your next meeting

(spouses, co-workers, church friends, business co-workers, etc.)

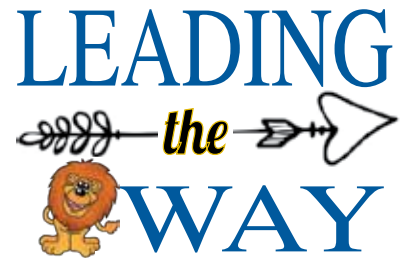
Letters or personal contact with local businesses

Contact with Chamber of Commerce

Place customized bookmarks in library books

Host an Open House

**DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!**



**PUT YOUR EVENT ON THE 5M4 WEBSITE!**

**Please let us know if you'd like us to post your 5M4 club event.**

**Send to patrickposl@gmail.com**

Lion Kellie Knudson

District Governor 5M4

4171 340<sup>th</sup> Ave

Montevideo, MN 56265

Cell: 320-226-4156

E-mail: lionkellieknudson@gmail.com

Visitation requests are preferred for August through mid-

December and early January through late March. Two or more

clubs working together for a joint visit would be appreciated.

**Lions 5M4 2020-2021 Request for Club Visitation by Lion Kellie Knudson**

Lions Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

Lion requesting the visit: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates of preference: 1<sup>st</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of social, if held: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of meeting: \_\_\_\_\_ Will there be a meal: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Name of meeting location: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of meeting location: \_\_\_\_\_

Will there be other Lions Clubs represented? If so, please list: \_\_\_\_\_

What time will be best to meet with the executive officers? \_\_\_\_\_ Before the meeting would be preferred.

Would you like any of the following done?

District Governor Dress Code

1. Install Officers: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Formal, in uniform: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Install Members: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Casual, in comfort: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Present Awards: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Spouse able to attend: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

4. Other, Please List: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail this request form or email it to the appropriate address above. Thank you!**

**The date will be confirmed after checking the schedule and the requesting Lion is notified.**



**Minnesota Lions Hearing  
Foundation  
Hearing Research Fellowship  
Application**

The Hearing Research Fellowship Award can be presented to a club member, family member or member of the community by a local club on behalf of the MN Lions Hearing Foundation. For every \$1000 donated to the Hearing Foundation, a Club earns one recognition award. Please consult with your District Hearing Foundation Trustee to determine how many club credits your club has earned.

**Please PRINT**

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Person submitting Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Address where to ship recognition: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECIPIENT:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check Appropriate Fellowship:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Individual Fellowship** = gift totaling \$1000 made by individual, Lions Club, or Lions District to honor someone as a Lion Hearing Research Fellowship.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Memorial Fellowship**= gift totaling cumulative \$1000 given in memory of a deceased Lion or individual.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Cumulative Fellowship**= accumulated gifts over time resulting in \$1000 donation. Fellowship plaque awarded upon cumulative \$1000 donated.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Progressive Fellowship**= gift to honor an individual who has previously been awarded a Hearing Fellowship Award.

Amount of donation: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Please send completed application to PDG Mike Vos, Foundation Treasurer for processing.*

Check Payable to: **Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation**

Payment to: PDG Mike Vos, Foundation Treasurer  
20472 371<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Green Isle, MN 55338

**Please allow 30 days to process & ship award recognition**

# Hearing Research Fellowship Application

This award can be awarded to a Lion, a community member or business or other organization the club chooses. The award helps with the ongoing hearing health research projects at the University of Minnesota.

This award can be given for every \$1,000 the club gives to our organization. Clubs can check with their trustees to find our their balance.



#### Early Identification By Newborn Hearing Screening

In 1999, the Lions Multiple District 5M Hearing Foundation established the first and only statewide screening program for the early detection of hearing problems in newborns.

With more than \$417,000 in contributions and a matching grant from the Lions Clubs International Foundation, WE created the Lions Newborn Hearing Screening Program.

This was an ambitious initiative designed to establish newborn screening, without state funding or mandate, in every birthing hospital in Minnesota. All newborns in Minnesota are now screened.

Thank you, Minnesota Lions!



PS. Don't forget to award members of your club with a Hearing Foundation award.



*Dale Ruter, a Lion since 1988, was honored with the Melvin Jones award by the Spicer Sunrise Lions. LCIF chair, Dale's wife Jean places his pin.*



**HELP BUILD UP A FUND FOR AFFORDABLE HEARING AID BY DONATING USED HEARING AIDS!**

Most clubs and communities don't realize that it isn't **just glasses** that can be donated to Lions, but also **HEARING AIDS**. These are then sent to a place that refurbish them as needed and make them available at a lower cost. **PLEASE LET YOUR COMMUNITIES KNOW ABOUT THIS!**

Your contribution of used hearing aids makes a significant difference in the lives of those who would simply slip through the cracks.



### Donation from Lions to Food Shelf

Pictured above is LuAnn Olson (middle), representing the Benson Lions, presenting a check for \$500 to the Swift County Food Shelf during the March Food Drive. Accepting the check were Sue Fragodt (left) and Vicki Olson (right).



*Benson Lions deliver eye glass/hearing aids collection*  
Benson Lions members Terry and Linda Smith and Pat and Cheryl McGeary delivered a total of 1,016 pairs of eye glasses and 11 pair of hearing aids that were collected from January 1 through December 31, 2020 to the Copper Lantern Restaurant in St. Cloud, MN on April 14, 2021. The St. Cloud restaurant is a collection site for the Lions.

*New London Spicer Schools have invited the Lions back for vision screenings now that restrictions have eased somewhat. With use of four cameras, all students in specified grades were screened in about 3.5 hours. Several referrals will be made by our very cooperative school nurse who follows up with families. Our teams are two Lions per camera, one takes care of the paperwork and learns the process. It feels so good to be serving our kids so that their vision is not holding them back. COVID protocols were in place including keeping students in their pods.*





## LCIF = Our Lions Foundation - Donation Information Campaign 100 started July 1, 2018

- \* Our district 5M4 targeted is to do our part for this 3 year campaign matching with the 100 theme:
- > 100 percent participation
- > \$100 average per club member per year with personal and club donations going into the average
- \* Easy ways to donate are:
- > Go to web address: [lcif.org](http://lcif.org) and set up ACH bank account or credit card automatic giving
- > Go to [lcif.org](http://lcif.org) and donate with credit card

Mail with attached form to

Lions Club International Foundation, Dept 4547, Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547  
or give to your president, secretary or treasurer

OR: Give or mail to: 5M4 Foundation District chair Craig Schellberg, 6233 97th Ave NE, Spicer, MN 56288. Phone/text: 320-894-6843 email: [spicerlioncraig@gmail.com](mailto:spicerlioncraig@gmail.com)

For technical help: Phone 630-203-3836 or email: [donorassistance@lionsclubs.org](mailto:donorassistance@lionsclubs.org)

**Please Detach this form and include with donation**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Address with town: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Donate to: \_\_\_ Empowering Service = Area of Humanitarian greatest needs  
(pick one) \_\_\_ Disaster Relief  
\_\_\_ Half & half

Donation amount: \_\_\_\_\_ I plan to give this amount:  
(pick one)  
\_\_\_ One time  
\_\_\_ Monthly  
\_\_\_ Yearly

I would like to receive a recognition pin (minimum \$50 donation): yes \_\_\_ or no \_\_\_

**Thanks for giving to Campaign 100 for others in need!**



# MD5M Lions Annual Convention Call for Service

Even though we are not together, let's be united in service during our Annual Convention.

There are needs in every community, and Lions ready to serve. Join us in sponsoring a Food Drive or Diaper Drive (both adult and infant) in your home community or surrounding areas.

Send us photos & number of items collected and where you donated them. Homeless Shelters, women's shelters, schools and food shelves are all in desperate need at this time.

Join us in making a difference locally.





# How to help

## About Us

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service organization. Where there is a need there is a Lion.

**1** Start brain-storming what type of project your community needs (diaper or food drive) something else?

**2** Begin promoting your project. Use traditional methods (radio, newspapers, flyers) but also use Social Media (Facebook, instagram, etc.)

**3** Set up your collection sites and collect until April 30th or do another type of project.

**4** Send photos and a recap of your event to [5m2newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:5m2newslettereditor@gmail.com)

Need more ideas or have questions?

Contact your District's Global Service Team or Rose Thies @ [rthies001@gmail.com](mailto:rthies001@gmail.com).



 @MD5M Lions





# Kidsight

Ever since Helen Keller inspired the Lions to champion the cause in 1925, Lions International has served and advocated for the blind and visually impaired. Nearly a century later, this long-standing mission continues unhindered, even in our own backyards. The Buffalo Lake Lions Club was fortunate to have the Kidsight vision screening tool at BLHS, Buffalo Lake Campus, for 23 preschool aged children on Tuesday, March 16, 2021.

**Of the 23 children screened, the tool referred 5 of them.**

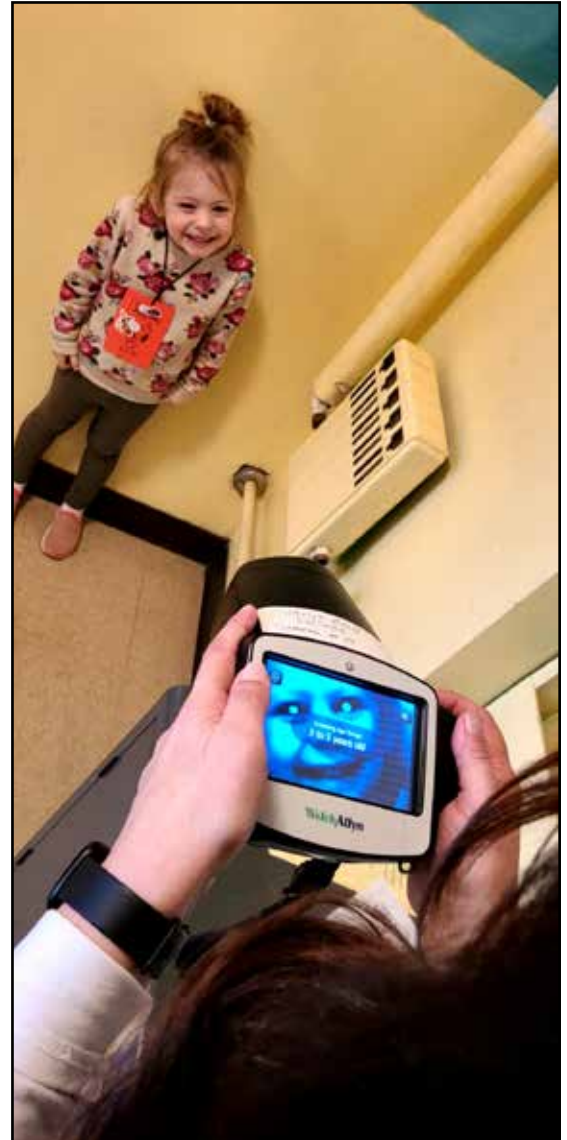
**3 with astigmatism  
1 with hyperopia &  
1 with gaze development.**

Thus far, 3 of the 5 have seen a medical eye doctor and they need glasses. The one with a gaze development was a lazy eye, so parents are also doing a patch to help strengthen the weak eye. One mom reported, "I would not have known without this amazing machine!" Another parent stated, "The Welch's machine does work!"

This technology is such a great tool for our community to have access to. Of all blindness, 75% is avoidable and 89% of people with visual impairment live in developing countries. We are grateful to have another opportunity to catch our young ones needs early on. One of our patients pictured is Johanna Kubesh of Buffalo Lake, daughter of Joe and Carly Kubesh.

Susan Krumrey

Buffalo Lake Lions Club





## Lions Affordable Hearing Aid Project

**Do you have a low-income person who needs hearing aids?** There is a procedure that needs to be followed in order for your club to help out. First, that person must see an audiologist for a hearing evaluation. The audiologist should work with Medicare and/or Lions clubs to help with costs of hearing tests and later installation of hearing aids.

After the evaluation, if the person needs hearing aids, the audiologist needs to order hearing aids from Starkey (address below). Your district should have money in their Starkey account from the used hearing aids that your district has donated. This money will provide free aids for the person. The audiologist then calls territory account manager at Starkey to order hearing aids. Your district trustee will help get that information for you. The audiologist then will fit the aids. Lions Clubs may have to offer some financial assistance.



If your recipient is young person up to age 15, the audiologist may want to check with other hearing aids companies for grants to help with purchasing hearing aids for children.

**Lions Club International** also has more information and materials to help with hearing aids in a program called Lions Affordable Hearing Aid Project (Lions AHAP) available only through local Lions clubs. To learn more about this project and for an application, go to <https://temp.lionsclubs.org/all/pdfs/lcif/lcif128.pdf>.





# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*Local news is for everyone! The Lions Reading Program for the Visually and Physically Impaired provides a means for the visually and physically impaired to be kept informed by the hearing of local newspapers read and broadcast through online, through an app, or your smart speaker.*

*The Lions Reading Program for the Visually and Physically Impaired started with an event the Fergus Falls area in 1992. Lion John Bloom wrote a Letter to the Editor of the Fergus Falls Daily Journal explaining the thing he missed most when he lost his sight was walking into the cafe in the morning and discussing what the local newspaper had to say about local issues. He asked if there was any way they could fill that gap.*

*Interested people in Fergus Falls including an editor of the newspaper, State Services for the Blind, and representatives of the local Lions Clubs got together and the program was developed. In the next few months, readers were tested and trained. A small transmitter unit was made and installed in a room furnished by Bethlehem Lutheran Church. On April 1, 1993, the first broadcast of The Daily Journal went on the air with special radios that picked up the transmission. We now celebrate the 28th year of our program.*

*The broadcast has expanded to include local weekly newspapers from: Battle Lake, Frazee, Vergas, Grant County, Henning, New York Mills, Parkers Prairie, Pelican Rapids, and Perham. The broadcast, as of this year, it is available through your computer, online at Radio Talking Book Minnesota/ State Services for the Blind.*

*Volunteers are the heart of the program! An hour of broadcasting takes place Monday through Saturday at 7pm due to the commitment of much appreciated volunteers: Lions and others from the public. Volunteers read with a partner and they dedicate 2 hours, in one evening, each month, for preparation and reading to our listeners. This reading program is very cost effective because of many hours of volunteer time.*

*We are in need of volunteers. Any interested people can contact Lion Ginny Paulson (218-736-5109) or Pamela Shroden (218-731-2954). It is an easy and important way to make a wonderful difference in our communities.*

*This is a nonprofit organization. It is governed by representatives from Riverside Fergus Falls Lions Club, Elizabeth Lions Club, consumers, and readers.*

*We and our listeners are very thankful for the support of our communities!*

*Elizabeth Lion Sue Hanneman  
Secretary, Lion's Reading Board*