

V.O.I.C.E.S. HISTORY

All Lions clubs are 501C4 entities under the umbrella of Lions Clubs International and as such, although they can receive donations, cannot provide a tax exempt status to their donors. In 2011, the Lions delegates met in convention, approved a resolution to create a Not for Profit 501C3 corporate entity to seek grants and funding for the

many dreams of the Lions of 1-A for the world. Thus, **V.O.I.C.E.S. (VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION INVOLVED IN CHARITABLE EXPRESSIONS OF SERVICE LIONS1A)** has become a reality.

The committee, to go forward, created a limited issue numbered Charter Pin which provided the fees to register and apply to the many governmental agencies to achieve the correct legal status.

As **V.O.I.C.E.S. LIONS1A** goes forward to the future, the dreams of Lions will be believed and fulfilled, because each of the Lions in District 1A has a voice, and a share in the successes accomplished together.



Mission Statement

A results driven volunteer charitable organization dedicated to working with the visually and hearing impaired, including research and prevention; and providing other humanitarian services to mankind.

WEBSITE

www.VOICES1a.org

V.O.I.C.E.S. Lions1A

17324 Highwood Drive

Orland Park, Illinois 60467-6051

V.O.I.C.E.S. LIONS1A

A 501C3 Charitable Corporation



Lions

In 1917, Melvin Jones asked; "What if these men who are successful because of their drive, intelligence and ambition, were to put their talents to work improving their communities?"

And in 1925, Helen Keller asked the Lions Clubs in convention " Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness?"

Over the ensuing years, Lions have reached out to their communities providing service to those in need—responding to requests for a pair of eyeglasses for a child - to emergency aid for natural disasters worldwide. The Lions motto "We Serve" allows Lions members to think locally and serve globally.

While each of the 46,000 plus Lions Clubs is autonomous to it's community, Lions recognize that by coming together they have and can do great things that will effect millions. District 1A Lions members have helped to build the Lions of Illinois Eye Research Institute - created Vision First providing eyeglasses for thousands of school children and, - helped to eradicate River Blindness in many countries and currently are supporting a program to inoculate millions of children against measles.

Lions are a global community in 207 countries with over 1.3 million members, each member invited to join hands in service to the community and to the world.

Today and Forward

One of the goals formulated during the creation of **V.O.I.C.E.S. LIONS1A** was that **V.O.I.C.E.S.** would continue to support the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and Lions of Illinois Foundation (LIF) in their projects and program by seeking and applying for contributions from like minded foundations, corporations and individuals who were not familiar with Lions services.

Just as the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) partners with outside sources to achieve their successes, the directors of **V.O.I.C.E.S. LIONS1A** hope to emulate those concepts to benefit the many ideas on the horizon which Lions are asked to support.

Current district projects are in need of that extra support which can be accomplished with the aid of many outside benefactors. The district and clubs within the district are contributors to many programs which support the visually impaired, foster research to find new ways to prevent blindness and exciting ways to restore sight. Imagine what will be done, if by coming together and with outside help, the funding for the dreams of those in need will be achieved through the **V.O.I.C.E.S. LIONS1A!**

Patron Donations

Individual Lions who contribute Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to become a



PATRON of V.O.I.C.E.S. LIONS1A will receive the Patron Pin and special award designed to indicate the singular status of **Patron**. A club may choose to elect one or more members to become a Patron for their service to the club and to Lionism.

Banner Patches



District Lions Clubs Supporting **V.O.I.C.E.S. LIONS1A** with a contribution of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or more will receive a Banner Patch to indicate their contribution to the programs and services provided to deserving charities. Additionally, clubs who elect a member to Patron status will receive the special banner patch award to indicate the club's contribution. Continued contributions in ensuing years will receive a chevron that can be attached under the patch indicating the year.