

International Association of Lions Clubs, District 5M1 Emergency Relief Fund Policy.

The Emergency Relief Fund is designed to provide financial assistance of up to \$500 in matching funds to help community members within the borders of District 5M1 who are in need due to a disaster or a medical issue resulting from an accident.

Types of emergencies that would fall under this policy include but are not limited to:

- House Fires and other natural disasters
- Injuries incurred in an automobile accident
- Workplace accidental injuries
- Other acute onset injuries

Other types of requests will be at the discretion of the District 5M1 Executive team, made up of the District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor, 2nd Vice District Governor, 2nd Vice District Governor Elect, Cabinet Secretary, and Cabinet Treasurer.

This fund is reserved for assistance of **non-Lions**, due to the fact that funding is received from donations through the parade of green that include monies generated from the public and are held in club project accounts. Per LCI Constitution and Bylaws, funds raised from the public must be given back to the public and may not be used to support a Lion.

To submit a request for funds the requesting club's President or Secretary must complete the online form found on the District 5M1 website and submit to the District 5M1 Emergency Relief Coordinator as indicated on the form.

The District Coordinator will, upon receipt of a correctly completed form, call for a vote of approval from the District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor, and 2nd Vice District Governor, with a majority vote in either direct required to complete the process. If within 48 hours of relay to the District Governor team the Coordinator does not receive a majority vote response, he or she then must seek out additional votes starting with the Cabinet Secretary and descending to the Cabinet Treasurer and if needed the 2nd VDGE until a total of 3 votes have been cast.

When voting is complete, the Coordinator will indicate to the District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor, and the 2nd Vice District Governor the result of the vote. If the request is approved, the Coordinator will communicate to the Cabinet Treasurer to release the funds, payable to the club, and provide the contact and address to send the check to. Additionally, the Coordinator will notify the club with the approval or denial for the requested match.

This policy is limited to \$500 per incident for matching funds (more than one club may request funds for one family and the total equals \$500, e.g. one club requests \$200 and another \$300), the requesting club(s) having appropriate funds to match their portion, and the district having funds remaining in the account. If there are no district matching funds available all requests will be denied until funds are once again available.

Large Impact disasters, such as floods and tornadoes, are not covered under this policy. If such a disaster happens in 5M1, the district will pursue an LCIF Emergency Grant to serve our communities.