



WHAT IS A LIONS CLUB?

Your local Lions Club is one of 44,700 Lions Clubs actively serving their communities in 186 countries and geographical areas of the world. Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization. Its 1.4 million members are dedicated to bettering the quality of life for the handicapped, the poor, the sick and the aged. The motto of Lions Clubs International is "WE SERVE," and Lions live this motto with enthusiasm.

A Lions Club is not a fraternal, social or political organization. It is a group of civic-minded men and women who have banded together to do the things they cannot do alone. Lions are willing and anxious to give their time, energy and resources in service to others.

A person is rewarded in Lionism by the pleasure and satisfaction of serving others; by improving the community in which he or she lives; and by endeavoring to leave the world a better place than he or she found it. The rewards are in direct proportion to the effort expended. By investing time and effort in club activities, a person receives dividends in new friendships, new status in the community, a new awareness of God's many blessings, and a heart-warming sense of fulfillment from doing something good for others. A Lions Club is a medium through which all of these things are available to reputable men and women of good will.

WHAT DO LIONS DO?

The genius of Lionism is that the local club has complete autonomy in determining its area of service within its own community. In addition to their own local projects and charities, Lions Clubs join with other Lions throughout the world to help people in need. The Lions Clubs of District 2-S2 work together to support the following International, State and District programs and projects. Note: Lions District 2-S2 covers seven counties:
(Harris, Montgomery, Waller, Walker, San Jacinto, Liberty and Chambers.)

Texas Lions Camp

The Texas Lions Camp is located in Kerrville, Texas, in the heart of the beautiful Texas Hill Country. The camp was founded in 1949, took its first campers in 1953, and has now served 50,000 children with physical disabilities or Type I diabetes. A specially designed camping program teaches the children a “can do” attitude as they enjoy horseback riding, swimming, arts and crafts, a ropes challenge course, a climbing wall, miniature golf, fishing, camping out, etc. – all of the things any child would want to do at camp. This world renowned camping program is provided by the Lions of Texas at no charge to the parents or the child.

Lions Eye Bank of Texas

The Lions Eye Bank of Texas at Baylor College of Medicine, established in 1953, serves as a receiving, processing, research and distribution laboratory for donor eye tissue. It also serves as a public education center for matters pertaining to eyesight, eye disease and eye donations. It procures about 2,000 corneal donations per year to meet the needs of surgeons along the Texas Gulf Coast. In addition, tissue is provided to ophthalmologists in Latin America and the rest of the world. Located in the Texas Medical Center in Houston with a branch office in Corpus Christi, the eye bank is sponsored by the Lions of districts 2-S2, 2-S1, 2-S4 and 2-A3 in partnership with Baylor College of Medicine. The success of the Lions Eye Bank of Texas is demonstrated by the fact that no one who needs a cornea in any of these four Lions districts ever has to wait for a cornea. Furthermore, continuing Lions’ support assures that anyone who needs a cornea will have one, regardless of that person’s financial situation.

Lions Clubs International Foundation

Lions throughout the world join together in supporting the Lions Clubs International Foundation. LCIF provides funds for relief from disasters such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, and terrorist attacks. Such relief is administered by the local Lions District. LCIF also provides funds to aid in the construction of hospitals, clinics, schools and other humanitarian projects that are beyond the means of the local Lions Club and its community.

LCIF funded the development of the school curricula known as “**Lions Quest Skills for Growing**,” “**Lions Quest Skills for Adolescence**” and “**Lions Quest Skills for Living**.” These curricula provide elementary, middle and high school students with study programs to teach them proper decision making skills and how to improve relationships with parents, teachers, other adults and with their peers. The aim of these programs is to point children toward a wholesome, productive lifestyle and away from drugs. Lions District 2-S2 assists schools and Lions Clubs in obtaining training for teachers of Lions Quest courses.

The Lions **SightFirst** program, initiated in 1990, is funded and coordinated through LCIF. Approximately 80% of the world’s 45 million blind suffer from preventable or reversible conditions. In its first ten years, **SightFirst** funded 485 projects in 75 countries at a cost of over \$100 million. These projects resulted in major progress toward eliminating preventable and reversible blindness throughout the world.

Hearing and Speech Action

The Hearing and Speech Action program provides information to the clubs about hearing loss, coordinates the collection and renovation of used hearing aids and provides hearing aids for underprivileged children.

Texas Lions Foundation

The Texas Lions Foundation provides grants for humanitarian services and disaster relief in the state of Texas. Disaster grants are administered by the local Lions district.

The Lighthouse of Houston

The Lighthouse of Houston serves 5,000 visually impaired and legally blind people per year. The Lighthouse provides technical, computer, vocational and mobility training, as well as job placement services. It also provides adult day care and recreational opportunities. Lions host an annual luncheon and Christmas shopping trip for clients. Lions also support other Lighthouse activities, such as the annual career days program for visually impaired high school seniors.

Leader Dogs for the Blind

Lions of District 2-S2 provide Leader Dogs for blind people. These dogs and the blind person's training to use the dog are provided at no charge to the blind person through Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester, Michigan.

Sight Conservation

This District program assists local Lions Clubs in providing eyeglasses for needy children and in other sight conservation efforts. It also handles the collection of used eyeglasses for recycling.

Lions World Services for the Blind

Lions World Services for the Blind, located in Little Rock, Arkansas, is an adult rehabilitation center that seeks to provide functional independence for visually impaired people. It serves approximately 200 people per year from various states and foreign countries.

Diabetic Day Camp

Lions of District 2-S2 support the American Diabetes Association in their summer day camp program for diabetic children and their siblings.

Lions Clubs International Objects

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 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.

For additional information regarding Lions services
or for active participation through membership,
please contact:

Lions Clubs International

713-796-2960

or

Your local Lions club as follows:

The Local Lions Club



Serving Your Community

**It's Great
To Be A Lion!**