## Lions Celebrate a Successful Year of Service at The 104<sup>th</sup> Lions Clubs International Convention

(Oak Brook, III., July 15, 2022) – The world's largest humanitarian service organization celebrated several milestones during the 104<sup>th</sup> annual Lions Clubs International Convention in Montréal, Québec, Canada. More than 6,700 Lions from 127 countries attended this pinnacle event, commonly called LCICon, to reconnect with Lions from around the world, discover innovative ways to grow and support clubs and commemorate another year of serving communities in need.

From July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, more than 483 million people were helped thanks to the service and support provided by Lions all over the world. This is an increase of more than 100 million people served compared to the prior year thanks to the unwavering commitment of the 1.4 million Lions globally.

"Lions and Leos pursued the passion in their hearts by serving side by side with their fellow Lions and reached deeper into our communities to serve unmet needs," said Douglas X. Alexander, 2021-2022 international president. "Now, more than 483 million people around the world are leading better, brighter lives because caring men and women rose to carry on this great mission of service that we share."

<u>Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)</u> announced the results of Campaign 100, an initiative launched in 2018 to raise US\$300 million to support the compassionate works of Lions who are addressing the needs of their communities locally and globally. LCIF surpassed its goal, raising a total of US\$324.6 million during this historic campaign.

In a message to convention attendees, Past International President and Campaign 100 Chairperson Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada expressed his thanks, stating, "Thanks to your support, we can continue empowering those serving to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and protect the vulnerable in the years and decades to come."

Highlights from LCICON included world-class entertainment from musicians, artists and performers and a <u>Parade of Nations</u> that celebrated the cultures and diversity of Lions and Leos worldwide. Engaging seminars, a powerful keynote address from former child soldier and humanitarian speaker Michel Chikwanine, and a special message from Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, former president of Liberia, inspired Lions to continue their humanitarian service.

LCICon attendees were moved when <u>Lion Philipp Blobel</u> from the Augsburg Elias Holl Lions Club shared his story of how Lions in Germany brought Ukrainian refugees to safety. Lions honored Dr. Helena Ndume with the <u>Lions Humanitarian Award</u>, the highest honor of the association that is given to an individual or an organization for exemplary humanitarian efforts. Additionally, Lions celebrated the winners of the <u>2021-2022 Peace Poster Contest</u> and <u>Peace Essay Contest</u>, where young people ages 11-13 share their ideas for a more peaceful world.

Brian E. Sheehan, founder and CEO of Rural Computer Consultants and Bird Island, Minnesota resident, was elected as the 2022-23 international president of Lions Clubs International. A member of the Bird Island Lions Club since 1991, Sheehan will lead the largest humanitarian organization in the world. In this role, he will oversee global membership growth, support LCIF and inspire clubs to meet the growing needs of communities worldwide through service.

Find photos, recordings and more details about the 104<sup>th</sup> Lions Clubs International Convention at <a href="https://lcicon.lionsclubs.org">https://lcicon.lionsclubs.org</a>.

## **About Lions Clubs International**

Lions Clubs International is the largest service club organization in the world. More than 1.4 million members in over 48,000 clubs are serving in 200 countries and geographic areas around the globe. Since 1917, Lions have strengthened local communities through hands-on service and humanitarian projects, and we extend our service impact through the generous support of our Lions Clubs International Foundation. We are focused on supporting vision, the environment, childhood cancer, hunger, diabetes and other pressing humanitarian needs to help address some of the biggest challenges facing humanity. For more information about Lions Clubs International, visit lionsclubs.org.

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