

CHAPTER I ACTIVITIES

A. VISION STATEMENT

To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service.

B. MISSION STATEMENT

To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs.

C. ADOPTED SERVICE PROGRAMS OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

1. The major international service commitment of Lionism is:

SightFirst: Lions Preventing and Reversing Blindness.

2. The major service categories and adopted programs of Lions Clubs International shall include:

- a. **Community Services**

(Citizenship, Cultural, Educational, Health, Public, Recreational, and Social Services)

- Building Homes for the Blind and Disabled with Habitat for Humanity
- Lions Crew at Work

- b. **Disaster Preparedness and Relief**

- Lions ALERT Program
- Lion-2-Lion: Resource Assistance Database

- c. **Environmental Services**

- Lions Environmental Photo Contest
- Lions Green Team

- d. **Health and Wellness**

1. **Diabetes Awareness and Action**

- Community Education
- Diabetes Screening
- Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP)
- Recreational Camps for Diabetics
- Strides: Lions Walk for Diabetes Awareness

2. **Hearing Preservation, Awareness and Action**
 - Hearing Aid Recycling Program (HARP)
 - Hearing Ear Dogs
 - Hearing Screenings
 - Recreational Camps for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired
 - Support Services for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired

3. **Sight Preservation, Awareness and Action**
 - Children's Eye Photo Screening (developed countries)
 - Education for the Blind
 - Eyeglass Recycling
 - Helen Keller Day
 - Lions Eye Banks
 - Low Vision Projects
 - Recreational Camps for the Visually Impaired
 - SightFirst
 - Special Olympics Opening Eyes Program
 - Support Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
 - Vision Screenings
 - White Cane Day
 - World Sight Day

- e. **International Relations**
 - International Club Twinning
 - Lions Day with the United Nations

- f. **Lions Opportunities for Youth**
 - International Peace Poster Contest
 - Lions International Youth Camp and Exchange Program
 - Leo Clubs
 - Lions Quest
 - Lions Young Leaders in Service Awards

- g. **Lions Services for Children**
 - Lions Children First
 - Lions Children Worldwide Symposium Program

3. Lions Clubs International shall provide information and organizational support for the association's major service categories and adopted programs. In addition to these programs, Lions clubs and districts may conduct a broad range of service activities in response to specific community and humanitarian needs, with support from the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), as appropriate.

4. The association shall publish a list of adopted Lions service programs under the seven major service categories named in Paragraph B.2. such projects shall be reviewed by the Service Activities Committee and recommended for board approval, as based on the project's fulfillment of the following criteria:
 - a. Exemplifies the "WE SERVE" motto and has relevance to Lions internationally
 - b. Meets an important community or humanitarian need
 - c. Achieves measurable outcomes benefiting service recipients
 - d. Provides hands-on involvement by Lions club members
 - e. Includes leadership roles for Lions
 - f. Promotes public awareness of the Lions service mission
 - g. Is sustainable.

D. SIGHT CONSERVATION AND WORK WITH THE BLIND

The purpose of this major activity is to provide programs and assistance to aid blind and visually impaired people and to work at eliminating preventable and reversible blindness through the Lions SightFirst program.

The programs below complement the ones identified with SightFirst that address major causes of preventable or reversible blindness, such as cataract, trachoma, onchocerciasis, glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy.

1. The Lions Clubs International Eye Bank Program

a. Program Description:

The Lions Clubs International Eye Bank Program was adopted as an official program of Lions Clubs International in March, 1984.

b. Scope:

- (1) The board of directors of Lions Clubs International shall frame a standard policy as amended from time to time.
- (2) All activities, projects and programs of Lions Eye Banks shall be conducted in harmony with policies of the International Board of Directors as revised from time to time. Only the board of directors of Lions Clubs International shall have the power to revise the Lions Clubs International Eye Bank Policy.
- (3) Each Lions Eye Bank shall adopt bylaws and amendments which shall be consistent with the policy established by Lions Clubs International. Such bylaws and revisions thereto shall be subject to the approval of the International Board of Directors.

c. Program Objectives:

- (1) To improve the public identity and image of Lions Eye Banking internationally; to encourage, promote, improve, and extend Lions Eye Banking internationally so that quality eye tissue for corneal transplants, research and other medical purposes may be provided.
- (2) To develop with the advice and cooperation of existing Lions Eye Banks, an international structure under which the Lions contribution to Eye Banking will be properly recognized.
- (3) To protect and expand the use of the Lions name and emblem.
- (4) To publicize the role and service of Lions Eye Banks.
- (5) To provide a central source of information.
- (6) To assist in establishment of new Lions Eye Banks internationally.
Requests for assistance may be referred to existing Lions Eye Banks who have agreed to provide this type of assistance.

d. Name and/or Emblem:

- (1) The name of this program shall be The Lions Clubs International Eye Bank Program and all Eye Banks recognized there-under shall be known as Lions Eye Banks.
- (2) The Lions name and/or emblem are registered trademarks of the association and are the sole property of Lions Clubs International, and all ownership rights in and all obligation with respect to protection and preservation thereof shall rest in and is retained by Lions Clubs International.
- (3) The term "Lions" shall be incorporated into all names referring to a Lions Eye Bank. Furthermore, the Lions name and/or emblem shall be displayed prominently on the premises, stationery, and publications of all Lions Eye Banks.
- (4) Periodic visitations of Lions Eye Banks may be made by representatives of Lions Clubs International to ensure proper display and use of the Lions name and/or emblem.

e. Control:

- (1) The majority of the board of directors of each Lions Eye Bank shall be Lions club members in good standing of Lions clubs in good standing with The International Association of Lions Clubs.
- (2) All Lions Eye Banks and Eye Bank personnel shall adhere to all medical and educational standards as required by their respective governmental and medical authorities.
- (3) Each Lions Eye Bank shall submit to Lions Clubs International prior to September 15 of each year a report on its operations and activities including a list of the Eye Bank's board of directors and a copy of the current constitution and by-laws. Repeated failure to comply with this

requirement shall result in revocation of the license to use the association's name and emblem.

f. Sponsorship:

- (1) A Lions Eye Bank shall be sponsored by a Lions club or district or multiple district and shall be entitled to use the Lions name and/or emblem so long as it operates within the policy established for the program.
- (2) A Lions Eye Bank shall be recognized by Lions Clubs International and shall be entitled to use the Lions name and/or emblem so long as it operates within the policy established for the program and meets the criteria for use of the Lions name and emblem.
- (3) No limit shall be imposed on the number of Lions clubs, districts, or multiple districts sponsoring an individual Lions Eye Bank.
- (4) In areas where no Lions Eye Bank is in operation, Lions are encouraged to support those Lions Eye Banks in other areas.
- (5) Support of any Lions Eye Bank by Lions clubs or club members shall be strictly on a voluntary basis.

g. Operation:

Lions Eye Banks shall establish a working relationship with an appropriate medical facility for guidance and medical standards.

h. Insurance Coverage:

Each Lions Eye Bank shall carry insurance coverage including, but not limited to, general liability, property damage, workers compensation and professional malpractice insurance, as is appropriate to its operations. Such insurance shall be in addition to the general liability coverage provided by the association.

i. Recognition and Public Relations:

- (1) Lions Eye Banks are encouraged to submit newsworthy information to Lions Clubs International for use in promoting the program and exchange of information in the program.
- (2) Lions Eye Banks shall be encouraged to share information with Lions Clubs International and other Lions Eye Banks whenever such information will assist in the attainment of program objectives.

j. Lions Eye Bank Week

Lions Clubs International shall annually observe the first week in December as Lions Eye Bank Week for the purposes of awareness and member support of Lions Eye Banks and corneal donation.

2. **Vitamin A Deficiency:** Lions clubs and districts shall be encouraged to participate with international health organizations in programs aimed at reducing the incidence of blindness caused by xerophthalmia (vitamin A deficiency).

3. **The Lions Clubs International Eyeglass Recycling Program**

a. Program Description:

The Lions Clubs International Eyeglass Recycling Program shall be implemented solely in accordance with policy established from time to time by the board of directors of Lions Clubs International.

b. Program Objectives:

- (1) To establish an international eyeglass recycling program to promote the processing, cataloging, and dispensing of donated eyeglasses.
- (2) To help conserve sight by providing graded useable eyeglasses where needed in the world through the association's infrastructure and other channels.
- (3) To maintain records of eyeglasses processed and distributed through Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers.
- (4) To promote communications among the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers.
- (5) To closely identify Lions with eyeglass recycling.
- (6) To facilitate the international expansion of the Lions Clubs International Eyeglass Recycling Program.

c. Name and Emblem

- (1) The official name of the program shall be the Lions Clubs International Eyeglass Recycling Program and all Lions sponsored eyeglass recycling centers shall be known as Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers.
- (2) The Lions name and emblem are registered trademarks of the association and are the sole property of Lions Clubs International. All ownership rights in the Lions name and emblem, and all obligation with respect to protection and preservation thereof, shall rest in, and is retained by, Lions Clubs International.
- (3) The term "Lions" shall be incorporated into all names referring to a Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center. Furthermore, the Lions name and emblem, where appropriate, shall be displayed prominently on the premises, official stationery, eyeglass packaging, publications, and promotions of all Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers.

d. Control and Operation

- (1) Eyeglasses shall be distributed in strict accordance with local or national health regulations.

- (2) Priority in supplying eyeglasses shall be given to Lions projects.
- (3) Eyeglasses supplied to other humanitarian organizations shall be provided with the stipulation that such eyeglasses shall be dispensed free of charge to recipients, and that within two weeks of the completion of the mission, the organization shall report to the providing center the number of people:
 - (a) served during the missions;
 - (b) fitted with eyeglasses.

e. Sponsorship

- (1) Lions districts and multiple districts, singly or jointly, may sponsor Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers (LERC). No limit shall be imposed on the number of districts or multiple districts sponsoring an individual LERC.
- (2) Only one LERC may be approved in each multiple district. Any additional LERC shall be a satellite of the LERC. The center director or chief executive officer of the LERC shall serve as ex-officio member of the board of each satellite.
- (3) In areas where there is no LERC in operation, Lions are encouraged to support centers in other areas.

f. Establishment of Physical Location

- (1) The sponsoring multiple district or district shall acquire or build, equip, maintain, own or rent and operate a facility large enough to process and store donated eyeglasses at the LERC. If renting, the LERC shall have a minimum of a five-year property lease.
- (2) The LERC shall consider requesting the use of an existing facility such as a school, township building, or other institution. The LERC shall also consider the use of a donated facility from interested local groups or individuals.
- (3) The LERC building specifications shall be as follows: 800 square feet with restroom facilities, running water for washing eyeglasses and climate controlled to protect glasses and equipment. The building shall comply with local fire and safety codes.
- (4) The LERC storage area specifications shall be as follows: a minimum of 20 feet by 20 feet (minimum 400 square feet). The LERC working area shall be a minimum of 20 feet by 20 feet (minimum 400 square feet).

g. Operation Equipment/Supplies: The LERC shall obtain the following operational equipment and supplies for receiving, processing and distributing used eyeglasses.

- (1) **Basic LERC equipment and supplies:** a computer (for maintaining inventory records, communicating via email and maintenance of LERC Web site), telephone, facsimile machine, stationery and general office supplies.

- (2) **For processing eyeglasses:** chairs and tables for sorting; sink and running water or dishwasher for washing glasses; lensometer for neutralizing or grading glasses; and labels, individual plastic bags, and boxes for storing clean, graded glasses.
- (3) **For distributing processed eyeglasses:** adequate shelving for storage of processed glasses; packing supplies; instructions for local and international shipments; customs and invoice forms.

h. Levels of Operation: Each LERC may receive a designation of a “Collection Center,” a “Collection and Processing Center” or a “Collection, Processing and Shipping Center,” determined by the specific services it provides. The LERC shall sort, clean, neutralize (grade), label, store and ship the eyeglasses in accordance with the procedures contained in the LCI “Guide for Starting and Operating a Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center.”

- (1) **Collection Center Services:** Receives used eyeglasses; performs preliminary sorting of raw glasses, separating broken frames/ lenses from usable ones and discards carrying cases that are dirty or otherwise unusable; separates single vision eyeglasses from bi-focal eyeglasses; packages for shipment to a facility where the eyeglasses shall be processed.
- (2) **Collection and Processing Center Services:** Washes and dries eyeglasses in such a manner that they are easy to read on a lensometer; reads eyeglasses and writes prescriptions on plastic bags into which each pair of eyeglasses are placed; packages eyeglasses in quarter diopter boxes labeled according to diopters.

Prescriptions on each bag shall include:

Right Lens (always on top): Sphere Cylinder Axis
 Left Lens (always on bottom): Sphere Cylinder Axis
 Add (if bifocals)
 Pupillary Distance (circled)

- (3) **Collection, Processing and Shipping Center Services:** Collects, processes and ships eyeglasses for Lions or other volunteer groups participating in optical or other health care missions. The LERC shall provide eyeglasses free-of-charge for Lions optical or other Lions health care missions. At the LERC’s discretion, the LERC may collect a reasonable, nominal handling fee from non-Lions groups for eyeglasses (recycled and/or new product such as readers and sunglasses) requested for use on optical or other health care missions. LERCs shall verify that Lions or other groups requesting used eyeglasses for a mission agree to: provide instructions for transporting eyeglasses; furnish the mission team leader’s name and contact information; finance shipping costs (pre-pay);

arrange customs clearance; report to LERC within two weeks after the mission is completed; and publicize Lions involvement in providing glasses.

(4) **Vision Screening Services and Training:** A LERC that provides vision screening services and training for Lions and other LERC volunteers shall collaborate with local eye care professionals and other partner affiliates to establish sufficient services and training curriculum that meet the local government laws and professional standards of that area.

i. **Insurance Coverage:** The LERC shall purchase insurance coverage as is appropriate for its building and operations. Such insurance is in addition to the general liability coverage provided by Lions Clubs International. The LERC shall consult a local insurance agent to determine what additional insurance would be sufficient for the LERC's building and operations.

j. **LERC Orientation and Training Procedures:** The LERC shall collaborate with local eye care professionals and other partner affiliates to establish sufficient orientation and training programs that meet the local government laws and professional standards of that area.

- (1) The LERC shall be thoroughly familiar with the eyeglass recycling process and shall be responsible for recruiting, training and scheduling volunteers to fulfill the responsibilities.
- (2) Each LERC worker shall understand basic optical terms and shall have received related training to fulfill the responsibilities of a LERC volunteer.
- (3) LERC orientation and training shall be offered to volunteers at least two times a year, as needed, and shall include: basic anatomy and physiology of the eye; records; visual acuity; tonometry; auto refractor; lensometer (automatic and manual); and sorting.

k. Record Keeping

- (1) The LERC shall retain written and/or electronic records for a term of three years and shall include the following: the number and type of eyeglasses collected and stored; the name of mission groups requesting eyeglasses; the Lions involved in the distribution process (either mission teams or Lions in the receiving country); and a final report on the number of people served during the optical or healthcare mission.
- (2) The LERC shall require an accounting of all eyeglasses distributed during optical missions before providing supplies for subsequent optical missions.

I. Reporting Procedures

(1) The LERC shall submit a quarterly report to Lions Clubs International Headquarters, via email, fax or regular mail. The report shall contain the total number of glasses collected and distributed, and sources of the donations. Each report shall also include minutes of board meetings and the center's current financial report.

(2) The quarterly reports shall be submitted as follows, each fiscal year:

1st Quarter:

July 1-September 30. Report due October 10

2nd Quarter:

October 1 – December 31.

Report due January 10

3rd Quarter:

January 1 – March 30.

Report due April 10

4th Quarter:

April 1 – June 30.

Report due July 10

(3) The LERC shall submit an annual report to LCI containing the expense of operations. This report shall be submitted by July 30 each year. Reporting forms are found in the LCI "Guide for Starting and Operating a Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center."

(4) The Council Chairperson of the multiple district in which the LERC is located shall visit the center at least once during his/her year of service and submit a report to Lions Clubs International. The report shall contain successes observed, as well as any noted problems or concerns. It is the responsibility of the LERC to schedule the Council Chairperson's visit.

m. Communications with LCI, Satellite LERCs and Other LERCs: In an effort to maintain best practices for eyeglass recycling, all LERCs are encouraged to communicate regularly with LCI staff of the Health and Children's Services Department, satellite LERCs and other LERCs. LCI may choose to survey all LERCs during each fiscal year, to gather important information regarding existing procedures, and identify possible challenges. LERCs are encouraged to contact the Health and Children's Services Department for program guidance, resource materials and updates. All LERCs shall be encouraged to submit reports as described above in paragraph l.

n. Financial Support

- (1) The LERC shall obtain ongoing operating funds through one or more of the following:

- Fundraising events
- Matching grants from LCIF
- Financial support from Lions districts and/or state foundations
- Donations from the community
- The formation of a foundation
- Private or public grants
- Endowments funded by donations from individual Lions and local clubs
- Bequests from charitable trusts, gifts and life insurance
- Open houses

- (2) A member of the LERC board of directors or appointed staff shall facilitate heading up the fundraising committees and initiatives.

- (3) The LERC shall be encouraged to become knowledgeable about LCIF grants.

o. LERC Governing Body

- (1) The board of directors of each LERC shall be Lions club members in good standing with The International Association of Lions Clubs. The number of members of the board of directors shall be a minimum of five (5).
- (2) The term in office of each directorship shall be for a period of more than one year to ensure continuity.
- (3) Prior to September 15 of each year, each LERC shall submit to LCI a list of the current board of directors and a copy of the LERC's current constitution and by-laws.

- p. LERC Staffing:** Depending upon the volume of eyeglasses collected, processed and shipped, the following staff positions are recommended. Any LERC staff person who is a Lion shall be member in good standing with a Lions club in his/her district. Recommended staff positions are described below:

- (1) Chief Operations Officer
- (2) Center Director: The center director may be hired as a paid staff member to administer day-to-day operations of the LERC. The center director may act as coordinator and CEO. The duties and responsibilities of the center director shall be outlined in the constitution and by-laws of the center.
- (3) Operations Manager: The duties and responsibilities of the operations manager shall be outlined in the constitution and by-laws of the center and its operations procedures manual.

- (4) Warehouse Manager: The duties and responsibilities of the operations manager shall be outlined in the constitution and by-laws of the center and its operations procedures manual.
- (5) Coordinator: Each LERC shall have a coordinator who is familiar with the eyeglass recycling process. The coordinator shall be responsible for recruiting, training and scheduling volunteers; tracking inventory; overseeing the processing and transporting of eyeglasses; and submitting quarterly reports to International Headquarters. The duties and responsibilities of the coordinator shall be outlined in the constitution and by-laws of the center and its operations procedures manual.
- (6) Back-up Personnel: Additional Lions and volunteers shall be selected and trained by the center to cover the above-referenced positions and responsibilities when necessary.
- (7) To be recognized as an approved LERC, the LERC must provide details on its staffing set up that is commensurate with its size and volume of eyeglasses processed.

q. LERC Volunteers

Each LERC shall recruit and train the appropriate number of volunteers to help with receiving, processing, cataloging and storing of recycled glasses. Eyeglass recycling volunteers can include Lions, Lioness, Leos, members of senior or youth groups, or members of partner organizations. The center director shall determine the number of volunteers needed for efficient operation of the center.

r. Promotion and Public Awareness

- (1) Lions Clubs International shall promote the concept and expansion of eyeglass recycling.
- (2) Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers shall be encouraged to create public awareness of Lions involvement in eyeglass recycling and to submit newsworthy information to Lions Clubs International for use in promoting the program.
- (3) Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers shall be encouraged to share information with Lions interested in becoming involved in eyeglass recycling.
- (4) World Sight Day: An annual event called “Lions World Sight Day” shall be held annually on the second Thursday in October to focus attention on the association’s sight-related activities. Suggested activities shall be provided to all clubs, and their participation encouraged.

- s. LERC Compliance:** Each LERC shall be required to comply with LCI board policy for starting and operating an approved LERC. In the event a LERC fails to comply with LCI policies and procedures as adopted by the board of directors, LCI may take any or all of the following actions:

- (1) LCI may revoke its recognition of the LERC as an official LCI eyeglass recycling center.
- (2) LCI may deny the LERC requests for Lions Clubs International Foundation grants.
- (3) LCI may revoke the LERC's license to use the Lions name and emblem in all its operations.

E. HEALTH SERVICES

1. **Diabetes Screening:** Lions clubs shall be encouraged to partner with healthcare professionals to carry out joint diabetes screening projects as a suggested activity as well as combining a test for diabetic retinopathy with glaucoma testing whenever such an activity is undertaken. Lions should adhere to the appropriate healthcare laws and regulations that are in effect for their jurisdiction when conducting healthcare screenings. Many healthcare regulations require any blood tests to be conducted by a licensed healthcare professional.
2. **Diabetes Awareness Month:** The month of November shall be promoted as Diabetes Awareness Month.
3. **Primary Health Care:** Lions clubs shall be encouraged to carry out a primary health care program and cooperate with established health care agencies to alleviate the problems of hunger, poor health and disease in the world.

F. EXCELLENCE IN EFFORT AWARD (SIGHT CONSERVATION AND WORK WITH THE BLIND)

An appropriate award shall be provided annually to district governors for presentation within the district to the Lions club that has been most outstanding in Sight Conservation and Work with the Blind during the year.

Sight Chairperson Awards

a. District SIGHT Chairperson Award

An appropriate award shall be provided annually to district governors for presentation to the district chairperson for achievement in fulfilling the requirements of the position.

b. Multiple District SIGHT Chairperson Award

An appropriate award shall be provided annually to council chairpersons for presentation to the multiple district chairperson for achievement in fulfilling the requirements of the position.

G. DISTRICT HEARING CHAIRPERSON'S AWARD

An appropriate award shall be provided annually to district governors for presentation to the district chairperson for achievement in fulfilling the requirements of the position.

H. GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSALS FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION SERVICE PROGRAMS

Definition: An international association service program seeks to address a defined humanitarian need, is relevant to the service mission of Lions clubs throughout the world, and may include cooperation with other humanitarian organizations. Such programs are supported by board-approved guidelines and resource materials.

Relevance: Proposals submitted by Lions club members shall have been adopted and implemented by at least two multiple or single (not sub) districts. Proposals submitted by non-Lions club members or organizations must demonstrate relevance and application of the program to Lions clubs' mission. The proposed program should not duplicate, or conflict with, any existing association program.

Mission: A clear mission statement shall be provided for each proposed program. The mission statement shall include measurable objectives by which the proposed program may be evaluated. These objectives shall include interim benchmarks by which periodic progress may be measured.

Term: The duration of the program shall be no more than three years following its approval, unless extended by action of the International Board of Directors. The approved term shall expire at the end of an association fiscal year.

Budget: A comprehensive budget shall be prepared and submitted prior to consideration of the program, detailing projected costs, need for administrative staff and any funding requirements. Budgetary projections shall be prepared by staff, or in cooperation with staff. If the program is approved, a budget status report shall be submitted to the Service Activities Committee annually at the October/November board meeting.

Public: Proposals shall include a descriptive plan for promoting public Relations awareness of the program.

Leadership: All programs involving cooperation with other organizations shall include a defined leadership role for Lions.

Reporting: A progress report on the operation of the program shall be presented annually to the Service Activities Committee at the October/November board meeting.

I. LIONS OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH (YOUTH) AWARDS PROGRAM

1. Lions Opportunities for Youth (Youth) Chairperson's Award

- a. **Service Recognition:** Outstanding district and multiple district opportunities for youth (youth) chairperson will be presented with the Lions Opportunities for Youth (Youth) Chairperson's Award. Service in promoting and maintaining youth activities in the district or multiple district will be the criteria for receiving a certificate.
- b. **Eligibility:** To receive this recognition, the district or multiple district opportunities for youth (youth) chairperson shall meet the following requirements:
 - (1) Outline and implement a plan of action for a district or multiple district.
 - (2) Increase Lions awareness of opportunities to reach out to young people in the district or multiple district. Motivate by personal visit or newsletter a substantial number of clubs (or districts) to participate in Lions Opportunities for Youth activities.

Based on criteria, certificates will be awarded by the district governor or council chairperson.

2. Certificate of Merit

This certificate is for clubs, districts or multiple districts wishing to recognize individuals for their efforts on behalf of youth. It will be available for purchase through the Club Supplies and Distribution Division at International Headquarters.

3. Young Leaders in Service Award

This award shall be presented to young people by Lions clubs on behalf of Lions Clubs International to recognize achievement in community service based on number of hours served.

J. DIABETES AWARENESS INCENTIVE PROGRAM

1. Diabetes Awareness Incentive Award

An appropriate award shall be provided annually to district governors for presentation to the district chairperson for achievement in fulfilling the requirements of the position.

2. New Horizons Award in Diabetes Education

An appropriate award shall be provided annually to district governors for presentation within the district to the club that has been most active in diabetes education during the year.

3. STRIDES. . .LIONS WALK FOR DIABETES AWARENESS BANNER PATCH AWARD

Upon verification of eligibility, Lions clubs, districts and multiple districts that organize a Strides Walk will be issued a one-time banner patch award. For subsequent years in which a Strides Walk is organized, a chevron bearing the fiscal year in which the walk was held, will be issued.

4. Multiple District Diabetes Awareness Chairperson Award

An appropriate award shall be provided annually to council chairpersons for presentation to the multiple district chairperson for achievement in fulfilling the requirements for this position.

K. LIONS CLUBS COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL ACTIVITY AWARD

- 1. Award description:** This annual award recognizes one club within a district that has been most active in organizing successful community cultural activities.
- 2. Eligibility and Selection:** All clubs within a district are eligible to participate. Each district governor shall present the award on behalf of Lions Clubs International to one Lions club within the district annually. The recipient club shall be named by the district governor in consultation with the District Cultural and Community Activities Chairperson and, as deemed appropriate, other Lions appointed by the governor to a judging panel.
- 3. Award:** An appropriate award shall be provided annually to district governors for presentation to the Lions club that has been most outstanding within the district in completing community and cultural activities during the year.

4. **Criteria:** Lions clubs considered for this award shall be judged for the success in organizing community and cultural activities according to the following criteria:
 - (a) **Service to others:** A Lions club's cultural and community activities shall be developed, organized and implemented to provide benefit to people in terms of knowledge, attitudes, values, skills, or mutual understanding and cooperation.
 - (b) **Involvement:** A Lions club's cultural and community activities shall be developed, organized and implemented to fulfill the Third Lions Object, "To take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community."
 - (c) **Originality:** This category challenges Lions clubs to develop cultural and community activities that are fresh, new and exciting in ways that will draw community interest and participation of members.
 - (d) **Outcomes:** A Lions club's cultural and community activities shall be developed and organized to improve the quality of life in measurable ways.
 - (e) **Public relations:** This category challenges Lions clubs to enhance their public image by publicizing their cultural and community activities through the news media and other avenues.

L. THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL HEARING AID RECYCLING PROGRAM

1. Program Description

The Lions Clubs International Hearing Aid Recycling Program (HARP) shall be implemented solely in accordance with policy established from time to time by the board of directors of Lions Clubs International.

2. Program Objectives

- (a) To establish an international hearing aid recycling program to promote the collection, refurbishing and distribution of donated hearing aids.
- (b) To provide clubs with a means of providing hearing aid assistance at an affordable cost.
- (c) To promote communication among Lions who collect used hearing aids.
- (d) To closely identify Lions with hearing aid recycling and distribution.
- (e) To facilitate the international expansion of the Lions Clubs International Hearing Aid Recycling Program.

3. Name and Emblem

- (a) The official name of the program shall be the Lions Clubs International Hearing Aid Recycling Program, and all Lions sponsored hearing aid centers shall be known as Lions hearing aid centers.
- (b) The Lions name and emblem are registered trademarks of the association and are the sole property of Lions Clubs International. All ownership rights in the Lions name and emblem, and all obligations with respect to protection and preservation thereof, shall rest in, and is retained by, Lions Clubs International.
- (c) The term “Lions” shall be incorporated into all names referring to a Lions hearing aid center. Furthermore, the Lions name and emblem, where appropriate, shall be displayed prominently on the premises, official stationery, hearing aid packaging, publications, and promotions of all Lions hearing aid centers.

4. Control and Operation

- (a) Lions hearing aid centers shall submit regular reports to Lions Clubs International on quantities of hearing aids collected and of refurbished hearing aids provided to needy people.
- (b) Hearing aids shall be dispensed by hearing professionals in strict accordance with local or national medical regulations.
- (c) Priority in supplying hearing aids shall be given to Lions projects or requests.
- (d) Hearing aids supplied to other humanitarian organizations shall be provided with the stipulation that such hearing aids be distributed free of charge.

5. Sponsorship

- (a) Lions clubs, districts, multiple districts, foundations, singly or jointly, may sponsor Lions hearing aid centers.
- (b) In areas where there is no Lions hearing aid center in operation, Lions are encouraged to support a center of their choice in another location.

6. Insurance Coverage

Each Lions hearing aid center shall carry insurance coverage as is appropriate to its operations. Such insurance shall be in addition to the general liability coverage provided by the association.

7. Promotion and Public Awareness

- (a) Lions Clubs International shall promote the concept and expansion of hearing aid centers.
- (b) Lions hearing aid centers shall be encouraged to create public awareness of Lions involvement in hearing aid recycling and to submit newsworthy information to Lions Clubs International for use in promoting the program.
- (c) Lions hearing aid centers shall be encouraged to share information with Lions interested in becoming involved in hearing aid collection.
- (d) Lions hearing aid centers are encouraged to establish working relationships with local hearing professionals or organizations, as appropriate.

M. LIONS FAMILY MONTH

The month of May shall be observed as Lions Family Month.

N. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY – Service Activities

Lions Clubs International affirms a policy of non-discrimination in all programs and activities without regard to race, color, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, gender, marital status, age, disability, veteran status or any other legally protected status.

The International Board of Directors is committed to this policy of non-discrimination and urges each Lions club to uphold the Lions Code of Ethics and purposes of Lions Clubs International by reflecting the common cause of friendship and service in all programs and activities in a non-discriminatory manner.

~~O. LIONS ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTO CONTEST~~

~~1. **Description:** An annual photo contest shall provide a way for Lions to portray, through an original photo, their pride and commitment to improving, protecting and preserving an aspect of the environment in which they live.~~

~~2. **Eligibility:** The contest is open to all Lions and Lions clubs in good standing.~~

~~3. **Rules:**~~

- ~~(a) Each multiple district or single district (where no multiple district exists) may submit one photo per year no later than March 1 in one of the following five categories:~~

- Landscapes (urban or natural)
- Animal Life
- Plant Life
- Weather Phenomena
- Special Theme (announced annually).

Each photo submission should include (in one of the official association languages) a title and a 25-word (or less) description of the photo and why the environment being depicted should be improved, protected or preserved.

Photos submitted will be displayed at the International Convention and judged by convention registrants for the categories indicated and for “Best of Show.”

(b) Multiple and single districts may conduct competitions among their respective clubs to select their finalist or “Best of Show” photo. Clubs should submit their entries to the district or multiple district no later than January 1.

(c) At all contest levels, all entries are to be judged in an objective manner by an impartial group of judges. Winners are to be selected on originality, artistic merit and portrayal of environmental themes.

(d) Photos and descriptions may be submitted to Lions Clubs International by e-mail or surface mail. A completed official entry form must accompany each entry. The contestant is responsible for ensuring that an e-mail file can be opened electronically and that the photo is received in good condition.

(e) Photographs must be original, unaltered in any way, and taken solely for the purpose of this contest. Photos depicting people will be disqualified. A photo may not be submitted twice. Lions Clubs International reserves the right to reject photos not meeting contest criteria.

(f) Submitted photos shall become property of Lions Clubs International. Lions Clubs International will be responsible for standardizing the size of the photo for framing and exhibiting. Entrants are responsible for all costs in taking and submitting photos.

4. Contest Award: Winners will receive a suitable award.

O. LIONS ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTO CONTEST

1. **Description:** An annual photo contest shall provide a way for Lions to portray, through an original photo, their pride and commitment to improving, protecting and preserving an aspect of the environment in which they live.
2. **Eligibility:** The contest is open to all Lions from clubs in good standing. Specific guidelines and contest rules will be posted on the LCI Web site.
3. **Contest Award:** Winners will receive a suitable award and have their photo displayed at the annual Lions Clubs International Convention.

P. LIONS SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AWARDS

1. **District Lions Services for Children Chairperson Award**
 - a. **Service Recognition:** Outstanding District Lions Services for Children Chairpersons will be presented with the award. Service in promoting and maintaining projects for children in need in the district will be the criteria for receiving an attractive certificate bearing the logo of the Lions Services for Children Program. Award certificates shall be provided annually to district governors for presentation to district chairpersons who fulfill award criteria.
 - b. **Eligibility:** To receive this recognition, the District Lions Services for Children Chairperson shall meet the following criteria:
 - (1) Outline and implement a plan of action for the district.
 - (2) Motivate by personal visits or regular communications a substantial number of clubs in the district to fulfill the mission of the Lions Services for Children Program.
 - (3) Increase Lions awareness of opportunities to assist children in need in the district through the Lions Services for Children Program.
 - (4) Submit a report to the district governor providing information on the accomplishment of (1), (2) and (3) above.
2. **Multiple District Lions Services for Children Chairperson Award**
 - a. **Service Recognition:** Outstanding Multiple District Lions Services for Children Chairpersons will be presented with the award. Award certificates shall be provided annually to the council chairpersons for presentation to multiple district chairpersons who fulfill award criteria.
 - b. **Eligibility:** To receive this recognition, the Multiple District Lions Services for Children Chairperson shall meet the following criteria:
 - (1) Outline and implement a plan of action for the multiple district.

- (2) Motivate a substantial number of districts to fulfill the mission of the Lions Services for Children Program.
- (3) Increase Lions awareness of the opportunities to assist children in need in the multiple district through the Lions Services for Children Program.
- (4) Submit a report to the council chairperson providing information on the accomplishment of (1), (2) and (3) above.

Q. LIONS DISTRICT ENVIRONMENT CHAIRPERSON AWARD

An appropriate award shall be provided annually to district governors for presentation to the district chairperson after fulfillment of criteria outlined in Exhibit A.

R. LIONS ALERT BANNER PATCH AWARD

To encourage support for the Lions ALERT Program, a one-time banner patch award shall be available to clubs, districts, and multiple districts that submit a comprehensive community-wide emergency preparedness plan to Lions International Headquarters.

S. ALERT CHAIRPERSON AWARDS

- a. District ALERT Chairperson Award** An appropriate award shall be provided annually to district governors for presentation to the district chairperson for achievement in fulfilling the requirements of the position.
- b. Multiple District ALERT Chairperson Award** An appropriate award shall be provided annually to council chairpersons for presentation to the multiple district chairperson for achievement in fulfilling the requirements of the position.

District Environment Award Criteria



The award should be presented to the district environment chairperson upon completion of a successful year. The chairperson may have undertaken one of the following projects to preserve the environment.

A district-level competition for the Lions Environmental Photo Contest

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/environment_photo_contest.shtml

A Family Tree Planting project

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/programs_cult_environ.shtml

A community clean-up campaign

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/programs_env_suggproj.shtml

A public environment program or seminar

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/programs_env_suggproj.shtml

A recycling project

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/programs_env_suggproj.shtml

A water purification project

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/programs_env_suggproj.shtml

For other project ideas, log onto the Lions Web site at:

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/programs_cult_environ.shtml

or contact: programs@lionsclubs.org