



Re: Bushfire Appeals

February 9, 2009

Lions wishing to assist with the Victorian Bushfire recovery may direct their donations to either District V5, or to the Australian Lions Foundation.

More information will be posted on the Multiple District website as it comes to hand.

AUSTRALIAN LIONS FOUNDATION

Australian Lions Foundation supporting Districts

The last week saw devastating events in Victoria with massive bushfires and flooding in Northern Queensland. Extremes that have impacted so many individuals and communities. Loss and damage to property, together with the tragic loss of life.

The Australian Lions Foundation (ALF) is providing Emergency Relief Grants to those Districts that have been impacted by these disasters.

The Australian Lions Foundation has immediately responded by donating over \$30,000 to the affected Districts but more help is needed..

Please support the Australian Lions Foundation by donating to the Emergency Grant Fund. This will allow funds to be distributed to support the local efforts of our Districts impacted by this devastation.

Contact your District ALF Chairman for further information or send your donation to your District Treasurer.

201V5 DISTRICT DISASTER RELIEF TRUST

The bushfires that have affected parts of Victoria over the last few days far exceed the devastating Ash Wednesday fires of 1983.

In the 201V5 District alone, areas along the Hume Highway at Wallan, Wandong and Kilmore have had fires destroying properties and loss of life. Similarly, the area north- east of Melbourne at Kinglake has also been affected with extensive property and stock losses. The lives lost unfortunately include members from a Lions family.

Further to the east, in Marysville and District, the town of Marysville has been 90% destroyed. Other surrounding rural areas have been wiped out. Businesses and private properties no longer exist.

Since early this morning, the Disaster Relief Trustees have been putting in place strategies to deal with and provide aid and assistance for those people in the affected areas. There are many aid agencies already on the job to provide for immediate physical needs.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

We the Trustees, believe we can best serve the population by providing food vouchers initially, followed by a post assessment of the needs of those most affected. This will take a few days if not a week or two to prioritise the physical and financial assistance we are able to give.

At this early stage, between forty and fifty thousand dollars has been indicated from club sources and the ALF. This of course will only be a drop in the bucket of what will ultimately be required.



Any assistance from Lions Clubs throughout Australia would be greatly appreciated.
Cheques payable to the "201V5 District Disaster Relief Trust" can be forwarded to me at P.O. Box 59,
Croydon, Victoria 3136. or to our bank account.

Bank: Westpac Bank, Wantirna South Branch
Account: 201V5 District Disaster Relief Trust
BSB and Account: 033-136 142930

I will undertake to give a complete report at the end of the exercise.

Donations to the Disaster Relief Trust are tax deductible. DGR: Number: 900463352

Regards,

Frank Pettit PDG
Secretary/Trustee.

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OFFERS MATERIAL ASSISTANCE

Lions in affected Districts are currently working through how to best manage offers of material assistance
eg: clothing, blankets, foodstuffs.

Please wait for further advice before sending goods.

Bob Buckley
Council Chairman
Lions Australia

Connections, influence, friendship, philanthropy - we serve our communities every day
<http://www.lionsclubs.org.au>