

video program to a local junior high or high school. Lions can also offer to implement a joint Lions/school service project.

Drug awareness

education is essential in reducing illegal drug use. All over the world, Lions aid this effort by organizing public forums and distributing information about alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

At International Headquarters, the Youth Programs Department has informational brochures available on the topics of: AIDS, alcohol, cocaine, inhalants, marijuana, proper use of medications, and tobacco.

The Street Children Program

addresses the needs of the world's 100 million homeless children.

Since introduction of this Lions program in 1996-97, many clubs have assisted street children. Some clubs have distributed food and clothing while others have worked with local social service agencies. In some areas, clubs have combined their resources to build shelters or develop job training programs for street children.



Scouting

remains one of the more popular youth activities sponsored by Lions. From its earliest days, the Scout movement (founded in England in 1910), has received support from Lions clubs.

Today, Scout troops exist for both boys and girls in more than 140 countries. In the US alone, Lions clubs sponsor more Boy Scout troops than any other nonreligious organization. Individual Lions can further their involvement with youth by volunteering to serve as a Scout leader.



The Lions International Peace Poster Contest

is the annual art contest for 11 to 13-year-olds sponsored by Lions clubs. Since the program's inception in 1988, more than 1.5 million youth have drawn posters depicting their visions of peace.

The grand prize winner of the contest receives US\$2500 and a free trip for themselves and two family members to New York City for Lions Day with the United Nations. The president of the sponsoring Lions Club also receives this free trip to New York City.

Lions activities for the benefit of youth include:

- arranging health screenings;
- providing educational scholarships;
- establishing tutoring programs;
- developing mentoring programs;
- donating computers;
- organizing literacy programs;
- sponsoring speech contests;
- funding athletic programs;
- building new playgrounds;
- organizing environment projects.



We Serve

For more information concerning Lions youth activities, contact:

Lions Clubs International
Youth Programs Department
300 22nd Street
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523-8842

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Lions clubs help youth to grow.

Lions clubs help youth to give.



We Serve



Lions humanitarian service benefits youth.

By their example, Lions demonstrate the importance of humanitarian service. In more than 180 countries, 1.4 million Lions volunteer to aid needy children, youth, and adults.

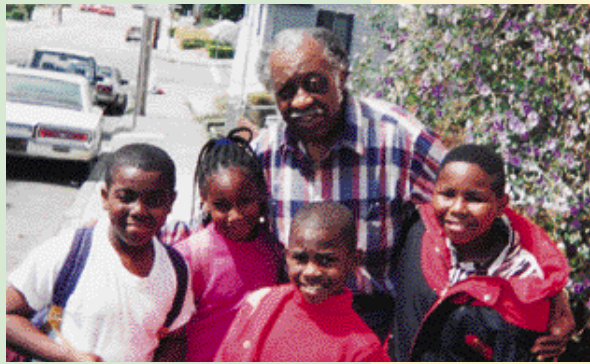
Although best known as "knights of the blind," Lions also provide: food, shelter, clothing, healthcare, educational opportunities, and job training for persons in need.



Aiding youth has always been a Lions priority. Since the founding of the association by Chicago businessman Melvin Jones in 1917, Lions have remained dedicated to helping youth.

...to make a community aware of its obligations to youth, find out what the needs of youth are, and help to fill those needs.

Lions Policy Statement on Youth Activities



As community leaders, Lions often fill the needs of local youth by sponsoring sports teams, providing scholarships, arranging for health services, and distributing drug awareness information.

Support for official Lions youth programs is available from International Headquarters in Oak Brook, Illinois, USA. In addition, Lions can provide assistance to youth projects in their communities. Either way, Lions humanitarian service benefits youth.

► The Leo Club Program's

motto is *Leadership Experience, Opportunity*. Structured similarly to Lions clubs, Leo clubs provide young people (between the ages of 12 and 28) with volunteer opportunities. As members of an international club, Leos also develop leadership skills. Leos often continue to serve their communities as Lions.

Around the world, more than 5,400 Leo clubs exist. Every club has a Lions club sponsor and an adult advisor. Implementing a joint Lions/Leo service project provides Lions with an opportunity to work with youth.



... recognizing youth as this world's greatest asset and hope for the future, (Lions Clubs International) believes that it is the humanitarian responsibility of individual Lions and Lions clubs throughout the world:

► The Lions International Youth Exchange Program

involves thousands of young people (ages 15 to 21) every year. The success of the program relies upon the willingness of Lions clubs to sponsor and host youth exchanges.

The objective of the Youth Exchange Program is *to foster international understanding among the peoples of the world.* By living with a host family, youth exchangees have an unique opportunity to learn about another culture.



► International Youth Camps

gather young people, ages 16-22, in one location for a multi-cultural experience.

Situated in urban settings as well as rural, international youth camps are usually the cooperative effort of many Lions clubs.

Organizing a (minimum) one-week camp, necessitates: fundraising, planning activities, transporting campers, preparing food, and arranging camp management.



► Youth Outreach:

Changing Tomorrow Today is a multifaceted Lions youth program. The mission of the program, *to help and challenge youth to learn, to achieve and to grow,* applies to drug abuse prevention, community services, education, environment, health, international services, and recreation programs. Four examples of Lions Youth Outreach programs are featured below.

Lions-Quest curricula

teaches youth the life-skills they need to resist drugs, alcohol, early sexual activity, and gang involvement. The three Lions-Quest programs are: *Skills for Growing* (ages five to 10), *Skills for Adolescence* (ages 10 to 14), and *Skills for Action* (ages 14 to 19).

Teachers in 35 countries have been trained to teach Lions-Quest curricula. Lions clubs support this acclaimed life skills/drug abuse prevention program by funding teacher training sessions. After introducing the curriculum in a classroom, Lions can offer to help implement a joint service project.

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The Future is Ours . . . So Now What?

program includes a 22-minute MTV-style video, a teacher's guide, and two posters that illustrate the message of youthful volunteer service.

Lions clubs in the US and Canada can present this award-winning