

LCIF

Facts

LCIF...SERVING THE WORLD COMMUNITY!

■ What is Lions Clubs International Foundation?

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is the charitable arm of Lions Clubs International (LCI). Incorporated in 1968, LCIF is a public, nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation as described in Section 501 (c) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

■ What is LCIF's mission?

To support the efforts of Lions clubs around the world in serving their local communities and the world community through humanitarian service, major disaster relief and vocational assistance programs.

■ How is the foundation governed?

A board of trustees comprised of the LCI board of directors, plus two appointed members governs LCIF. The immediate past international president of LCI always serves as chairman of the board of trustees.

■ How are the foundation's objectives achieved?

Through its grant programs, LCIF provides the necessary funds to mobilize Lions to meet vital worldwide needs. LCIF's grant programs include:

- **SightFirst** grants — support projects that fill the gaps between what is being done and what needs to be done to curb the rapid growth of preventable and reversible blindness. SightFirst projects respond to one or more of the leading causes of blindness: cataract, trachoma, onchocerciasis (river blindness), glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy. The Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP), which is part of the SightFirst program, enables Lions to fight the two leading causes of blindness in developed countries: glaucoma and diabetic eye disease.
- **Standard** grants — meet a wide range of community needs, including construction of schools and hospitals, homes for the elderly and the development of training programs for the disabled.

- **Core 4** grants — provide grants of up to US\$200,000 for high-impact Lions' service projects. Grants are awarded for select priority projects, as identified by the board of trustees, in the areas of: sight, health, disability and youth.
- **International Assistance Grants (IAG)** — fund projects that improve the quality of life through primary health care, food self-sufficiency, environmental protection, literacy and similar projects. Grants in this category require that Lions in at least two countries be involved in the project.
- **Major Catastrophe** grants — relieve suffering caused by catastrophes of national or international impact.
- **Emergency** grants — award up to US\$10,000 to meet immediate needs for food, clothing, medical supplies or blankets following a natural disaster. (LCIF is not a primary relief agency.)
- **Major International Service Program (MISP)** grants — serve as an important part of LCIF's outreach and have been awarded for diabetic retinopathy research, drug awareness and SightFirst.

■ Who are LCIF's donors?

Lions clubs and individual members worldwide are LCIF's primary contributors. In addition, corporations, foundations and individuals not associated with the organization contribute. LCIF does not receive any part of Lions' club dues.

■ How are donors' gifts to LCIF used?

Donations are disbursed as grants for humanitarian projects approved by the board of trustees. No portion of donated funds is used to cover operational or administrative expenses. By ruling of the board of trustees, these expenses must be paid from interest on investments.

■ How can I contact the foundation for more information?

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