Diabetes Treatment and Prevention
Diabetes prevention and control programs are funded through LCIF, which can include funding for equipment, education and awareness programs for underserved populations.

Opening Eyes
Opening Eyes is a partnership program with Special Olympics to provide vision screenings at select Special Olympics games. Since 2001, more than 250,000 athletes have been screened, and more than 99,000 provided with prescription eyeglasses. More than 15,000 Lions have volunteered their time at the screenings.

“'To support the efforts of Lions clubs worldwide in serving their local communities and the world community as they carry out essential humanitarian service projects.'

LCIF Mission Statement

“'We suffered a lot from stomachache, and the children had worms in their bellies. Some children were dying from stomachaches. But that doesn’t happen anymore,' said Niajale Diarra. Her village in Mali benefited from clean water after LCIF provided grant funding for a well.
Childhood Blindness
Since 2001, LCIF and the World Health Organization have been collaborating to address childhood blindness throughout the world. Thirty-five need-based Lions eye care centers have been established in countries all over the globe, delivering preventative, therapeutic and rehabilitative eye care services for 121 million children.

SightFirst China Action
Through SightFirst China Action, 5 million cataract surgeries have been carried out in China, home to 20 percent of the world’s blind from cataract. Additionally, medical staff has been trained and clinics upgraded to increase accessibility to eye care.

Sight for Kids
LCIF and Johnson & Johnson collaborated to develop Sight for Kids, a program that has provided vision screenings, follow up treatment and eye health education to more than 14 million children in Asia.

River Blindness
SightFirst has supported more than 148 million treatments for river blindness in 15 countries in Africa and Latin America in partnership with The Carter Center. As a result, experts foresee eradication in Latin America by 2012.

Trachoma
Lions and LCIF provide support for 10 million people who have trachoma through medication, surgery, training of health workers, improving hygiene and health education.

FOUNDATION OVERVIEW
One of the most important ways that Lions make a difference in their communities and the world is through Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), the official charitable organization of Lions Clubs International. With funding from LCIF, Lions carry out large-scale humanitarian projects in their community.

Every dollar donated to the Foundation goes directly toward a grant, as administrative costs are paid by interest on investments. Lions’ support of the Foundation is critical, as donations from Lions provide the majority of LCIF’s revenue.

Since LCIF began in 1968, it has awarded more than 10,268 grants totaling more than US$729 million. Together, Lions and LCIF are making a difference for millions of people. “We Serve” better together.

SIGHT
Lions are known worldwide for blindness prevention. Since the SightFirst Program began in 1990, 7.8 million people have had their sight restored through cataract surgeries, 30 million people have had vision loss prevented and hundreds of millions of people have received improved eye care services. Lions and LCIF are establishing and expanding sustainable eye health care systems in underserved areas.

Through two fundraising campaigns, Lions have raised more than US$415 million to continue and expand SightFirst Programs. Thanks to SightFirst and Lions, the battle against preventable blindness remains a priority in communities worldwide.

“I feel complete now. I cannot thank the Lions enough for restoring my sight. For the first time in a year, I am able to work. It’s like being born again,” said Nicolas Diaz, a former taxi driver in Mexico. He attended a Lions’ SightFirst vision screening and received free cataract surgery.

Support LCIF at www.lcif.org/donate.

YOUTH
Supporting the development of youth is a major initiative of LCIF. Lions are bettering the future of children all over the world through improved education and health.

Lions Quest
Lions Quest is a school-based life-skills program for children from kindergarten to 12th grade. More than 12 million children have taken part in a Lions Quest classroom and more than 500,000 educators have been trained to implement the program. Lions Quest teaches responsible decision-making, effective communication and drug prevention.

HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS
Many of LCIF’s successful humanitarian programs range from combating disability to disaster relief efforts. Lions continue to develop projects that address the immediate and long-term needs of their local and global community.

Disaster Relief
LCIF emergency grants enable Lions to meet immediate needs such as food, water, clothing, and medical supplies. LCIF awards approximately US$2 million for disaster relief each year. Lions often offer additional assistance through volunteering or donating supplies. When disasters occur on a larger scale, major catastrophe grants are awarded for long-term reconstruction projects. LCIF has provided funding for recent catastrophes including Haiti and China earthquakes, Hurricane Katrina and South Asia tsunami.

Measles Initiative
More than 41 million children will benefit from the partnership program fighting measles and childhood blindness. LCIF is working with the Measles Initiative, a worldwide effort to protect children from measles & strengthen routine immunization services.