**LCIF NEWS**

**Introduction**

Thank you to those Clubs that have donated recently to LCIF. I was amazed to learn this month that since its formation in 1968 LCIF has now donated over **one** **billion US dollars** (£800 million) in 13,000 grants. We should be proud of our own charity and the fact the world is a better place for many thanks to LCIF. The LCIF mission is ’to support the efforts of Lions Clubs and partners in serving communities locally and globally, giving hope and impacting lives through humanitarian projects and grants’ and I believe this has been demonstrated very well over the last 49 years.

**Disaster grants**

Four disaster grants were awarded in February to assist flood relief in Peru, Brazil and Zambia and for tornado relief in USA.

**LCIF Measles and Rubella Initiative**

As we move into the last twelve months of the Measles and Rubella Initiative I would like to repeat my previous comments on this amazing children’s humanitarian initiative. This is still continuing and tens of thousands of deaths have been averted – mostly of children. £16 million has been raised to date. LCIF has committed to providing Gavi Alliance (a public-private partnership whose mission is to save children’s lives and protect people’s health) a further £8 million by December 2017. In 2016 Lions and partners have conducted measles activities in six countries and over this year this will extend into another five or more countries with support from local Lions who play a key role in social mobilisation efforts by working with local leaders, coordinating community-level publicity and serving as volunteers at vaccination centres. More than 65 million children have been vaccinated to date, resulting in more than 45,000 deaths averted. Until the involvement of Gavi and LCIF approximately four hundred children were dying every day from measles and rubella. I do hope your Club can make a donation, or further donation, to the LCIF Measles and Rubella Initiative. Any donations should be made via the District Treasurer, with payments to ‘LCI 105D Measles’.

**Melvin Jones Fellowships (MJFs)**

Don’t forget that your Club is likely to have a credit towards Melvin Jones Fellowships. Please contact me to ascertain your Club’s credit.

**Other LCIF matters**

Please contact me if you have any questions relating to LCIF, MJFs, etc.

PDG Lion Patrick Hamblin, District 105D LCIF Coordinator (patrick.hamblin@btinternet.com) 

29th March 2017