**LCIF NEWS**

**Introduction:**

On behalf of LCIF I would again like to thank all Clubs that have made donations to LCIF since my last newsletter.

**Disaster Grants:**

In December 2017 LCIF awarded 11 disaster grants totalling £81,650 and in January 2018 six grants totalling £39,000. These were for volcano, earthquake, flood, cyclone, wildfire, hailstorm and tornado relief.

**Melvin Jones Fellowships (MJFs):**

I would remind you again that a very large number of Clubs have sufficient credits to be able to award one or more (in a number of cases many) Melvin Jones Fellowships. Please email me if you wish to be made aware of your Club’s credits. Even if these do not amount to US$1,000, a Club can pay the difference between the credit and the required amount and still obtain the MJF.

**Donations:**

Only 50% of Clubs in the District have donated to LCIF this fiscal year. If your Club has not made a donation to LCIF this fiscal year please discuss and remember LCIF is **our** charity. Your Club can decide if it wishes its donation to be for ‘area of greatest need’, disaster, sight or youth. Funding directed to ‘area of greatest need’ provides LCIF with the ability to financially support any programme and allows the flexibility to supplement initiatives where additional funding is necessary or where the need is most urgent and to fund projects that meet diverse community needs beyond sight, disaster and youth, such as water wells and vocational training programmes for the disabled. Payments should be made via the District Treasurer in the usual way, specifying ‘LCIF’ and the area for which the donation is intended.

**Measles and Rubella Initiative:**

I am very pleased to let you know that LCIF has reached the goal of US$30 million (£21,300,000) which was set some years ago for the Measles and Rubella Initiative. This amount has been increased with donations from the UK Government and the Gates Foundation of US$15,000 each, making the total amount paid over to GAVI, the immunisation body, of £42,600,000. This will enable 87.7 million children to be immunised and it is estimated 61,000 future deaths to be prevented.

**Presentations on LCIF:**

As mentioned previously, part of my role is to provide presentations to de-mystify LCIF. These can be given to individual Clubs but preferably to Zone meetings. Please liaise with your Zone Chairman and request a presentation on LCIF.

**Other LCIF matters:**

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

Why not take a look at the LCIF website? The link is <http://www.lcif.org/EN/index.php>.

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

 

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