**LCIF NEWS**

**Introduction:**

Once again on behalf of LCIF a very big thank you to those Clubs that have donated to LCIF these last few weeks.

**Natural disasters:**

I have recently been advised that since 1st July 2017 to the end of September 2017 LCIF has awarded 65 grants totalling approximately £3 million for various natural disaster relief in Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mauritania, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland, Republic of South Korea, Sierra Leone and USA. Since that information was available to me further grants have been given following the various natural disasters, including £75,000 to Puerto Rico.

I am sometimes asked why no grant has been made to a particular country following a natural disaster. Clubs in the area have to apply for a grant before LCIF will consider. It does not send funds to a country simply because there has been a problem – it needs local Clubs involvement.

**LCIF Charity Navigator award**

LCIF has recently been awarded the sixth consecutive 4-Star Charity Navigator rating. Only 5% of evaluated organisations achieve six consecutive five-star ratings, which means that LCIF exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities serving similar causes. Founded in 2001, Charity Navigator (CN) is the largest and most utilised charity evaluator in the United States. CN examines the financial health, accountability and transparency of charities to determine its ratings. LCIF’s 4-star rating indicates that it consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way. For many years it has been LCIF’s Board policy that all administrative expenses be covered by income generated by investments. In practice, LCIF’s investment income covers both administrative and fundraising expenses. **This means that 100% of donations received by LCIF go directly to the causes it serves.**

**Measles and Rubella Initiative**

The matching grant with the Gates Foundation and UK Aid (HM Government) will end at 31st December 2017. There is currently a shortfall in the Lions agreed donation of approximately £3 million. I do hope your Club might be able to make one more donation to the ‘One Shot One Life Lions measles initiative’, to help save 400 children dying every day. Please make your payment to the 105D District Treasurer. Cheques should be payable to LCI District 105D and endorsed on the back ‘LCIF Measles’. Electronic payments to the District Treasurer should indicate they are for the ‘LCIF Measles’.

**LCIF Club Coordinators:**

I would like to draw LCIF Club Coordinators’ attention to some very helpful guidance available on the following link: <http://www.lcif.org/EN/resources/coordinator-center/club-lcif.php>

**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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