

# THE LEMONG'O PROJECT

Nutrition  
Education  
Health  
Employment  
In Rural Kenya



Summer 2016  
**Health**

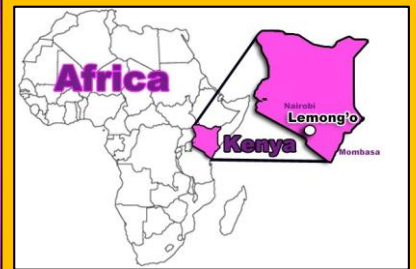
The Lemong'o Project is dedicated to providing support to the Maasai Village of Lemong'o in rural Kenya in the areas of: health, nutrition, education, and employment. We are committed to helping the beautiful people of Lemong'o not only thrive, but also prosper.

## HEALTH IN LEMONG'O:

### The Shoe That Grows

- Over 300 million children in the world do not have shoes \*
- Over 2 billion people suffer from soil-transmitted diseases and parasites \*
- Children outgrow traditional shoe sizes each year
- **Eagle River Bear Mt. Leos**, the Lions youth organization, have raised funds for and gifted *The Lemong'o Project* with **100 pairs of Shoes That Grow**

\* from: [theshoethatgrows.org](http://theshoethatgrows.org)



## SPOTLIGHT ON:

### Alaska Lion Teens Reach Out to Help Children Around the World

Alaska teens who are part of the Lions' youth organization, LEOS, have tackled a major project to provide sturdy sandals for children in the developing world. The Eagle River Bear Mountain LEOS, under the leadership of Lindsay Vance, a Junior at Eagle River High School and past president of the ERM LEOS, have raised \$2000 to provide 100 pairs of *Shoes That Grow* to *The Lemong'o Project*. Lindsay presented the shoes to Carolyn Tague, founder of *The Lemong'o Project*, at the Lions' Annual Alaskan Convention in April. Founded in 1957, LEOS (Leadership, Equality and Opportunity) is the official youth organization of Lions International. The program's emphasis is on youth having fun, developing leadership skills and serving their communities. Lindsay stated, "When Leos learned that 300 million people in the world suffer from parasitic foot infection because they have no shoes or shoes that don't fit, we thought we could make a difference. At \$20 per pair, we thought this project was a perfect fit for our major LEOS centennial project; Lions will celebrate 100 years of service in 2017. We have had a tremendous response from family members, Lions Cubs, individual Lions and the broader community. As LEOS we're very excited about this awesome project." The shoes were developed by Kenton Lee of Napa, ID in response to the needs of children he saw in Africa while a volunteer with an AIDS project. He designed a shoe that would grow (STG) with the child. The shoes have a unique buckle, snap and tab system that allows the shoe to grow five sizes. The shoe comes in two sizes (Small: K-4th grade and Large: 5th-9th grade) in several colors and will last five years. In the past two years, 30,000 plus pairs of STG have been distributed world-wide. Many thanks to the LEOS!



*The Shoe That Grows*

## VOLUNTEER CORNER:

*Lindsey Vance*

My first major community service project with the Bear Mountain Leos was as a part of the National Junior Honor Society program through my school. I've grown to love the Leos as an organization through their focus on existing community projects we choose to work on. Lion Walt Hays introduced me to the *Shoes That Grow* project and how durable shoes could help the children of Lemong'o. I took this exciting proposal to multiple Lions Clubs in our state bringing awareness that the children of Lemong'o suffer from various diseases transmitted from the contaminated soil to their bare feet. Providing them with shoes with straps that adjust as they grow was just what the children needed as a long-term solution. Thanks to generous donations from Lions clubs and many individuals throughout the state, since February 6th I'm happy to say we've reached our goal of sending 100 pairs of shoes to Lemong'o

## A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- **Walt Hays** – for connecting Eagle River Bear Mountain Leos with *The Lemong'o Project*
- **Lindsey Vance** – For coordinating *The Shoe That Grows Project*, Past President ERBM Leos
- **Bonnie Leonhard** - Advisor for Leos District 49A
- **LIONS 49 A/B ALASKA**



L to R: Bonnie Leonhard, Carolyn Tague, Naresh Aggarwal, Lindsay Vance  
PHOTO CREDIT: Jim McGowan



LEOS working on the project

PHOTO CREDIT: Jim McGowan

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