



September 2025

Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead

IN THIS ISSUE

[Welcome New Members](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[Can Do Canines](#)

[Childhood Cancer](#)

[DG Governor](#)

[DG-1st Vice](#)

[DG-2nd Vice](#)

[Diabetes](#)

[District Information](#)

[Event Flyers](#)

[GET-Global Extension Team](#)

[GLT-Global Leadership Team](#)

[GMT-Global Membership Team](#)

[GST-Global Service Team](#)

[Hearing](#)

[KidSight](#)

[LCI Marketing](#)

[LCIF](#)

[Leader Dogs](#)

[LEO's](#)

[Lion Club TV Show](#)

[Lions International Trading Pin Club](#)

[Lions Serving](#)

[Media Minute](#)

[Mid-Winter Convention 2026](#)

[Special Olympics](#)

[State Fair Lions](#)

[Terms & Abbreviations](#)

[Vision](#)

[Web Sites & Links](#)

[Youth Exchange & Youth Camps](#)

[Zone Chairs](#)

Congratulations to

St Bonifacius Lions Celebrating 54 Years

09-13-1971



A BIG Belated THANK YOU
from our friends and buck-a-Roo's at
the Hamel Rodeo!



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!



Way to go Lions and Clubs – We are GROWING!



Thank you for all your dedication and commitment to strengthening our Clubs, our District, and Lions International. Your hard work is paying off, and our increasing membership means we can achieve even more together.
New Members = More Service!!

New Member	Sponsor	Club
Greg Hoseth	David Christian	Rogers Lions Club
Ryan Sukhram	Ethan Stowe	Rogers Lions Club
Kevin Roetzer	Bruce Strachota	St. Louis Park Lions

Congratulations! You're now a part of the world's largest humanitarian service organization. This means that you've joined a global community of kind-hearted, service-minded people, dedicated to making a positive impact.

We couldn't be happier to have you as a Lion!

[Click here for more information from Lions Club International](#)

Let's Keep PUMPING UP THE 5M-5 PRIDE!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

If the Date (Month, Day) is blue and underlined, that is a link to more info, a flyer, an email, or a website.
If the Date (Month, Day) is black and not underlined, there is no link or further information at this time.

[Submit articles](#), news, photo for the next issue by the 25th To this email:
lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com

September 2025			
09/01/2025	Hamel Lions Flea Market	Medina Entertainment Center Parking Lot 500 Hwy 55 W Medina, MN	6 AM to Noon
09/01/2025	LCI Convention Fundraiser Convention Pins and Snowman Patches <i>(will be ongoing)</i>		
09/05/2025	Excelsior Lions Golf Classic	Timber Creek Golf Course 9750 County Rd 24 Watertown, MN	9 AM Shotgun Start
09/05/2025 09/06/2025	Osseo Lions Roar Days	Downtown Osseo	Various times & events
09/10/2025	Mpls Downtown Next Gen Lions Steak Fry	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road	5 PM to 7 PM <i>(Crystal Lions cooking)</i>
09/13/2025	Maple Grove Lions- Rock n Grove-Hairball	Maple Grove Central Park 12000 Central Park Way Maple Grove, MN	12 Noon to 11:00 PM
09/13/2025	Bloomington Lions- Kid's Vision Screening	Bloomington Farmers Market 1800 W Old Shakopee Rd Bloomington, MN	8 AM to 1 PM
09/13/2025	Can Do Woofaroo!	9440 Science Center Drive New Hope, MN	10 AM Registration Starts
09/14/2025	Riverview Lions French Toast Breakfast	St. Albert the Great Corner of 32nd Ave & 29th St. Minneapolis, MN	9 AM to 12 Noon
09/18/2025	USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum	Atlantic City, NJ	TBD
09/25/2025	RLLI Regional Lions Leadership Institute	Country Inn & Suites Mankato, MN	TBD
October 2025			
10/03/2025	Project New Hope Retreat	Good Earth Village Spring Valley, MN	NA
10/08/2025	5M5 Past District Governors Steak Fry	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road Crystal, MN	5 PM to 7 PM <i>(Crystal Lions cooking)</i>
10/11/2025	5M Lions Lego Pub Crawl	Elsies, 729 Marshall St NE NE Yacht Club, 801 Marshall St NE 1029 Bar, 1029 Marshall St NE	1 PM to 6 PM <i>(Starts at Elsie's)</i>
10/18/2025	Council of Governors	Alexandria, MN	TBD

<u>10/25/2025</u>	Mpls Downtown Next Gen STEP UP for Mental Health	901 S. Marquette Ave Minneapolis, MN	10 AM Start
<u>10/27/2025</u>	5M5 Cabinet Meeting	TBD	TBD
<u>10/28/2025</u>	5M5 Spooky Service Carnival	Ridgedale Library 12601 Ridgedale Dr. Minnetonka, MN	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM
November 2025			
<u>11/01/2025</u>	Thanksgiving for Vison	Holiday Inn St. Cloud	TBD
<u>11/02/2025</u>	Daylight Savings FALL BACK		2:00 AM
<u>11/08/2025</u>	Maple Grove Holiday Boutique	Maple Grove Comm. Center 12951 Weaver Lake Road	9 AM to 4 PM
11/10/2025	All Club Meeting	TBD	TBD
<u>11/12/2025</u>	Crystal Lions Steak Fry	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road	5 PM to 7 PM
<u>11/28/2025</u> <u>11/29/2025</u>	Excelsior Lions Christmas in Excelsior	Historic Water Street	10 AM to 6 PM
December 2025			
12/05/2025	Project New Hope Retreat	Faith Haven Camp near Battle Lake, MN	NA
<u>12/10/2025</u>	Crystal Lions Steak Fry	Crystal VFW 5222 Bass Lake Road	5 PM to 7 PM
January 2026			
01/09/2026	Mid-Winter Convention, Day 1	Sheraton Minneapolis West 12201 Ridgedale Drive Minnetonka, MN	Noon
01/10/2026	5M5 Cabinet Meeting, at MWC	Sheraton Minneapolis West	TBD
01/10/2026	Mid-Winter Convention, Day 2	Sheraton Minneapolis West	TBD
01/11/2026	Mid-Winter Convention, Day 3	Sheraton Minneapolis West	TBD
March 2026			
<u>03/31/2026</u>	GMT Speed Learning	Hamel Community Center	6 PM to 8 PM
April 2026			
<u>04/24/2026</u>	MD5M Multiple Convention	Sheraton Mpls West Hotel	
July 2029			
<u>06/29/2029</u> <u>07/03/2029</u>	Lions Club International Convention	TBD	TBD



DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Lion Sara McFee



Serve with Passion!

What is your Prize?

We hear about awards and recognition, but what is the real prize of being a Lion? The “*aha moment*” that touches your heart and reminds you why you are a Lion. 5M-5 Lions have shared the following prize moments with me:

- *The smile of a Guatemalan seeing clearly with a pair of donated eyeglasses.* Lion Chuck / Osseo Lions
- *Families receiving bins of food gathered and distributed by Lions.* Lion Tim / Maple Grove Lions
- *A fairgoer returning to Lions KidSight the next year to report their child was thriving in school when a potential eye condition was identified by KidSight screening. The parents took the child to an eye professional, and the eye condition was corrected, eliminating the need for medication previously prescribed.* Lion Colleen / Robbinsdale Lions
- *Successful high school and college graduation and a Veterinarian Tech career made possible because of a Can Do Canines anxiety therapy dog.* Lion Liz / Minneapolis Downtown Next Generation Lions
- *The pride of raising funds to make a difference by donating to community needs.* Lion Robert / Hopkins Lions

These moments, and many others, are our true prizes — and they multiply every time we serve.

5M-5's Informer, Facebook page and website are filled with info about our 5M-5 Lions. Read, share, and invite your Lions and future Lions to join in the fun and fellowship of our service!

September Challenge

- Invite 3 people — potential members you connected with during August — to join your club.
- Identify new service and community opportunities you learned about during your August conversations with community and business leaders.
- Share these ideas with your club and determine which opportunities your club wants to move ahead with.

Together, We Serve. Serve with Passion.

Thank you – for everything you do to improve your communities and the world.

Lion Sara McFee
5M5 District Governor
Minneapolis Ambassadors Lions Club
LionSaraMcFee@gmail.com



1st VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Lion Bruce Strachota



Greetings from your FVDG Bruce Strachota.

IP Singh believes that all Lions should be “Servant Leaders.” What does that mean? All of us are servants-we seek to serve all in need. But specifically, to be a “servant leader” is to be someone who provides a structure for service. Someone who is willing to create a plan or strategy to guide others in meaningful service. I have been the chairperson of multiple fundraisers and service projects, but I never thought I was a real leader. Now I am starting to get the idea that I can be a leader. Leadership is important but real leaders are humble and always strive to put others first.



I hope more Lions will decide to be “servant leaders” in the future. Our organization needs them, and you can be effective. You can be the spark that lights the flame in all of us.

My learning path has taken me in many directions so far and I am always striving to accept everyone for who they are, faults and all. I also believe in welcoming everyone to our organization. Every person is needed to help and comfort those who are really having a challenging time.

It is my sincere hope that everyone will consider our many opportunities to become leaders. Consider attending the following leadership events:

- USA/Canada Forum- September 18-20 in Atlantic City
- RLLI (Regional Lions Leadership Institute)- September 25-28 in Mankato
- Northern Pride Forum- coming in November.

Thanks all of you for your hard work and dedication.

Yours in Lionism,

1st VDG Lion Bruce Strachota



2nd VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Lion Ken Kumpula



Greetings fellow Lions, so much to learn. Like I need to get an article in every month by a certain date!

I have been asked why I joined Lions on several occasions. As you may have heard, there is a time when you joined the Lions, and a moment when you become a Lion. If you are a member of my club, Maple Grove and have attended or will be attending my New Member Orientation session, you can stop reading here.

So, my friend, Steve Larson was the club president when I joined. He tricked me into it you see. As a president you need to bring in two new members. So, I agreed to stick around for the year to help him meet his number.

Then the club's annual food basket project took place. This is a partnership with the Maple Grove Fire Relief Association. One basket is actually four totes, so a lot of food. We load the baskets into cars from local churches and they distribute the baskets. Well as I was helping to load a basket into a car that was in rough shape, I noticed the girl was crying. I moved away from her and to the person in charge of this church group to let him know what was going on. He looked over, then said "those are for her."

That was the moment.

Yours in peace, Lion Ken Kumpula





GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM (GMT)

District 5M-5 Global Membership Team (GMT) End of Year Celebration Report, August 2025



When Membership Grows,

Our Service Grows,

and Our Impact Grows.



More ROAR!

WELCOME TO THE PRIDE—LET'S CELEBRATE!

Have you brought someone new into the Lions family lately?
That's a BIG DEAL – and we want to shout it from the rooftops!
OR – we'll come to YOU!



Invite us to your next club meeting and we'll personally honor your amazing recruiters with their pins.



We also want to meet every new member because every new Lion makes us stronger.
Let's give them the warmest, loudest, most Lion-worthy welcome they've ever had.

5M-5 MEMBERSHIP STATS (As of 08/31/2025)



- Total Clubs: 37
- District 5M-5 Membership: 1,353
- Net Gain: -1
- Members Dropped: -42
- Members Added: 41!!



Let's be real—the numbers show we've got work to do.

But here's the good news: momentum is on our side.

LET'S KEEP PUMPING UP THE PRIDE!

Your District Global Membership Team is here for YOU.

Want to grow your club?

Strengthen your team?

Keep members engaged?

We're all ears—and full of ideas.

Let's talk about what's working, what's not, and how we can keep more Lions in the den.

NOW RECRUITING: POWERHOUSE LIONS!

Love energizing people?

Obsessed with growing impact?

Ready to roar louder than ever?

We're building the boldest GMT team around—and we want you on it.

If you've got the fire, we've got the fun (and strategy) to match.

Let's shake things up. Let's lead with purpose. Let's grow this Pride.



With Lion Pride,

Your Global Membership Team

Lion Hannah Maxwell

GET Chair Michael Crenshaw

PDG Jennifer Marshall

1st VDG Bruce Strachota

Lion Shari Thurston

PDG Kristine Morin

PDG Kim Schommer

GMT Chair Lion Heidi Zaworski

LionHeidiZaworski@Gmail.com

Lion Denise Dietz

PDG Dick Kentzelman

DG Sara McFee

612.408.0242

<https://lions5m5.org/gmt-global-membership>

GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM (GST)

WE SERVE IN UNITY



Childhood
Cancer



Diabetes



Disaster



Environment



Humanitarian



Hunger



Vision



Youth

In September, the Key Service area we are focusing on is LCIF - Lions Club International Foundation. We would like your club to donate to our Lions Foundation this month. Check out the web site – lionsclubs.org - for more information on all the great work done by our Foundation.



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

The list of requirements for the Club Excellence Award for 2025 – 2025 is now on the Lions International web site. Here are the Service Requirements that you need to fulfill if you want to win this award:

Service

- Report a minimum of four service activities to Lions International. Three of these activities must show participation in each of the three International [Weeks of Service](#).

Mental health and well-being
October 4-12, 2025

Hunger
January 3-11, 2026

Environment
April 18-26, 2026

By participating, you'll be part of three impactful weeks dedicated to creating positive change and making a difference in communities around the globe — together. So, get involved and help drive collective action for a better future!

LET'S KEEP ROARING 5M5!

MEDIA MINUTE

MEDIA TIPS FOR CLUBS

Show Faces, Boost Engagement

Post photos of your members in action.

People connect more with real faces and stories than flyers or plain text.

Show service happening, and your community will be more likely to like, share, and engage.



WHY ENGAGEMENT MATTERS FOR YOUR LIONS CLUB PAGE

On social media, success isn't just about how many followers your Lions club page has—it's about engagement. Engagement includes likes, comments, shares, and clicks, all of which show that your community is connecting with your posts.

More engagement means more visibility for your service projects and events, helping inspire people to volunteer, attend, or even join your club. By encouraging interaction, your Lions club builds stronger connections and shows the difference we make every day.

JOIN THE DISTRICT 5M5 LIONS NETWORK

The District 5M5 Lions Network on Facebook is just for our 5M5 members! Share updates or ask for help using your personal or club Facebook account. Just search the name and look for the yellow cover photo. Join today and start posting!



Hannah Maxwell

Marketing/ Communications
Cabinet Chair

hannahmax2021@gmail.com
(763)-412-7384

Contact me for any questions relating to marketing and communication for yourself or your club.

ZONE CHAIRS

ZONE 1 CHAIR (terms ends 2027)

Laurie Carlson lcarlson@candocanines.org

Loretto Lions
Mpls. Can Do Canines
New Hope Lions
St. Louis Park Lions
Wayzata Lions

ZONE 3 CHAIR (terms ends 2027)

Amber Georgeson georgeson.amber@gmail.com

Hopkins Noontime Lions *(now meets evenings and name changing soon)*
Minneapolis Ambassadors Lions
Minneapolis Next Generation Downtown Lions
Minneapolis Northeast Lions
Minneapolis Northside Roaring Lions

ZONE 5 CHAIR

Michael Crenshaw bplionmichael@gmail.com

Brooklyn Center Lady Lions
Brooklyn Center Lions
Brooklyn Park Lady Lions
Brooklyn Park Lions
Osseo Lions
Robbinsdale Lions

ZONE 2 CHAIR (terms ends 2027)

Regina Aiken raiken@tonkafinancial.com

Eden Prairie Lions
Eden Prairie Lioness Lions
Edina Lions
Hopkins Lions
Northwest Tonka Lions
Orono Lions
Saint Bonifacius Lions

ZONE 4 CHAIR

Andy Leifort andy.nextgenlions@gmail.com

Bloomington Lions
Camden Lions
Excelsior Lions
Minneapolis Riverview Lions
Minneapolis Southwest Lions
Minneapolis Special Olympics Minnesota Lions
Richfield Lions

ZONE 6 CHAIR (terms ends 2026)

Vickie Parks vickieparks@gmail.com

Corcoran Lions
Dayton Lions
Hamel Lions
Maple Grove Lions
Plymouth Lions
Rogers Lions

REGION CHAIR

Lion Heidi Zaworski

LionHeidiZaworski@gmail.com

ALL-CLUB (ZONE) MEETING DATES

Open to all 5M5 Lions and potential new Lions attending as guest of 5M5 Lion.

Option to attend at no cost if not eating dinner.

August 25, 2025

November 10, 2025

April 13, 2026

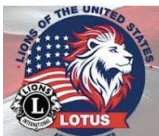
RSVP BY DATE & LOCATION INFORMATION

RSVP's needed for dinner and no dinner attendees for venue setup.

Watch for information in / during

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| - Email | - Monthly Informer |
| Announcements | Newsletter |
| - Lions5M5.org | - Lions 5M5 social |
| Website | media |
| | - Club Meetings |

5M5 DISTRICT INFORMATION



Lions of the United States are more than just volunteers.

We are a global force of compassion and service, united by a shared mission to offer hope by improving and strengthening our communities and the world!

Learn more (and subscribe for free) www.YouTube.com/@USLionsRock

Share the Lions YouTube link with your Lions club, and others who want to volunteer and be a part of meaningful change.



Calendar of Events and Activities - District 5M5's calendar is your key source for information on what is happening at the club, District, Multiple, and International levels. The 5M5's District website calendar is updated throughout the month at Lions5M5.org



5M5 District Website Update - 5M5's website has a fresh look! Check out the website for information, resources, and calendar. Click on the above title to learn more.



New Facebook page - we have a new page. It's:

District 5M5 Lions Network: Connect, Serve & Grow

Check it out and "Follow" it! Here is the link to the page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/district5m5lions>



Lions License Plates for your cars - After January 1, 2024, you will be able to purchase special Lions plates for your vehicles! Minnesota lawmakers approved a Lions Club special plate for use on passenger automobiles, non-commercial one-ton pickup trucks, motorcycles, and recreational vehicles. Ask to purchase the Lions plates at a Minnesota Driver and Vehicles office. The plate includes the Lions logo.

LCI's Eight Global Causes



While LCI's website is still being updated, it is true that Lions Clubs International's Eight Global Causes now include Childhood Cancer, Diabetes, Disaster Relief, Environment, Humanitarian, Hunger, Vision, and Youth. This is great info to share with your club, potential members, and your community!

2029 Lions International Convention in Minneapolis

Volunteers will be needed before and after the Lions International's annual convention in Minneapolis. From planning to hosting to help with airport arrivals and departures, there will be opportunities to welcome and connect with Lions from around the world. Watch for updates.

(The last Lions International convention was in Minneapolis in 2009.)

MID WINTER CONVENTION 2026

Convention Committee Members Needed

Volunteers are needed to help plan, promote and organize the 2026 Midwinter Convention. If you have an interest in being part of the pride that makes the convention successful, here is your opportunity to learn more about it!

Audio Visual – Coordinate the audio-visual needs and set up with the hotel and their provider AV for you. Be on site to make sure needs are met and troubleshoot as needed.

Ballroom Set-Up for Events – Be involved in the planning for events to be held in the Ballroom and on hand prior to the events to make sure everything is set up correctly.

Collection of coats, socks, eyeglasses and other items – Determine collection site for donations, make arrangements to have donations picked-up on Saturday afternoon. Coordinate promotion of the donations in Convention literature and talking points.

Contests: Crock Pot Challenge and Dessert Challenge - Organize both events, deliver needed materials to clubs, pick up vote boxes, count votes, announce winner at the Sunday breakfast.

Display Tables for Foundations and Projects – Take reservations for display tables, work with the hotel to order and set up tables, consider charging for table, manage set up and organization of tables for the event.

Every Day Hero Awards – Promote Every Day Hero Awards, receive applications and checks for the awards. Create slides with picture and informational bullets for the Award Program. Assemble plaques and certificates to be presented.

First Timer Contest – Prepare contest form to be distributed to new attendees. Collect completed forms, score forms and announce winner at the Sunday Breakfast.

Hospitality Books & Meal Tickets - Receive orders for hospitality books and meal tickets, deliver tickets and books to recipients. Prepare counts for hotel guarantees, collect tickets at events. Sell extra tickets/seats prior to events.

Hospitality Room Theme Competition and Judging – Prepare judging form, appoint judges, count score, announce winners at Sunday Breakfast.

Hospitality Rooms - Receive orders for hospitality rooms, notify clubs that their orders have been received, notify clubs of their room number and check in process.

Leo District Meeting and Service Projects – Coordinate the Leo District meeting and service projects with the District Leo Chair. Monitor ballroom and keep track of Leos during the event.

Marketing & Promotion - Visit clubs and attend the All-Club meetings to talk about the convention. Use digital media to promote the convention. Create articles and flyers to be placed in The Informer and sent to clubs. Create talking points for Officers, Zone Chairs and Committee members.

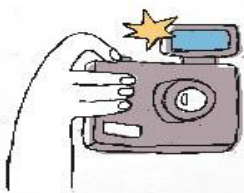
Meeting Rooms – Coordinate smaller meeting rooms with committee by attending committee meetings and determining rooms needed and when.

Memorial Service – Promote service and create a memorial service form. Receive forms and create slides for each deceased member with a picture and informational bullets. Plan Service, find volunteers to help during the service and manage the event on Saturday morning.

Signage for Events – Determine through committee meetings what signage is needed during the weekend. Have signage produced and hung during the event.

If you have a skill set that will fit any of these opportunities we would love you to join us!

Contact Lion Ross Thorfinson
rthorf@aol.com

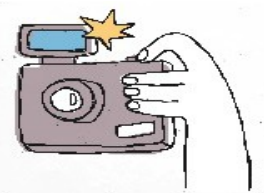


LIONS SERVING

Email Your Photos of your Lions in action.

Please include dates, names, locations etc. to this email:

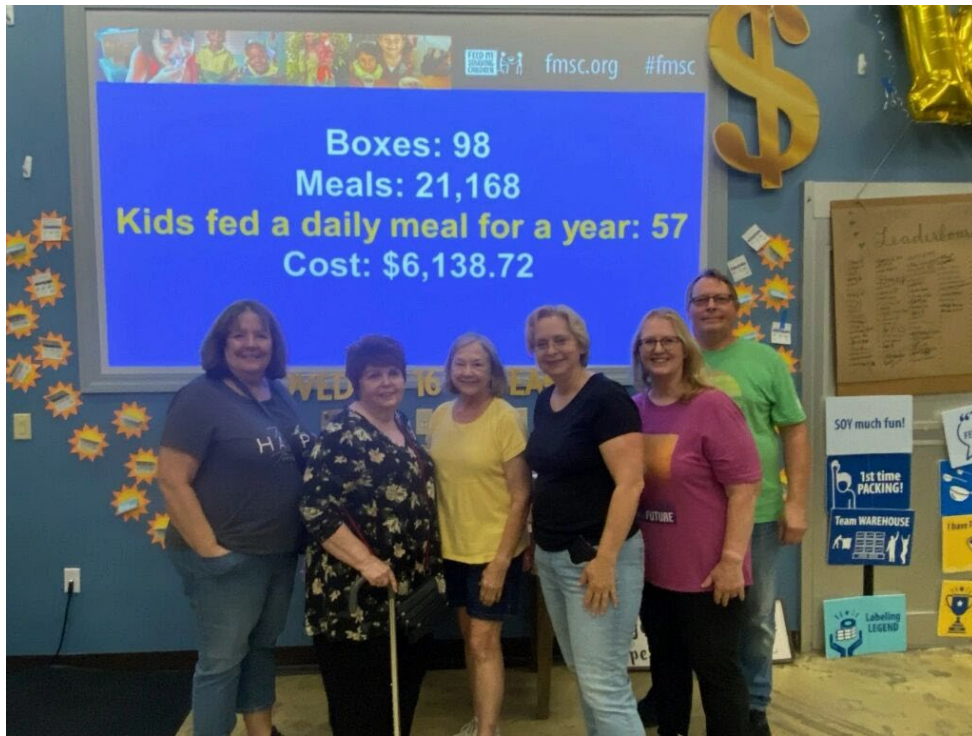
lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com



**Excelsior Lions Club Awarded the
District 5M5 Star Award
Placing #2 for Membership for FY 2024-2025**

**Brooklyn Park Lady Lions
Doing park clean up**





**Brooklyn Park
Lady Lions working at
Feed My Starving Children**

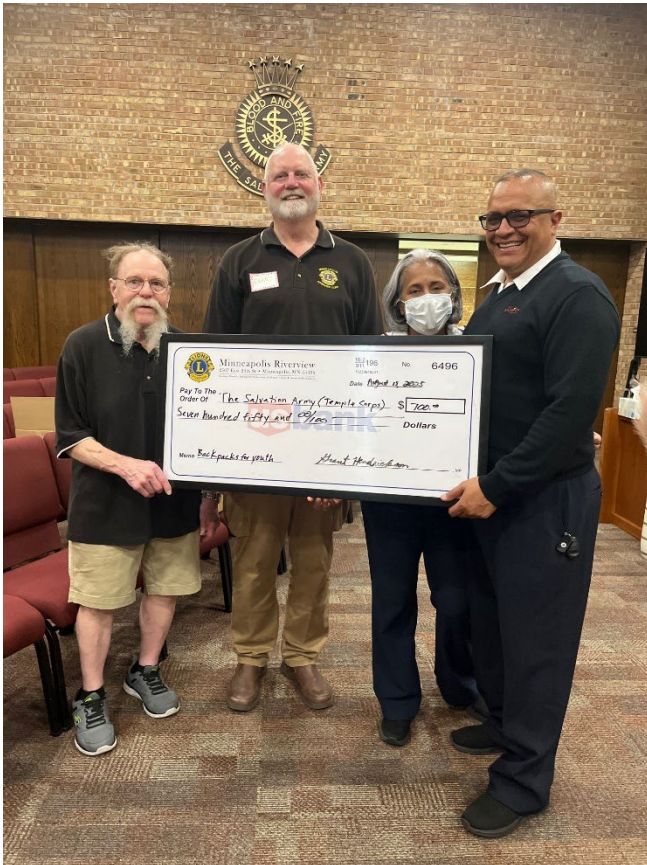
**Maple Grove Senior High
Leos Club was awarded the
Leo Club Pride Award for
2024-2025**





Kidsight crew helping the youth with Eye screening at Salvation Army (Temple Corps).

Derek is the interpreter for our Lions Shari and Bill Thurston.



Lion Mike and Lion Grant helped with the distribution of backpacks and school supplies at Salvation Army (Temple Corps).

Special Note from Salvation Army:

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to The Lions Club for your remarkable partnership and ongoing support. Because of your generous donation, we were able to purchase 240 empty backpacks for the event. We were also blessed to have Lions Shari and Bill Thurston with us once again to conduct eye screenings through Lions Kidsight for the second consecutive year.

We truly appreciate all your support!

A/Cpt. Zarina Singh
Corps Officer / Pastor



Alisha and Mobility Assist Dog Dash: A Bond Beyond Training

August 7, 2025

By Hasini Guntipalli –

When Dash, a 70-pound black Labrador, first met Alisha, their bond was instant. Within seconds, Dash climbed fully into her lap — all four paws — to lick her face. It was clear: Dash had already decided, “This is my person.” The trainers laughed, saying he technically wasn’t supposed to do that.

Alisha has spent years navigating the daily challenges of cerebral palsy, like picking up her phone or accessing areas that didn’t have everyone in mind. Her first Can Do Canine, Maverick, showed her how much easier life could be. So when he retired, getting Dash was an easy choice. After a few training sessions, Dash moved in, settling into her first-floor apartment. Most days, they didn’t need the elevator, but when they were out at the library or volunteering, the elevator was essential.

Wanting to be sure Dash was ready, Alisha decided to practice. But as they entered the elevator, the doors suddenly started closing on her wheelchair. She hit buttons, hoping the sensors would trigger — but nothing happened. Thankfully, the elevator stayed put.

“I called my roommate and said, ‘I think we’re stuck,’” Alisha recalls. Although they were barely a week into their partnership, Dash was rock-solid. He sat quietly beside her, resting his head on her lap,

being a steady and reassuring presence. When Alisha leaned to press buttons, Dash moved carefully with her, keeping the leash loose but ready, and never panicking.

As minutes stretched into what felt like hours, the fire department was called. Miscommunications and faulty keys delayed the rescue, but Dash remained calm, occasionally glancing up at Alisha as if to say, “We’re okay.” Even when firefighters finally pried the doors open with loud tools, Dash stayed still, watching with quiet trust.

“How long have you had him?” one firefighter asked, amazed at Dash’s behavior.

Alisha grinned. “Less than a week.”

Once freed, Dash wagged his tail, ready for whatever came next, as if the whole ordeal had just been another task to complete together. That weekend of unexpected challenges became the foundation for their bond. Dash wasn’t just a service dog — he was Alisha’s quiet strength.

At home, Dash also forged a friendship with Alisha’s cat, Gubbins. Early attempts at play ended with Dash hilariously falling off the cat tree, but he soon figured out how to stand just right and peek out the window with his new buddy.

One of Alisha’s proudest moments came just a week after they met, during a volunteer event. Dash worked calmly for nearly seven hours in public, ignoring a hot fudge sundae at nose-level and impressing everyone around him. One woman was so inspired that she decided to apply for her own service dog.

Despite intense training, Dash’s playful spirit still shines. During early practice sessions, he once gave a trainer a look that said, “You’re not my real boss — she is.” From the beginning, Dash knew: Alisha wasn’t just his handler — she was family. Alisha shares a message to everyone involved in raising and training Dash: “They really do change lives. There have been times where I have been genuinely stuck, and I don’t know how I would have gotten help.”

Thank you to all those who made this partnership possible:

Whelping Home — Steph and Seth Scott

Raisers — Joan & Lisa Baker, Judy Cochran, Carrie Lindberg

Special Thanks — Federal Correctional Institution-Waseca, Federal Prison Camp-Duluth, University of Minnesota FETCH Program (Carlie Buck), University of Wisconsin-River Falls FETCH Program (Jenna Crick, Kayla Fischer)

Name-A-Puppy Donor — Darlene Hafner and Tom Cherry



Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION

Donate Today!

100% of donations
devoted to grants and programs
benefiting local and global communities.



LCIF is Your Foundation!

As a Lions Club member, you are improving and changing your community and the world through your service.

Your service is enhanced through grants and programs offered by Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).

100 % of donations to LCIF are devoted to grants and programs benefiting local and global communities.

A LCIF grant to 5M-5 is supporting 5M-5's Service Carnival October 28.
More info about the Service Carnival in this issue of Informer and on 5M-5 Facebook.

Keep in Touch with LCIF at work via Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/LCIFLions/>

**Learn more about LCIF via
QR code above.**



A BIG Belated THANK YOU from our friends and buck-a-Roo's at the Hamel Rodeo!



And a big, heartfelt thank you also from Lion Gary & Lion Colleen!!
If you volunteered, if you attended, if you shared Facebook, if you told someone,
you supported us and our mission at MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation, and
we are grateful!!

Lion Gary Stevens
Chair
612.867.7249
edenprairiegary@gmail.com

Lion Colleen Patterson
Secretary
612.275.7785
cmp55422@gmail.com



Thanksgiving for Vision

Every fall, Lions, corneal recipients, and special guests observe Thanksgiving for Vision, an event that celebrates the miracle of restored vision. This year held at Holiday Inn, St Cloud on Nov.1.

Thanksgiving for Vision begins with an educational symposium that focuses on research and clinical work taking place at the University. An inspirational luncheon program follows the symposium. This program features a corneal recipient or parents of a recipient who speak about how their lives have been affected by the sight-saving work of the Minnesota Lions.

A donor family member tells of their experience working with Lions Gift of Sight.

The Lions of Minnesota have invested millions in the University of Minnesota sight programs. Thanksgiving for Vision emphasizes the crucial role that Lions play in Lions Gift of Sight, the Lions Children's Eye Clinic, the support of research, the MAC Center, and more. It would be impossible to estimate the number of people the Lions have reached through these amazing programs!

Lion David Danielson
612.327.5872
daviddanielson2@gmail.com

Lion Kathy Barclay
952.201-1348
1kathybarclay@gmail.com

From festivals and the Fair right into schools is the theme of this KidSight Report.

We had a very busy summer, with 15 events since the first of July, screening 745 kiddos with 135 referrals.

As this is written, 5M5 screened 292 kiddos at the State Fair with 30 referrals on Wednesday, August 27. We still have Labor Day to go. A full State Fair screening report will be in the next issue.

Now it is time to get back into preschools and schools. We are in more schools all the time, but we need to get the doors open at more places.

If you or your kids have children in preschool, speak to the facility about having us come out and screen. We'd be glad to follow up if there is any interest.

If your kids or grandchildren are in elementary school, talk to the school nurse about our free, fast and in-depth screening. We usually do Kindergarten, First, Third and Fifth graders, but we'll do the whole school if that is their preference.

We can do a typical classroom every 15 minutes. We've screened 700 students in two days at some locations. And we provide the school nurse with all the information to provide to parents.

With your help, we can work toward our goal of screening every kid in District 5M5.

Lion Shari Thurston
seethurston@comcast.net

Lion Tim Conaway
liontimconaway@gmail.com





TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundation

(Together Everyone Achieves More)



TSCF Grant ID 20__-__-__

The TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundation (TSCF) MD5M Club Matching Grant Application

"The mission of the TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundation (501c3) is to empower MD5M Lions clubs to provide greater service by boosting their ability to complete community projects with matching grants."

1. The Lions project must address an important humanitarian need and provide an opportunity to highlight Lions in the communities they serve.
2. Grant applicants must submit their project proposals using the TSCF MD5M Club Grant application form.
3. The maximum grant amount that may be requested is currently \$3,000.00. All grants are 50/50 matching grants.
4. Grant proposals may be submitted by any Lions club within Multiple District 5M. Applications submitted by a club shall be signed by the current club president. The appropriate meeting minutes at which the application was voted on and approved must be submitted with the application.
5. TSCF grant applications should be submitted to TSCF prior to January 1, April 1, July 1 or October 1 for consideration at the following TSCF board meeting to allow adequate processing time.
6. Lions and/or their families may not receive direct or professional benefit from TSCF projects or have proprietary interest in projects receiving TSCF assistance.
7. Projects receiving TSCF funding shall be clearly identified in marketing as being made possible by Lions and TSCF.
8. Upon project completion, grant recipients are responsible for submission of a report detailing project results, all receipts/expenditures and use of TSCF grant funds.
9. Projects should be completed within one year of approval by TSCF, unless otherwise requested by applicant.

Clubs applying for a grant should provide the following information on their project.

Project Description:

1. Project name: _____
2. Project location: _____
3. Amount of funds requested from TSCF: _____

4. If appropriate, the approximate number of people who will benefit from this project:

5. **ATTACH** description of the particular area/items to be addressed.

6. **ATTACH** project goals, plan of action and including timeline.

Project Budget: Include an itemized budget for the entire project using the information shown below.

Income and Expenses

Requested TSCF Funds: \$ _____

Expenses: Item #1: \$ _____

Other sources of income (if applicable): \$ _____

Other expenses: Item #2: \$ _____

Total Income: \$ _____

Total Expenses: \$ _____

Application Endorsement

Club approval must be included with every grant application. Please submit a copy of the club meeting minutes at which the application was approved. The minutes should make specific reference to the amount of TSCF funds being requested.

Signature Endorsement:

Club President: "I certify that I have reviewed the TSCF Application. To the best of my knowledge, the information submitted is accurate and the need exists as indicated. I endorse this proposal and will do everything within my power as administrator of any funds granted to assure their proper and efficient use, proper accounting and required reporting to TSCF Foundation."

Club President Name _____

Project Chairperson Name _____

Project Chairperson Email _____ Cell _____

District and Club Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Electronic Signature and Date _____ (Type your name)

Contact your District's TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundation Board Member with questions and to request a Grant Application.

Questions regarding donations, submit to TSCF Treasurer at athmannmarty@hotmail.com

EVENT FLYERS

Hamel Lions



Flea Market

www.hamellions.org

Sundays 6am - Noon

May - September



Located in the parking lot of the
Medina Entertainment Center
500 Hwy 55 West, Medina, MN 55340
Just 20 minutes west of Minneapolis on Hwy. 55
Antiques, Collectables, Bargains, Crafts,
Produce, Plants, Fall Farmers Market,
and One of a Kinds.



REGISTER TODAY!

Friday, September 5th

9am SHOTGUN START - \$125 SINGLE - \$450 FOURSOME

Timber Creek Golf Course



PerfectGolfEvent.com



September 5th & 6th, 2025

Join us again this year to earn Volunteer Hours and
support your local community!

The Osseo Lions Roar Days are a favorite event and fundraiser for our local
community, run by the Osseo Lion's Club. It is full of fun and entertainment... but
we do rely on many volunteers to lend a helping hand!!

Volunteers are needed to run the Kids area (Bounce houses, carnival games, and
other activities), food tent, sell popcorn and ice cream, direct volunteers, as well as
help with setup and teardown etc.

*Certificates will be issued for Volunteer Hours!

Questions? Contact us at volunteerlions@yahoo.com Signup online at
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48AA2EA1F5C07-56699493-2025H/>

or using the QR code below!



volunteer page

MPLS DOWNTOWN NEXT GEN LIONS
PRESENTS TO YOU:



Steak Dinner



7-8 oz Steak, Coleslaw, Baked Potato and Garlic Bread

*We accept cash, check, and Venmo

Let us cook for you! Come down and enjoy a delicious steak!

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

5:00-7:00 P.M.

CRYSTAL VFW

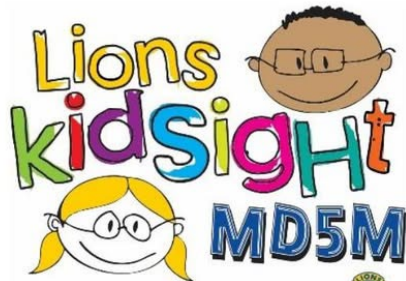
5222 Bass Lake Rd, Crystal, MN 55429

FREE KID'S VISION SCREENING*

June 14th & September 13th

At the Bloomington Farmer's Market

8am to 1pm



Community Eye Screening For Children



*FOR KIDS
6MO+



**Join us at the
Can Do Woofaroo!**

Saturday, September 13, 2025

Registration starts at 10 a.m. at Can Do Canines

Invite your friends (even the four-legged ones) to celebrate the amazing partnership between assistance dogs and the people who need them. This outdoor fundraising event includes a one-mile walk, live music, dog-centric vendors, dog costume contest, food and more!

**The Lions Clubs of Minnesota will
once again be the Presenting Sponsors.**



candocanines.org/woofaroo



Hairball in Maple Grove!

LIVE MUSIC * BEER * FOOD

SATURDAY 9.13.25

Maple Grove Central Park

Brought to you by the Maple Grove Lions



**Minneapolis
Riverview
LIONS**



**FRENCH TOAST
BREAKFAST**



Sunday September 14, 2025

9:00am to 12:00pm

St. Albert The Great Catholic Church

Corner of 32nd Ave and 29th St, Minneapolis, 55406

Please enter thru the elevator located behind the statue of St. Albert.
Breakfast is in the Social Hall.

Information? call Grant (612) 508-9461





Register Now!

- Largest and best Lions training event
- 90 plus seminars and learning experiences
- Lions sharing Lions experience
- Lions' fun and fellowship
- *All Lions invited!*

September 18 – 20, 2025
Atlantic City, NJ

[CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION & REGISTRATION](#)



REGIONAL LIONS
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

RLLI



Save the Date

September 25-28, 2025

Country Inn and Suites, Mankato

Empower Your Leadership. Enrich Your Service.



Join Lions from across the region for a transformational weekend of leadership development, fellowship, and service planning.

Dynamic sessions on:

- Team building and communication
- Leading with impact
- Change management
- Club success strategies

LEAD TO SERVE. SERVE TO LEAD.



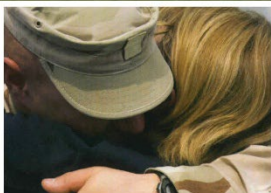
Registration Opening Soon
Use the QR code to get more information



PROJECT NEW HOPE



Military Family Retreats
at no cost to Veterans



"At Project New Hope, we are driven by our mission - to provide education, training and skills necessary to manage their lives after wartime service."



FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO
WWW.PROJECTNEWHOPE.NET OR SCAN THIS CODE:

**2025
MINNESOTA
RETREATS**

2025 MAY 2-4
Camp Shetek near Slayton, MN
2025 JUNE 6-8
Osprey Wilds near Sandstone, MN
2025 OCTOBER 3-5
Good Earth Village - Spring Valley, MN
2025 DECEMBER 5-7
Faith Haven Camp near Battle Lake, MN

5M-5 PDG Fellowship



\$14



STEAK DINNER

7-8 oz. Steak, Coleslaw, Baked Potato and Garlic Bread
"All money raised will go towards district approved projects"

Tickets Available at the door

Wednesday October 8th
5:00pm - 7:00pm Dinner
Crystal VFW #494
5222 Bass Lake Rd, Brooklyn Center, MN 55429

5M Lions Clubs Present...

Lions Lego Pub Crawl

**Benefiting Children's Hospital
Childhood Cancer Departments**

Saturday, October 11, 2025
1:00pm to 6:00pm

NE Pub Crawl to:
Elsies, Yacht Club, and 1029 Bar

*****New/Unopened box of LEGOs***
OR
\$25.00 donation to the
MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation**

No Pre-Registration.
Bring your LEGOs and meet at Elsies at 1:00.
Bring a friend.



STEP UP for Mental Health

Lions Club stair climb fundraiser supporting Mental Health & Well-Being projects

Saturday Oct 25, 2025 10am

Climb up to 35 levels of the AT&T Tower

901 S Marquette Ave Mpls 55402

Family friendly event. Untimed. Climb at your own pace.

Climb as many times or as few levels as you choose.

Climb in person or virtually. Elevator available to take down.

100% of net proceeds go back to support the community.



Registration:

\$25 per person/\$75 group of 4

<https://forms.gle/L2sXEH3ZrpGBugDf9>

Become a Sponsor!

Sponsors are recognized on the main floor by registration, on the stair flights as participants climb and on our social media. All sponsors receive t-shirts and registration for the climb.

Sponsorship Levels:

Platinum \$500 Gold \$300 Silver \$100

If you have any questions about the event or becoming a sponsor please reach out to ukharris31@gmail.com

LIONS INTERNATIONAL

SPOOKY SERVICE CARNIVAL

SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS—ONE SPOOKY STATION AT A TIME

FREE VISION & HEALTH SCREENINGS

HANDS-ON WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

COSTUMES WELCOME—KIDS GET A PRIZE!

BOO-TIFUL NIGHT OF SERVICE AND FUN

28 OCTOBER | 5:30-7:30 PM

RIDGEDALE LIBRARY
12601 RIDGEDALE DR,
MINNETONKA, MN 55305

FREE ENTRY. FREE CANDY. FREE SERVICE FUN!



NOVEMBER 2, 2025



Maple Grove Lions & Seniors Holiday Craft Boutique

Maple Grove Community Center
Saturday Nov 8, 9am-4pm

Crystal Lions Steak Fry



November 12, 2025

5:00-7:00 PM

Crystal VFW Post #494

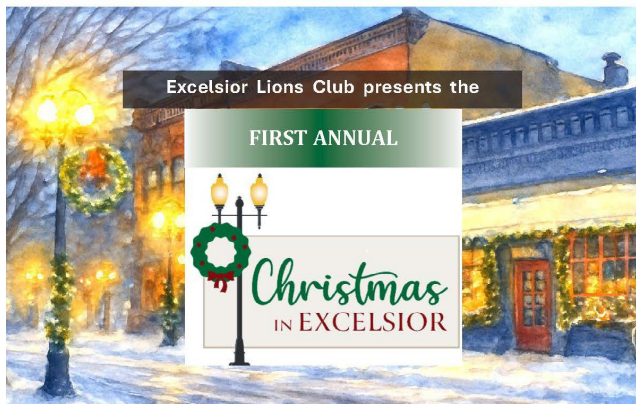
5222 Bass Lake Road, Crystal

\$14 Includes:

8 Oz. Sirloin Steak Baked Potato
Coleslaw Texas Toast Beverage

We Appreciate your support!

Proceeds benefit our community & Lions Projects!



Friday & Saturday
November 28 - 29, 2025 | 10am - 6pm
Historic Water Street

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Holiday Market:** Unique gifts, handmade crafts and local vendors
- **Santa Visits:** Meet and greet with the man in red
- **Reindeer, Llamas and Husky Puppies:** Visit with furry friends
- **Carriage Rides:** Take in the sights and sounds of our charming downtown
- **Live Music:** Classic holiday tunes from talented local performers
- **Frosty's Funland:** An activity zone made for kids
- **Candy Cane Lane:** Experience the festive decor lining Second Street
- **Seasonal Eats:** Cozy up with festive food and drinks



christmasinexcelsior.com





2029 Lions International Convention fundraiser

Brought to you by the Host Committee for the 2029 Minneapolis International Convention

2029 Convention Pins and Snowman Patches

The International Convention is coming to

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Now is your chance to get a piece of history and help raise the needed funds to Host this great Lions event.

Build the Snowman patch fundraiser.

\$50 per piece for a total of \$200

Limited Edition

2029 Minneapolis Pin with Charms

Pin - \$100

Charms \$25 or all 4 for \$75



To purchase pins or patches, donate to the convention or volunteer.
Contact Lion Jennifer Gilbert, 5M5
winn0004@gmail.com
651-226-0205
Club or Individual donations accepted - Thank you!

MD5M PARADE SHIRT ORDER FORM



These shirts are a button up style shirt and run 1 size small. (order accordingly)

Date: _____

Submitted By: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

Email order form to Executive Secretary Cindy Walters at:

excitivesecretary@lionsmd5m.org

Complete Form and Mail to:

MD5M Lions
1915 Waterford Circle
Chaska, MN 55318

Checks can be made out to MD5M Lions.

ADULT	PRICE EACH	SIZE	QUANTITY	TOTAL AMOUNT
1. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	Small		total small
2. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	Medium		total medium
3. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	Large		total large
4. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	1X		total 1 x
5. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	2X		total 2 x
6. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	3X		total 3 x
7. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	4X		total 4 x
8. Woman's/Men's	\$ 30.00	5X		total 5 x
			total shirts	total
			additional credit card charge:	card fee

Credit Card Information:

Name On card: _____

Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVC Code: _____



SEND IN YOUR EVENT

Email your Flyer or event information to:

lionsdistrict5m5@gmail.com





Lions Clubs International

Lions Abbreviations and Terms

This is a helpful reference, but not a complete list.

ALLI	Advanced Lions Leadership Institute	MC	Membership Chair
CBL	Constitutions and By-Laws	MD	Multiple District
CC	Council Chair	MJF	Melvin Jones Fellow
CEP	Club Excellence Process	MMR	LCI monthly membership report
CGL	Certified Guiding Lion	MyLCI	LCI electronic membership database
COG	Council of Governors	MyLion	LCI app for connecting members, setting up and promoting activities, etc.
CP	Club President		
CS	Cabinet Secretary (District)	NPLF	Northern Pride Lions Forum
CT	Cabinet Treasurer (District)		
CSC	Club Service Chair	PCC	Past Council Chair
DA	District Administrator	PDG	Past District Governor
DG	District Governor	PID	Past International Director
DGE	District Governor-Elect	PinS	Partner in Service
		PIP	Past International President
ELLI	Emerging Lions Leadership Institute	PMJF	Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow
FDI	Faculty Development Institute	PU-101	Club Officer Reporting Form
GAT	Global Action Team	RC	Region Zone Chair
GLT	Global Leadership Team	RLLI	Regional Lions Leadership Institute
GMA	Global Membership Approach	STRIDES	Strides for Diabetes Awareness
GMT	Global Membership Team		
GST	Global Service Team	TT	TailTwister
ID	International Director	VDG	Vice District Governor
IP	International President	1VDG	First Vice District Governor
IPCC	Immediate Past Council Chair	2VDG	Second Vice District Governor
IPDG	Immediate Past District Governor	VDGE	Vice District Governor-Elect
IPID	Immediate Past International Director	1VDGE	First Vice District Governor-Elect
IPIP	Immediate Past International President	2VDGE	Second Vice District Governor-Elect
IVP	International Vice President	WCD	White Cane Day
LCI	Lions Club International	WSD	World Sight Day
LCICon	Lions International Convention	YE	Youth Exchange
LCIF	Lions Clubs International Foundation	ZC	Zone Chair
LEHP	Lions Eye Health Program		
LEO	Leadership Experience Opportunity		
LERC	Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center		
LIONS	Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nations' Safety		
LT	LionTamer		

WEB SITES & LINKS

Awards	lions5m5.org/awards
District 5M5	lions5m5.org
Lions Clubs International	lionsclubs.org
Multiple District 5M (MD5M)	lionsmd5m.org

District Approved Projects & Links

Can Do Canines	candocanines.org
Confidence Learning Center	campconfidence.com
Leader Dogs for the Blind	leaderdog.org
Leos	lionsclubs.org/about-leos
Lions Clubs International Foundation	lcif.org
MD5M Lions KidSight Foundation	kidsightmd5m.org
Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation	mnlionsdiabetes.org
Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation	5mhf.org
Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation	mnlionsvisionfoundation.org
MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation	mnlionschildhoodcancerfoundation.org
Project New Hope	projectnewhope.net
Special Olympics Minnesota	specialolympicsminnesota.org
TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundations	facebook.com/groups/TEAM SHEEHAN
True Friends	truefriends.org
Youth Exchange/Youth Camps	lionsclubs.org/youth/youth-camps-and-exchange