

LAKE ORION LIONS CLUB



Est.1938

New Members Handbook

Introduction

Welcome to the Lake Orion Lions Club where our motto is, “**We Serve**”. This New Members Handbook, along with your club sponsor and other club members, will assist you gain a better understanding of your new role as a Lion. Your true understanding of what Lions is all about will come from your service to and for our local community.

This guide is separated into three sections:

- Who Are Lions
- Lake Orion Lions Club
- Lions Organizational Structure



Prepared by Lion Steve Tobias
Graphics by Lion Jennifer Barry
Revised 11/15/25

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Who Are The Lions

LIONS ARE members of the world's largest and most active service club organization.

LIONS ARE people who have decided to give something back to their community, who are dedicated to helping people in need and who meet those needs in an efficient caring way.

LIONS ARE men and women who believe that by working with other dedicated Lions, they will accomplish far more for their communities than would be possible alone.

LIONS ARE committed to solving major, worldwide health and social problems, and realize that solutions are possible when every Lions club does its share.

LIONS ARE people who cherish the friendship and fellowship within their own club, but also feel a close kinship with fellow Lions in over 200 countries.

LIONS ARE patriotic, giving allegiance to their country, while recognizing that all people must one day learn to live in peace.

LIONS ARE dedicated to maintaining the highest ethical and moral standards in their club and in their personal lives

LIONS ARE PEOPLE JUST LIKE YOU!

Making a global impact



Vision Statement: To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service.

Mission Statement: To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs.

Motto: "We Serve"

Global Causes



Diabetes

We serve to reduce the prevalence of diabetes and improve quality of life for those diagnosed.



Vision

We serve to prevent avoidable blindness and improve quality of life for people who are blind and visually impaired.



Hunger

We serve to ensure all community members have access to nutritious foods.



Environment

We serve to sustainably protect and restore our environment to improve the well-being of all communities



Childhood Cancer

We serve to help those affected by childhood cancer survive and thrive

Benefits of Lions Clubs Membership:

Becoming a member of your local Lions club benefits your community and you.

- Make a difference. There are over 48,000 Lions clubs around the world.
- Serve with pride.
- Build your network.
- Gain Lion credibility.
- Develop new friendships.
- Show your leadership.



Lion Emblem



	COLOUR		Designed By : MAURICE BLINK
Loyalty one's Self, Friends, Country and Integrity of Mind		Traditional Colour of Strength, Courage & Tireless dedication to a cause and sincerity of purpose, liberty in judgment, Purity of mind, heart and love towards fellowmen.	Approved BY : International Board on 31st Dec 1921
			Motto : We Serve
			Slogan : Liberty Intelligence Our Nation's Safety
			Flag : The Flag of Lionism in Golden Yellow with Purple border and a size emblem in the Center. Lionism Means Opporutunity for fellowship and Service.
			Lets us do humanitarian Service while Enjoying fellowship

On 17th July 1917 at the Invitation of Melvin Jones, delegates met in Chicago, The only point of contention was the selection of a name the New Organization. Melvin Jones researched the idea of calling the New Organization Lions. He was convinced that lion stood for strength, courage, fidelity and vital action. On a secret ballot the name LIONS was chosen over several others.

The Lions Emblem

At the 1919 convention, there was a move to change the symbol, but a young attorney from Denver, Colorado rose to speak. His names was Halsted Ritter. "The name Lions stands not only for fraternity, good fellowship, strength of character and purpose , but above all, its combination of L-I-ON-S heralds to the country the true meaning of citizenship: LIBERTY, INTERLEGENGE, OUR NATION'S SAFETY

Lionism

Objectives of Lionism:

- To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.
- To promote the principles of good government and good citizenship.
- To take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.
- To unite the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.
- To provide a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.
- To encourage service-minded men to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavors.



Lake Orion Club History and Traditions

Formed in 1938 /Sponsored by Pontiac Lions Club

In 1944, pencil sales to support Leader Dogs to provide assistance for soldiers who have been blinded in service to their country

In 1950, the Christmas Basket was started to provide food and gifts to school families and seniors as a community project.

In 1953, Goodfellow Newspaper Sales financed the filling of Christmas boxes and helped provide clothing for needy families

In 1980, Jubilee became a fundraiser to support a variety of charities

In 1982, the 120 club members received recognition with a Top 10 Award from Lions Club International for its service project of providing CPR training to over 1700 people in the Orion area over a 5-year period.

In 1983, a second Top 10 Award was granted for the summer camp for blind youth at Franklin Settlement Camp for 2 weeks without charge.

In 1995, Margaret DeGroff became the first woman to join the club.

In 2020 the Lake Orion Lioness Club became a Branch Club.

In 2023 the club secured retired mailboxes and recycled them into Recycled Eye Glasses boxes.



How to be a Good Lion

- Attend as many meetings as possible
- Participate in as many fundraisers and service projects as possible
- Attend the “Kick Off Dinners” for the charities we support
- Learn the history of the club
- Wear your label pin
- Share the workload
- Use your talents
- Share your ideas for the improvement of the club and your community
- Consider running for board positions
- Follow Lake Orion Lions on Facebook and share events with your friends
- Encourage family, friends and those you meet who might be a good fit as a Lion to find out more about joining our club
- Don’t be afraid to ask questions!



Club Roster Book

The club roster book is made available in an electronic format to all members. It is emailed by the club secretary and can also be located on the website on the members only page. It is updated when new members are added to the club and annually once elected board members start their new term. The content of the roster book includes:

Lake Orion Lions Club  We Serve	• Club Objectives • Club Officers • District 11-A2 Cabinet Officers • Past Presidents • Melvin Jones & Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows • Active members contact information • Deceased members • Committees and Chairs • Board Position Description • Policy Manual • Opportunities • Benefits • Costs
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Lake Orion Lions Club Fundraisers

Fundraisers are the events our club participates in to raise money to distribute to charities. The Lake Orion Lions signature fundraising events include:

- Lion Races
- Jubilee Carnival/Beer Tent
- Flare Sales
- Charity Car Show
- Charity Poker
- Christmas Auction/Dinner

Photos of past events can be seen on the Lake Orion Lions Club website [Events and Photos](#) .



Club Service Projects

Service projects are events our club participates in to serve our local community. The Lake Orion Lions signature service projects include:

- Christmas Basket Program
- Project Kidsight
- Adopt a Highway
- Recycled for Sight Program
- Eyeglasses and Hearing Aid Assistance
- Santa's Christmas Party

All our upcoming fundraiser and service projects are published on our meeting agendas, on our website [Events and Photos](#) page, and in our newsletter [Club News](#).



Local Programs Supported

Some local programs supported by our club include:

- Oxford/Orion FISH Food Pantry [Oxford/Orion FISH Food Pantry - Home](#)
- LoveINC [Love Inc North Oakland](#)
- Monday Night Meals [Community Meals - United Methodist Church of Lake Orion](#)
- Lake Orion High School Scholarship
- Lake Orion Youth Baseball and Softball sponsorship
- Lake Orion School Robotic Teams sponsorship



Regional and State Programs Supported

- Leader Dogs for the Blind [Welcome to Leader Dogs for the Blind |](#)
- Lions Bear Lake Camp [Home](#)
- Penrickton Center for Blind Children [Penrickton Center for Blind Children – Private non-profit, providing care and support to children who are visually impaired with multiple disabilities.](#)
- Eversight [Michigan](#)
- Madonna University Deaf and Hearing Program [Deaf or Hard of Hearing \(MAT\) | Madonna University](#)
- Corewell Health (previously Beaumont) Silent Children's Fund
- Michigan All-State Band [Lions of Michigan All State Band | Home](#)
- Recycled for Sight Program [Eyeglasses and Hearing Aids Recycling | Lions Clubs International](#)



New Member Opportunities

New members are encouraged to volunteer to assist based on the things they enjoy doing. Signup sheets for various functions are usually distributed at the meetings and noted in the club newsletter.

Attend **“Kick Off Dinners”** . The club provides the opportunity for new members to attend the **“Kick Off Dinners”** for the charities we support at no cost to the members during their first year of membership. The Kick Off Dinners include:

- District 11-A2 Project Kindsight – Usually in September
- Penrickton Center for Blind Children – Usually in October
- Leader Dog for the Blind – Usually in December
- Lions Bear Lake Camp – Usually in February
- Corewell Health (previously Beaumont) Silent Children’s Fund – Usually in May
- Madonna University Deaf and Hearing Program – Usually in April

Propose a fundraiser or community service project:

- Identify the project: Determine the project you want to submit and ensure it aligns with the Lions' mission and values.
- Gather information: Collect all necessary information about the project, including details about the project's scope, objectives, and expected outcomes.
- Create a project proposal: Draft a detailed proposal outlining the project goals, how it will be funded, and how it will be managed. An estimate on profits from a fundraiser should be provided.
- Schedule a presentation to the board: Contact the club secretary to get your proposal place on the upcoming board agenda. Make a presentation at the meeting and answer questions. If approved you are ready to proceed

Club Meetings

General membership meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, September-June.

Zoom Workplace app is an option for members to attend the meeting online if they are unable to attend in person. A zoom link is sent out to members by email prior to the meeting.

The meeting agenda is emailed out prior to the meeting.

The member's name badges should be worn at all meetings.

Joker Poker is played at club meetings. It is optional to participate. By drawing the joker you can win half of the accumulating pot. Members must be present at drawing. The winning member gets the honor of running Joker Poker until there is a new winner. The monies collected go into the Administrative Fund.

The club Tail Twister can fine members at meetings. The fine is limited to \$1.00 per meeting per member. The monies collected go into the club administrative fund.

The Member's Choice Raffle is conducted at meetings with all members being provided with a raffle ticket at no cost. The number drawn gets to pick a charity they would like \$100 to be donated to.

Board meeting are normally held the third Wednesday of each month following the general membership meeting. The meetings are also scheduled in the summer months of July and August when no general membership meetings are held.

The agenda for the board meeting is made available for all members.

All members can and are encouraged to attend board meetings but only board members can vot

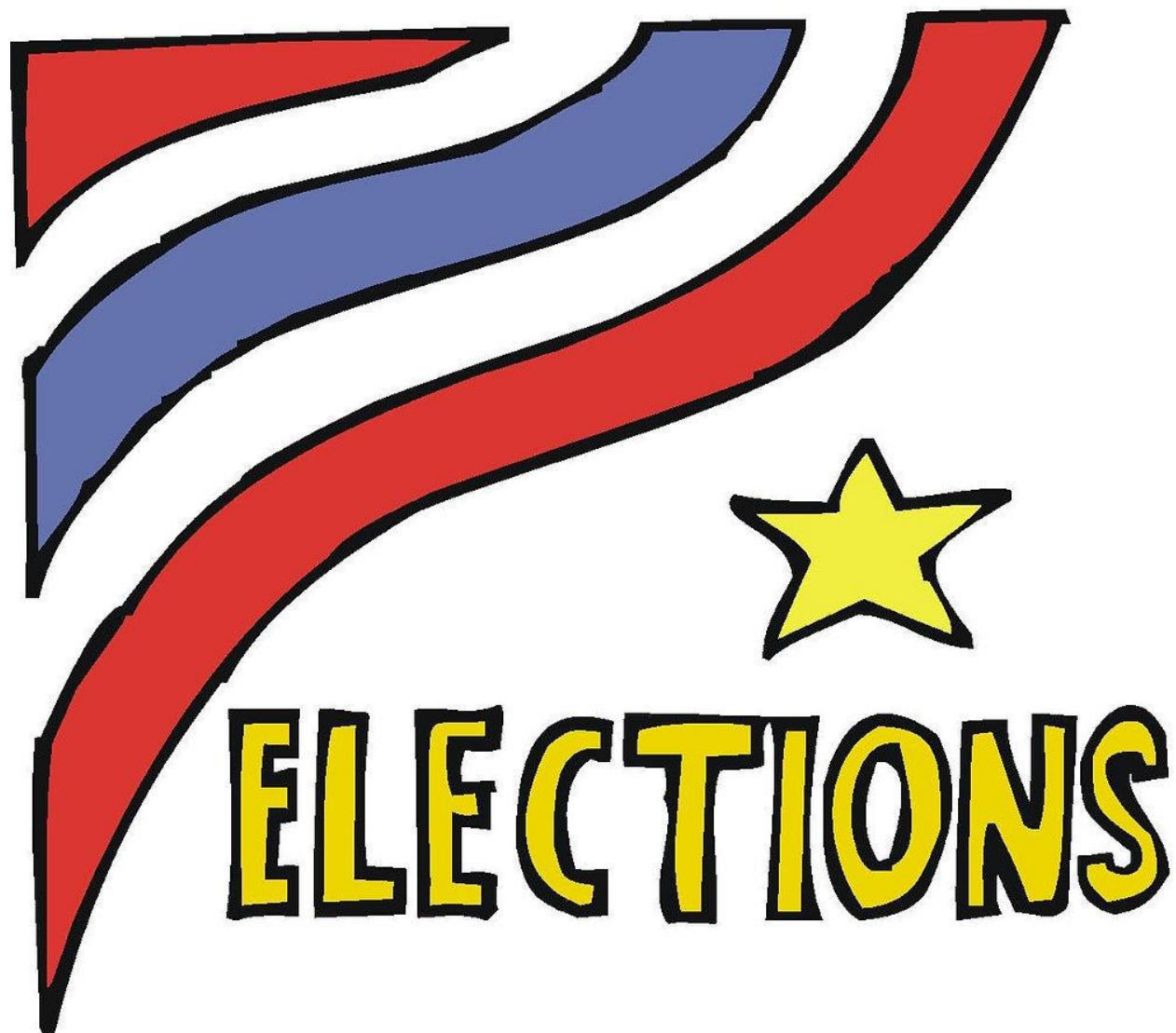
New Member Induction Ceremony

The Induction Ceremony is the symbolic beginning to a member's service as a Lion. It is also a key element in the lifelong retention of a member. The ceremony is normally conducted during a membership meeting.



Club Board Elections

The officers of our club, also known as the board of directors, include the president, immediate past president, vice presidents, branch club president, secretary, treasurer, membership chair, tail twister, lion tamer, and 12 directors. Officers are elected annually, in the spring, for a term coinciding with the club's fiscal year (July 1-June 30). Additional information on board positions can be found in the club roster book. The elected board members are installed at an installation meeting/dinner in June. The current board members with their pics are on the Lake Orion Lions Club website on the [Club Officers](#) page.



Club Officer Induction Ceremony

An induction ceremony for all board members is held in June at a site selected by the incoming president.



Club Communications

Some of club communications that members can expect include:

- Emails distributed to all members by the club secretary.
- Website [Lake Orion Lions Club](#)
- FaceBook [Facebook](#)
- Newsletter [Club News](#)
- Lion Pride [Index of /images/pride](#)
- Lion Magazine [Home - Lion Magazine](#)

The Lake Orion Lions Club has a member only (private) page on the website for documents not shared with the general public. There is also a Lake Orion Lion Club members only page where members can share information. A link should be provided upon joining the club.



Club Dues



Membership Dues and Fees Chart

Dues are currently set at \$100 a year, July 1 – June 30. The first-year dues for new members are on a sliding scale depending on the month of the new member is installed. Additional family members can join at a reduced annual fee.

The distribution of dues are as follows:

- Lion Club International \$52
- MI Lions \$11
- 11A2 \$10
- MI Mag \$4.50
- Lake Orion Lions \$ 22.50

New members should be prepared to pay their dues upon being installed.

Budget



We are a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization Tax ID: 38-3633253. IRS rules require us to maintain a minimum of two separate funds, an administrative account and an activities or account.

Our club treasurer maintains an administrative account for collecting dues and paying for our administrative costs for the club such as dues, supplies, postage, club voice mail, etc. It also covers "perks" that we as a club offer to our members and guests such as our Club Christmas party, sending members to Leadership Institute, covering costs for new members to attend kick-off dinners, covering the costs of guest meals at our meetings, etc. Under no circumstances can funds raised by the public be used in any manner whatsoever for administrative expenditure.

We refer to our activities fund as our charities account. The "main" charities account is where deposits and expenses for our events flow through as well as our annual donations to the charities we support. Our club also has two additional Charities accounts, one for Jubilee and one for Charity Poker. The Charity Poker account is a requirement by the State of Michigan to have a separate checking account for all monies involved in our Charity Poker events. The excess funds from these two accounts get transferred to our main charities account annually.

Lions Club Apparel

Lions club patches can be added to member's personal attire by completing the Club Apparel form and paying the necessary cost.



Order form at end of this handbook

1 of 1

LAKE ORION LIONS CLUB APPAREL ORDER FORM

Member Name: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Please attach this order form to the item or items and return to
Lion Joe Hildebrand at any meeting.

___ Lion Logo on Front \$12

___ Name: _____ On right chest \$5 (optional)

___ Big Lion Logo on Back \$30

___ Hat/Visor \$8

Total \$ _____

Make check payable to **ACTION DESIGNS**
Cash also accepted.
Questions call Lion Joe @ 248-762-1393 or email
joe.hildebrand@sbcglobal.net

Awards

Awards for service and leadership

- [Humanitarian Award](#): The association's highest honor, given for exemplary humanitarian efforts. It includes a large grant from the [Lions Clubs International Foundation](#) (LCIF).
- [Melvin Jones Fellowship](#): A prestigious award to recognize outstanding Lions and members of the public who have demonstrated dedication to humanitarianism.
- [Chevron Award](#) Program: Recognizes Lions for their long-term service in 5-year increments, starting at 10 years.
- [Excellence Awards](#): Acknowledge clubs and leaders for outstanding leadership, membership growth, and impactful service.
- [Presidential LCIF Recognition](#): Honors leaders who have made an extraordinary impact through their dedication and achievements.
- [Kindness Matters Service Award](#): An annual award for a handful of Lions and Leo clubs that perform outstanding and innovative service projects.

Awards for membership

- [Membership Key Awards](#): Awarded to individual Lions who sponsor new members.
- [MISSION 1.5](#) Premier Club Award: A multi-tiered award system to encourage membership growth.

Other recognitions

- [International President's Certificate of Appreciation](#): Awarded for distinguished achievements in service.
- [Lion of the Year](#): A local award given by individual clubs to a member who consistently goes above and beyond.

Club Social Events

The club offers an hour of social time prior to the start of the meeting. Additionally, the club participates in some festivities during the year:

- Picnic (pot luck) at the first meeting of the year in September
- Participating in the lighted boat parade (2025 first year)
- Christmas party at one of the December meetings
- Participating in the Orion Lighted Parade in December



Storage Unit

The club maintains a storage unit at Spare Box Storage, 180 W. Church Street, Lake Orion. Items for most events are kept in the storage unit.



Organizational Structure

District 11-A2

The Lake Orion Lions Club is part of [Lions District 11-A2 of Michigan](#).



LIONS CLUBS DISTRICT 11-A2

Lions and Leos Clubs Proudly Serving Oakland and Macomb Counties, Michigan U.S.A.

Home	Newsletters	Calendar	District Officers	District Committees	District Club Info	Convention/Forum	Web Links	Our Charities	Downloads	About Lionism
Michigan History	Past Lion Officers	Award Recipients	Contact Information	Roster Changes	MMR / Resource	Youth Exchange	Webhosting			

The district includes all clubs serving Oakland and Macomb Counties, Michigan. The world's Lions clubs are grouped into approximately 750 districts. Each district has at least 35 clubs and at least 1,250 Lions club members. Each district has a district governor who is elected for a one year term and is responsible for the overall success of our mission of service in the district.

Club Websites of 11-A2

[Armada Lions Club](#)

[Beverly Hills Lions Club](#)

[Clarkston Lions Club](#)

[Eastpointe Lions Club](#)

[Fraser Lions Club](#)

[Lake Orion Lions Club](#)

[Mount Clemens Lions Club](#)

[Ortonville Lions Club](#)

[Pontiac Lions Club](#)

[Rochester Lions Club](#)

[Rochester Hills Lions Club](#)

[Royal Oak Lions Club](#)

[Selfridge Chesterfield Lions Club](#)

[Shelby Township Lions Club](#)

[Sterling Heights Lions Club](#)

[Troy Community Lions Club](#)

[Washington Lions Club](#)

District Convention

District conventions are held to conduct general district business, take action on district matters, adopt resolutions, elect the district governor and other district elected officers, vote on convention sites, conduct seminars, sponsor events important to the district and develop fellowship among the Lions of the district.

Our district 11 A2 convention is normally held in early April at a hotel location within a few hours drive from Lake Orion. The event starts on a Friday evening and continues through Sunday morning. There is plenty of free time to spend socializing with others or touring the nearby area. Our club normally has approximately 20 members that make reservations to attend. All club members are encouraged to share in the experience of district conventions.



Lions of Michigan

Lions of Michigan, www.lionsofmi.com, is made up of over 330 clubs and 8600 members.



Welcome to the Lions of Michigan Foundation...



The Lions of Michigan Service Foundation

The Lions of Michigan Foundation is a public charity that was created in 1984 to help Michigan Lions Clubs provide community services. We work in partnership with our member Lions Clubs and other organizations to provide disadvantaged individuals and families with access to affordable medical care and services designed to help improve their quality of life.

While our programs encompass many areas, through screening, diagnosis, treatment, education and research, we primarily help underserved populations and financially struggling individuals who require assistance with eye care, hearing aids or an unexpected life event. Our services are offered statewide with a focus on helping Michigan residents succeed academically, develop normally, maintain independence and prosper in life.

Lions Club International (LCI)

Lions Clubs International www.lionsclubs.org is the world's largest service club organization. We have 1.4 million members in [more than 48,000 clubs](#) worldwide.

Lions are everywhere. We're active men and women in more than [210 countries and geographic areas](#).

Lions have a dynamic history. Founded in 1917, we are best known for fighting blindness – it's part of [our history](#) as well as our work today. But we also volunteer for many different kinds of community projects – including caring for the environment, feeding the hungry and aiding seniors and the disabled.

Lions give sight. By conducting vision screenings, equipping hospitals and clinics, distributing medicine and raising awareness of eye disease, Lions work toward their mission of providing vision for all. We have extended our commitment to sight conservation through countless local efforts and through our international [SightFirst Program](#), which works to eradicate blindness.

Lions serve youth. Our community projects often [support local children and schools](#) through scholarships, recreation and mentoring. Internationally, we offer many programs, including the Peace Poster Contest, Youth Camps and Exchange and Lions Quest.

Our [Leo Program](#) provides the youth of the world with an opportunity for personal development through volunteering. There are approximately 191,788 Leos and 7,700 Leo clubs in more than 150 countries worldwide.

Lions award grants. Since 1968, the [Lions Clubs International Foundation \(LCIF\)](#) has awarded more than US \$1.3 Billion with over 20,000 grants to support Lions humanitarian projects around the world. LCIF was also ranked the number one nongovernmental organization in a 2007 study by *The Financial Times*.

Lions are active. Our motto is "We Serve." Lions are part of a global service network, doing whatever is necessary to help our local communities.

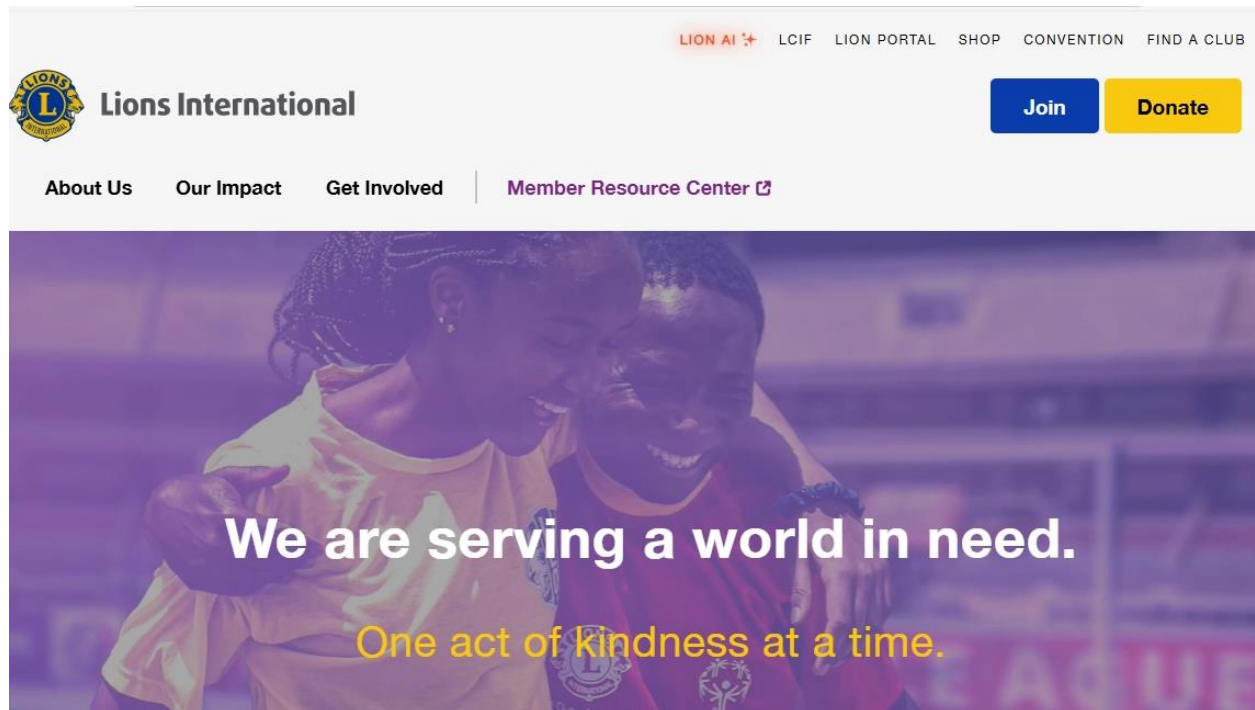
International Headquarters



- **Located in Oak Brook Illinois**
- **Approximately 275 staff members in 11 divisions:**
 - Convention
 - District and Club Administration
 - Finance
 - Information Technology
 - Leadership Development
 - Legal
 - Lions Clubs International Foundation
 - Marketing
 - Membership
 - Member Operations and Support

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)

[About Our Foundation](#) | [Lions Clubs International](#)



What is LCIF's mission?

LCIF's mission is to support the efforts of Lions clubs and partners in serving communities locally and globally, giving hope and impacting lives through humanitarian service projects and grants.

Learn more <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/discover-our-foundation/mission>

LAKE ORION LIONS CLUB
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Member Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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___ Lion Logo on Front \$12

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