

What is Really Behind Fundraising?

Edwina Otto, 1st VDG

Lions and Fundraisers, they just go hand in hand! Lions have all types of fundraisers. We have spaghetti dinners, we sell tickets for Barbeque restaurants, we sell hot dogs, we have pancake breakfasts. And Oh Yes, we sell brooms.

So why do we have so many fundraisers? So we can give the money away!

As a Lions club we donate to our local youth with college scholarships. We donate to food pantries, homeless shelters, rape crisis centers. We support special community and school projects. We pay for eye exams and eye glasses.

But donating is bigger than just our club and our community. As part of District 32 A we give that money to Camp Lions Den and to the Blind Fishing Tournament. Pooling our funds provides opportunities for so many more than just one club can do. How much did your club contribute?

As a Multiple District we contribute to the Youth Exchange Program, to the Leos conference, to Storm Eye, to SCLCS and SCLF. This money brings young people from around the world to South Carolina to see what the United States is really like and to learn what Lions do. SCLCS can provide major eye surgeries that a single club could not do on their own. Storm Eye, with our Lion's money, can do eye disease research that would not be funded otherwise. How much did your club contribute to these projects?

We donate money to Leader Dog. Currently it cost approximately \$40,000 to provide one dog to one person. Could a single club provide that money or expertise to train a dog? No, but your \$50, \$100 or \$500 pooled with others can. There is a new Lion in our district who just received his first Leader dog. How much did your club contribute to that \$40,000?

We are part of the International Lions Club, therefore we give LCIF. Again pooled money from around the world can help so many more people than just our club can help. Lions, like you, have eradicated River Blindness and measles. LCIF provided grants to communities here in South Carolina and around the world after disasters. Other grants provided funding for Spot cameras for our multiple district. How much has your club contributed?

Lions and Fundraising do go hand in hand because giving the money away is just one more way We Serve!



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