

COUNCIL MEETING REPORT for August 6, 2016
Services for Children Committee Chairperson
IPDG Carol Lambert, District 6NE

A new committee is being added this year, Services for Children. CC Andy Smith asked if I would like to chair this committee for 2016-17. The basic premise of this committee is to organize service projects and activities for underserved children and to undertake service projects that:

- Support efforts that aim to improve the lives of children and adolescents living in adverse circumstances.
- Provide programs and assistance to underserved children, such as: health screenings, provision of eyeglasses, hearing aids, assistive technology to improve literacy, summer reading programs, immunizations, toy and clothing collections, school lunch and community feeding programs, support of recreational camps and sporting events for children with disabilities, and participation in global missions.

My goals as MD6 committee chairperson will be:

- to survey clubs to see what is currently being done in this service area and to evaluate the effectiveness of current club-level projects and activities.
- To compile by district the effectiveness of projects and activities and help districts develop goals and a district action plan.
- To inform clubs through The Mane Lioner and district newsletters plus club-level and multiple district websites what the goals are and provide project ideas to assist individual clubs.
- To encourage clubs to share news of their projects for underserved children.
- To encourage clubs to work with local health care professionals, educators, children's agencies, and organizations to determine community needs and provide the most appropriate services.
- To solicit feedback on how the multiple district and districts can further support clubs in planning projects for children in need.
- To provide tools and resources to assist clubs in developing projects and activities.

Tools and resources can include:

- Reading Action Program Project Ideas—RAP is a call to action for every Lions Club to organize projects and activities to demonstrate the importance of reading and address specific needs related to illiteracy within their communities.
- The Lions Children First Program offers ideas and resources to implement hands-on service projects for underserved children, including four sample project sheets.
- The Global Service Action campaigns, including "Sharing the Vision" and "Relieving the Hunger" can have a positive impact on children in the community.
- The Children's Symposium Program is an ideal way to gather community partners, educators, and health care professionals of underserved children in a community, district, or multiple district.
- The Lions First Children Facebook page enables Lions to stay in touch with fellow Lions around the world who are dedicated to serving the needs of disadvantaged children.
- Special days and events, such as International Literacy Day and World Diabetes Day can help to mobilize clubs throughout the districts and multiple district.
- The Centennial Service Challenge project areas can help clubs to provide services to children and receive recognition for completing a Centennial service challenges.