

**CARE  
COG  
6/15/2023**

The fiscal year 2022-2023 is rapidly approaching with only a few weeks left. With the new platform rolling out some aspects of our year will end before you have a chance to read this. With that said I will spend little time on this year and focus on 2023-2024.

Through the end of May MD19 had total donations to CARE in the amount of \$29,910 which is \$142.00 more than all of last year. This is great news however still a long ways from our \$40,000 goal.

With 2023-2024 right ahead of us I am asking all District Governors, Zone Chairs to insure that all Clubs have CARE as a line item in their budgets. This is a MD 19 project that all clubs need to support and plan for. Plan a special fundraiser, promote Gordon Smith Fellowships for only \$500.00. Fellowships are available for clubs, members and individuals outside of Lions. During Campaign 100 with LCIF we found ways to donate that had never been done. The final year of this campaign MD19 donated in excess of \$500,000 with 6 districts exceeding our CARE goal of \$40,000. Not suggesting we reduce our giving to LCIF, just putting more emphasis on CARE our MD19 project. Everyone needs to be planning on how we can increase our donations to CARE. A few suggestions were offered on a recent zoom meeting. Certain that there are more.

I will be recommending to the COG that for the next two years that we support the Country of Honduras. Honduras has a devastating problem with deforestation and their new government is already taking measures to improve. However in Northern Honduras regional areas deforestation has contributed to burning of wood for cooking of food. I witnessed this in Haiti a number of years ago, preparing meals over an open campfire each and every day. Fires not only cook meals but heat water, keep insects away, provide light and more.

An alternative option is bio-gas from waste products such as pig manure. In these rural small communities that is readily abundant. Pig manure can be converted into safe gas for cook stoves through a process known as anaerobic digestion, during which bacteria break down organic material in a sealed vessel call a biodigester. It is simple and productive and has proven to be low-cost. Currently pig manure is deposited into the environment generating pollution and wasting a potentially important resource. By adopting this program opportunity we help with a heat source and help with cleaning of the environment.

Looking forward to our best year in a long time this coming fiscal year.

Bob Yeoman  
MD 19 CARE REP U.S.