

MD19 Supported Projects

CARE and Multiple District 19 LIONS

The Lions of Multiple District 19 have partnered with CARE since 1958. CARE is one the oldest and largest aid organizations in the world. They are the same organization that sent CARE packages to France after the war in 1945. Their motto is Defending dignity, fighting poverty. CARE only works in the poorest of poor countries, supply aid, education and also being an advocate for women and children who are unable to be heard. CARE believes in making communities self-sufficient, training the people of the community they are helping so they have a vested interest in continuing what CARE has started.

Every two years, the Council of Governors votes on a project chosen from three provided by CARE. The goal is to raise \$40,000.00 per year to support the project chosen. The Lions of MD19 have been very successful in reaching that goal for the past several years.

Some other recent projects that CARE and MD19 Lions have partnered on:

*The current project is “Community-Managed Girls’ Learning Center” project in Haiti. In Haiti, many children lack access to quality, basic education. And for girls, the problem is even greater. In the Central region of Haiti, the number of girls who complete primary education is shockingly low. In 2018, **more than half of school- age girls in this region did not complete more than 2.5 years of schooling.** This is despite the government’s pledge to strengthen public education and improve teacher training. The main reasons for children (both girls and boys) abandoning school include: parents’ inability to afford school fees; heavy household chores; lack of parental support for children at both school and home. While progress has been made in enrolling girls by the Haiti government, the number of girls who do not enroll in primary school and/or drop-out early is woefully high. (More information about this project can be found on our MD19 website: lionsmd19.org*

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“School Garden for Healthy Nutrition” project in Honduras, which was to create learning spaces (Gardens) at school to improve agriculture and nutritional food knowledge, and promote healthy living and conservation and preservation of natural resources such as soil and water. Production and preparation of nutritious food and vegetables in schools involves comprehensive learning by which children and teachers will use their knowledge to become ‘multiplying agents’ that will contribute to improving food and nutritional security in their homes and communities.

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“Educational Opportunities for Girls” in Peru. CARE has developed a program framework for the proposed Girls with Opportunities initiative, which intends to reach 100,000 girls nationwide over a 10-year period. CARE seeks funding for the two-year Girls with Opportunities pilot project, which will target 4,569 girls at 19 schools in the departments of

Huancavelica and Ica in southern Peru. The focus of this project is to empower adolescent girls from rural and marginalized urban areas with better quality education and opportunities to learn important social skills.

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“Water-Links” in Guatemala. Rural areas of Guatemala have water but it is not easily accessible to villagers. Women and children spend the better part of their day fetching water and thus are denied an education. There is also the issue of sanitation. Diarrhea caused by waterborne parasites is the number one killer of children under 5 years of age.

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Getting young children out of the abandoned silver mines in Bolivia. These mines were extremely dangerous and children, primarily the boys, were being killed. CARE was instrumental in stopping this by instructing the matriarch of the family in other ways to earn money, by weaving, framing and pottery making.

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Educating and providing good pre-natal care for pregnant women in the Ecuadorian Andes. This culture was steeped in superstitions and women were not inclined to attend pre-natal clinics. By understanding their culture and making some small changes like changing the clothing the health care workers wore (not white as white means death in this culture) the mid-wives of the area started to trust the new ideas and more pregnant women received care.

As Lions we have so much to be proud of. This partnership with CARE is certainly one of them. With the money raised, Lions are making a difference in the lives of women and children in the poorest areas of Central and South America.

When a club donates just \$5 per club member, that club will receive a banner patch. If a Club donates \$500 in a Lion's year, they can apply for a Gordon F. Smith Fellowship to honor on of their club members. More information is available on the Multiple District 19 Website under the CARE heading.

For a complete list of all the CARE Projects that MD19 has partnered with please see page 69 under the Resources section.

Northwest Lions Foundation



Restoring Sight, Hope, & Hearing

LIONS PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Lions Hearing Aid Program:

The Lions Hearing Aid Program provides new hearing aids to people who cannot afford them. The process begins when someone who cannot afford a hearing aid turns to an MD19 Lions Club for help. The Club gathers income information to verify that the person is in need and decides whether or not to sponsor the request. If applicant is approved, NLF will split the cost 50-50 with the club. The Hearing Program serves residents of MD19 only and applicants must be age 18 or older. Hearing is critical to learning and development, so we want to make sure children get hearing aids to accommodate their special needs. If a Lions Club wants to sponsor a child, they are welcome to do so through our Patient Care Program.

Patient Care Grants:

Working similarly to the Lions Hearing Aid Program it is a grant program for low income individual's needing assistance with vision and/or hearing related care, treatment, surgery or assistive technology. Plain eye glasses do not normally fit into this category, as eye glasses are typically covered by the local Lions Club in full through their many partnerships throughout their communities. For those we do receive Patient Care Grant applications for, they must be sponsored again by a local Lions Club in order for NLF to continue the process. Costs tend to be higher for Patient Care Grants, and although the typical application calls for 50-50 split with the sponsoring Lions Club, many different arrangements can be made if simply asked for. We are here to help and will do everything we can to work with you and your club if your club is willing to be flexible as well.

Project Support Grants:

These are formal organizational grants and require a formal grant application to be completed and submitted semi-annually. These applications are reviewed by a committee of our board. Organizations we have helped support in the past are the Lions Low Vision Clinics around Washington State, the Pierce County Diabetes Association, and the Northwest School for Hearing Impaired Children. Through this program we have also awarded small, one time only grant applications to schools, Lions Clubs or small organizations for a very specific vision or hearing project to commence within the years' time.

Lions Health Screening Unit:

Begun in 1997 by the Northwest Lions Foundation, the LHSU travels throughout Washington and Northern Idaho to provide free health screenings for vision, hearing, glaucoma, diabetes and blood pressure. The specially-equipped unit is staffed by volunteers (usually Lions) and health professionals. The Foundations' goal is to speed early detection of health problems through screenings so corrective assessment and intervention steps can be taken immediately. Preventative care is the foundation of a healthy community but is a luxury for too many people who don't have a doctor, means to pay for care, or means to travel to care. Through the Lions Health Screening Unit, we give peace of mind, protect sight and hearing, and even save lives.



The Northwest Lions Foundation supports Lions Clubs in Washington and Northern Idaho with both School and Community health screening events.

Our mobile (on site) Health Screening units provide Vision and Hearing testing for over 33,000 School youth annually.

Community events screen for Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar, Glaucoma Vision and Hearing.



Northwest Lions Foundation

Restoring Sight, Hope, & Hearing

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Northwest Lions Foundation



Restoring Sight, Hope, & Hearing

"Giving Back to Our Communities"

Our Mission Is to work with local Lions Clubs to give back to our communities in Washington and Northern Idaho.



Often, deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals cannot afford the special equipment or medical procedures they dearly need in communities throughout Washington and Northern Idaho. The Northwest Lions Foundation comes to the rescue by matching funds raised by local Lions Clubs for hearing and sight related costs.



Lions Project New Hope Northwest



Local Need

Upon learning of Project New Hope of Minnesota, Lion Joel Graves began the process of establishing a similar operation in Multiple District 19 of the Lions International. The location in Washington State was ideal, given the proximity to several military bases. At Joint Base Lewis-McChord alone the movement of military personnel to and from combat zones in Iraq and Afghanistan took on such a pace that, it is no longer rare to hear of military personnel embarking on their 4th and 5th combat assignments

Such a marathon schedule of departures and returns creates incredible stress for families. While military life can provide a certain type of stability, the turmoil created by the frequent deployments has the potential to over shadow any benefits of stability. The returning veterans can hardly avoid returning with altered personalities or views of life compared to when initially deployed. Each additional deployment only adds cumulative, and often negative affects to the individuals' personality. Returning to his or her prior life can often be a problematic transition. Adding to the complexities of returning warriors' transitions, the veterans' families have faced difficulties coping with the temporary loss of a key member. They have had to assume responsibilities previously held by the absent individual. Children must learn to conduct themselves without that critical role model and disciplinarian. When the combat tour concludes, the joy is sometimes mixed with the resumption of past roles by all parties, a prospect often creating confusion, frustration and possibly resentment.

For those experiencing difficulties in the transition, Lions Project New Hope Northwest offers free weekend retreats for individual veterans and their families. The retreats, held in the midst of some of the most beautiful and peaceful forest land in the Pacific Northwest, provide professional PTS/mental health counselors at the workshops; counseling sessions with professional counselors; and ample time for the families to enjoy recreational activities as a function of reaffirming the bonds they felt prior to deployment

Funding

Funding for Lions Project New Hope NW [LPNH-Northwest] is provided by Lions Clubs contributions, private donations and grants presented by corporations and other organizations. The majority of those funds go to the costs of acquiring facilities for the weekend camps, including meals and overnight accommodations. There are no paid personnel.

LPNH-Northwest is a function of the Lions International Multiple District 19, and its core activities are in the South Puget Sound region. It is managed by a board of directors and is a tax-exempt 501[c] 3 organization. All staff, board members and retreat assistants, including professional counselors and instructors are unpaid volunteers.