


LIONS CLUBS OF DISTRICT 11-C1



TREASURES!

ALLENDALE LIONS

The Allendale Lions held a KidSight screening during a Back-To-School event. With the help from 4 members from the Allegan Lions, and District 11-C1 Project KidSight chair, Lion Sandra Graham, they were able to screen 36 children, out of which 2 were referred.

FRUITPORT LIONS

Held their annual Fish Fry on Wednesday, October 9th at the VFW Post 3734 in Fruitport. Several Lions Clubs were in attendance and enjoyed a delicious fish dinner along with a fun raffle and great fellowship! Their upcoming annual Old Fashioned Christmas event will be held on Friday, December 13th from 6pm to 9pm and Saturday, December 14th from 4pm to 7pm. Pomona Park, Fruitport.

LYONS MUIR LIONS volunteered with KidSight at Red Mill Community Days in Portland



GRAND RAPIDS

The Tandem bike (side by side) was needed for clients of ABVI. Since this is a custom bike, they would not make the bike unless it was fully paid for. The Grand Rapids Lions Club fronted the full \$14,000 for the bike to be made. On Saturday, Nov 16th there will be a fundraiser "ride" in Millenium Park. Riders and spectators are needed. If each club would be able to send Lions to help Lion Osman Koroma ride the 50 miles it would make the ride successful! Each alternate rider will ride 2 1/2 miles with Osman down the path. We also need stations for the exchanges and refreshments. Looking for pledges and donations to help reimburse the Grand Rapids Lions for the cost of the bike and Lions to help support the ride on that Saturday morning. See flyer with details on page 13



District 11-C1: ABVI Tandem Bike Drive

Nov. 16, 2024: 10:00am-2:00pm

On Saturday Nov. 16, 2024, Osman Koroma from ABVI will be riding **50 miles** on ABVI's new, custom built tandem bicycle.

This new bike will enable our visually impaired to enjoy the simple activity of bike riding like the rest of the sighted world can.

We are asking Lions Clubs of 11-C1 to help in two ways.

- Osman will need a tandem rider. If we have a new rider with him every 5 miles, we will need 10 volunteers. If we provide a new rider every 2.5 miles, we will need 20 riders to help.
We are also looking for clubs to set up aid/water/encouragement stations along the path. Possible where the new rider jumps in.
- The tandem cost \$14,500. We are looking for pledges from each club, Lions members and the public to help defray the cost so ABVI can use their own funds to provide their services to the visually impaired.
We will use ABVI's website to collect pledges and donations and each one will be credited to the Lions Club or the individual.
- Osman Koroma is the Employment Coordinator for ABVI, a Grand Rapids Lions member and is visually impaired.
- An event flyer describing the course details, and all the event details will be published and sent to all the clubs in 11-C1. ASAP!



LYONS MUIR LIONS



The Lyons-Muir Lions Club Hosted District Governor Cheryl Anderson on Tuesday, October 15th. DG Cheryl inducted 3 members into the club, including the club president! All received their official pins and certificates and are pictured with their sponsors. From Left: Amber Rux, Betsy Svanda, PCS Gwen Botting, FVDG Earl Howell, Karen Erskine, and DG Cheryl Anderson. Another member, Lexi Green received her pins and certificate but was unable to attend.

Lions-Muir Lions are gearing up for their annual Christmas gifts for children in need in their community. They purchase clothing (boots, coats, even socks and underwear) and a toy for children at the local elementary school who are identified by the school as low income. They gather the presents in early December, wrap them, and deliver to the school before Winter break. It's a fabulous service project!

They also updated their road side club signage!



MARNE LIONS

The Marne Lions, after several fund-raising events over the past couple of years, were able to finally have the 25-year-old post fence with ropes removed and new border of scrubs planted. This was a much-needed improvement at the Marne Memorial Veterans Park.

We wish to Thank Sparta Lion John Momber, who removed and disposed of rocks, posts and ropes, planted the scrubs and landscaped with mulch.

Lion Barb Taggart also painted the chain fence which really makes the park look awesome!



TAKE A BREAK!

TIME FOR A LITTLE TRIVIA FUN!

The 1st Lion that replies with the correct answer to the following fun trivia question will receive a \$15 Starbucks gift card! Email your answer to: jmay4379@gmail.com

The PSL was invented in a "Liquid Lab" What year was it invented, and what do the initials PSL stand for?

MIDDLEVILLE LIONS volunteered with KidSight at the Wayland Expo.



MUSKEGON NORTHSIDE LIONS / THE UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY



The Ukrainian Community with the great support of the Muskegon Northside Lions held a Fundraising Ukrainian Dinner on October 9. We wanted to buy an electronic protective device for Ukrainian Nurses to be able to pick up and deliver wounded soldiers from the battlefields to the hospitals and be invisible from enemy's drones. We cooked delicious Ukrainian food, showed the beautiful pictures, had some Ukrainian souvenirs for sale, the Barvinko Group were singing Ukrainian songs, playing accordion and guitar. It was a very successful event and we raised much more money than we were hoping to raise! Thank you all very much for your generosity, help, prayers and support! We bought two electronic protective devices and helped the Ukrainian soldiers in Grand Rapids, who came to the USA for prosthetics surgeries and rehabilitation. We bought warm clothes for them and some medical supplies.



MUSKEGON NORTHSIDE LIONS

The 2024 Muskegon Northside Lions Club Fundraising Raffle Tickets are available for purchase!

\$20.00 a ticket

Drawings are held on the First and Third Tuesdays of each month Monday through Saturday winners receive \$20.00 with the exception of special days listed below.

Sunday winners receive \$40.00

2024 Monthly Special Days - \$100

Drawings:

Monday 01/01	New Year's Day
Wednesday 02/14	Valentine's Day
Sunday 03/31	Easter Sunday
Monday 04/01	April Fool's Day
Sunday 05/12	Mother's Day
Sunday 06/16	Father's Day
Thursday 07/04	Independence Day
Monday 08/21	Senior Citizen's Day
Monday 09/02	Labor Day
Tuesday 10/15	White Cane Safety Day
Thursday 11/28	Thanksgiving Day

\$500 Drawing Day

Wednesday 12/25 | Christmas Day

Contact any Muskegon Northside Lion to purchase your ticket!
www.mknorthsidelions.com
 Club Telephone: 231-744-8924

MUSKEGON NORTHSIDE LIONS

EDUCATION MINI - GRANTS

The world suddenly became a different place four years ago. With the ever-changing demands of COVID restraints, it meant all of us had to adjust, and one area that was hit particularly hard was education. Allocated funds to many schools just couldn't support these new demands from the CDC. With a few former and present educators as members of the Northside Lions Organization during that time, they quickly began thinking of ways to assist educators with these added needs. They knew that every student would need access to his/her own materials to ensure that supplies could be kept sanitary. To supply elementary classrooms would be one thing, but what about secondary schools where teachers see the access of a hundred-thirty students a day? Thus, a team of Northside Lions formed the education mini-grants for Muskegon Northside (Reeths-Puffer and North Muskegon) school districts.

Under the newly created Northside Lion educator mini-grant, anyone in Reeths-Puffer or North Muskegon schools could apply for a \$200.00 mini-grant to fund ideas or items that would best meet the needs of the students in our community. The mini-grant team set the criteria for the grants, and it is as follows: Ten grants up to \$200.00 each would be awarded that enhance instructional programs and include but are not limited to new projects or programs, program enhancement within the curriculum framework, and those that serve and better our community, special events, learning opportunities for students, parent involvement programs, etc. All recipients must maintain receipt of their spending and complete an assessment to be shared with Lion members in the spring.

Our Northside Lion board approved \$2,000.00 (10 grants) for our first year of funding for the 2021-22 school year. Several people applied from both school districts. It was apparent in this first year that the need was there. After reporting to our club members at a general meeting, one of our Northside Lion members donated additional funds in the second and third years. This generous donation, in addition to the additional funding by our board, allowed us to fund twenty-one grants in year two for a total of \$4,187.00, although we still had to deny seventeen.

In year three (2023-24), grant applications were down in the fall. We received twenty-one and awarded seventeen for a total of \$3,160.00. This is when, once again, our Lion member donors stepped up with additional funds to assist the remaining board-granted funds from the fall of the 2023/24 school year. The mini-grant team assembled again and decided to offer a chance at second grants for this year. The only added stipulation for this additional grant was that applicants could not have received a grant from us in the fall. We hoped that the grant monies could reach even more students and classrooms. Seventeen grants were submitted, one was denied, and our board granted an additional four hundred dollars to cover two additional applications that also met the grant criteria. One other Lion member donated the other two hundred dollars, so all but one grant application was awarded for the second round in 2023-24 school year, for a total of thirty grants for last school year. For the 2024-25, our board approved, \$3,000.00 for grants to enhance education. With thirty-three exceptional grants, the mini grant committee went to the board and the members for a special consideration. We asked if any member would want to sponsor one of the grants, so we could cover all thirty-three. Our members graciously donated another \$1,500.00 for grants, so our board approved a "match" of our member donations.

To this date, the Northside Lions have donated \$20,854.00 to support and improve our local schools and community. The one hundred and six grants that have been awarded were for a variety of things such as building libraries, flexible seating/creative common space, career study through play, clean-up efforts for our local parks, and the study and planting of local pollinators just to name a few. The mini-grant ideas that have been submitted over the years have been creative and assisted Northside Lions in living up to their motto: "We Serve!" Our grant has evolved from a "need basis" due to a global pandemic to supporting creative ideas that expand the ideas and learning outside local classroom walls.

Hopefully, if funding remains, we can continue our educator mini-grant well into future years.

ROCKFORD

Are planning a Trunk and Treat which takes place on October 25 in the Rockford City Hall from 4pm to 7pm
They had a very successful Harvest Fest which included a Scarecrow building event with 1100 scarecrows being sold they had help provided by the Rockford football team, Rockford Honors Choir and Cub/Boy Scouts. Donations were made to North Kent Connects, the Rockford History Museum and their charitable contribution fund.
They have been busy with White Cane, a roadside cleanup, and on October 22nd they held a can drive.

SPARTA

**ATTENTION ALL LIONS!
THE SPARTA LIONS WOULD LIKE TO
INVITE YOU TO THEIR
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVENT & DINNER**

Date: Thursday, December 12, 2024
Time: 5:30pm Cocktails, 6:00pm Dinner
Location: Apple Valley Events
2124 12 Mile Rd NW, Sparta

**FREE Steak Dinner
with an Open Bar included!**

Dinner includes:
Steak, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Salad Bar, Roll and Butter

Please bring a wrapped gift for the Charity Auction
There will be a silent auction as well.

All proceeds go back into various charitable works in the community!

WYOMING LIONS On 10/18/24 Lion Elvie Marfil, with MD11 Youth Camps & Exchange, along with Wyoming Lions James Bualek, Sue and Bob Hohendorf, Alto Lions Ken and Mariam Adamy and Fruitport Lion Heidi Tice, and a Muskegon Northside member, had the opportunity to use the Reading Between the Lions (RBL) program to screen 90 students at the Muskegon Marquette Elementary School. Also, on October 11th they held an installation of new member Lion James Bialek, and held their Club's Fall 2024 White Cane Drive.



RAVENNA LIONS October 2nd the Ravenna Lions held their annual Fruit-Coop Steak Fry and Raffle! They had an amazing steak dinner. Plus, they celebrated the club's 70th Anniversary. President Brad Woodard did the introductions as there were 7 clubs in attendance from the district along with PID Gary Anderson, and DG Cheryl Anderson. There was a moment of silence as we remembered Lions Wally Owens, and Dave Ruble who recently passed. Lion Don Swanson gave a brief history of the clubs' 70 years of Lions Community Service, and mentioned that they have been hosting this steak fry since 1968! Ravenna Lions Chartered on September 15, 1954. Over 70 years their club has made amazing accomplishments from the support and trust of people in the surrounding Ravenna area. They have enjoyed marvelous programs, good meals, and sincere fellowship both within the club and beyond. Over the years they have raised money selling brooms, light bulbs, trees, pancakes, picnic tables, coloring books, and mints. Pennies have been pitched, cement poured, fences built, trees cut, highway and park litter picked up, bridges built and walking trails constructed.

The Club has contributed to the community projects and Lions Projects with amounts of time, money, including raising funds through their annual "Goldfest", Benefit Bowl which for the past 13 years, was replaced by "Dog Days." The Club adopted the Lions slogan "We Serve" from the very beginning and has been an inspiration through their first 70 years. They have supported the following Michigan Lions Project: Welcome Home for the Blind in Grand Rapids, Leader Dogs, Michigan Eye Bank (Eversight), White Cane, Hearing and Speech, ABVI, Michigan Lions All State Band, Lions Bear Lake Camp, and Lions of Michigan Service Foundation. Their major projects around the Ravenna area have been in Conklin and Thatcher parks playground equipment, walking trails, band shell and ball fields. Also, Summer Recreation youth activities, Citizens Fields, Community activities, School activities, Salvation Army, Scouting programs MARS Love Connection, Eye care and building ramps. The total dollar contribution amounts to well over \$400,000 which does not in any way reflect the hundreds of hours invested by Lions, their wives, friends and community volunteers. **Congratulations Ravenna Lions Thank you for your 70 years of service!**



VISION OF JUSTICE
Helping the Blind See the World

Do you or someone you love struggle with cataract-related blindness?

Vision of Justice is dedicated to providing free cataract surgeries to individuals in need across Michigan.

To qualify for free cataract surgery, applicants must be uninsured, legally blind in both eyes due to cataracts, meet certain income criteria, and be Michigan residents.

Use the QR code to go directly to the online application. For more information, please visit visionofjustice.com.

Attorney Jason Wachter founded Vision of Justice to address the urgent need for support in his community. He partnered with his childhood friend, Dr. Walter Cukrowski, a leading eye surgeon and owner of the Michigan EyeCare Institute, to make it happen.

OCTOBER | 2024
LEADING THE WAY
LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND - LIONS NEWSLETTER

Partner with Leader Dogs for the Blind for Your LCIF DCG Project!

What are District and Club Community Impact Grants (DCIG)?
• DCIG drive clubs and districts to utilize a portion of the funds they donate to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). Clubs that donate at least \$5,000 and districts that donate at least \$10,000 within a fiscal year qualify to apply for a grant equal to 1% of their total contributions (including disaster donations).
• Eligible Projects: DCIG funds support specific humanitarian activities that highlight the role of Lions in their communities. The funds cannot be used to pay membership dues or establish reserve funds.

Why Choose Leader Dogs for the Blind as Your Project?
• By choosing Leader Dogs for the Blind as your DCIG project, you are directly supporting a nonprofit that serves individuals in your own community who are blind or visually impaired.
• Funded by Lions Club members in 1856, Leader Dogs for the Blind has a long-standing, close connection with the Lions Clubs International community. We've partnered with over a 100 Lions Clubs worldwide to serve more than 17,000 clients across the globe, including many of your own neighborhoods.
• Lions are integral to our mission. They identify community members who could benefit from our services, provide broad awareness for clients, and have shared awareness about our programs. Lions contribute as Leader Dog Owners, study raters, and hosts for breaking stone dogs, while also advocating for the blind and visually impaired in their communities.
• By choosing Leader Dogs for the Blind, your club will help empower people with independence and mobility, fostering stronger, more inclusive communities.

Join Us in Reaching a Milestone
We're approaching our 100th Anniversary and are celebrating by honoring our volunteer spirit. You can help us reach this goal by becoming a Leader Dog for the Blind. This is a wonderful way to give back to your community and support a noble cause. Contact us today to learn more and get started!

TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR HEALTH!

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan offers "Virtual Action" (virtual health) programs that provide skills and tools to help you live a healthier life. They are fun, interactive, multi-week workshops led by certified facilitators.

Sign up today for a PATH workshop. You will:
• Gain confidence to manage everyday activities
• Reach your health goals by making action plans
• Connect with others who share similar concerns
• Learn about symptoms & disease status

Types of PATH Workshops:
• Diabetes PATH - For people living with type 2 diabetes
• Chronic Pain PATH - For people living with chronic pain
• HBP Control - For people living with high blood pressure
• Chronic HYPN - For people living with kidney disease
• Chronic Stroke PATH - For people with long-term health conditions
• Hypertension Control on a Budget - Delivered in Spanish, for people living with long-term health conditions

Upcoming Zoom Workshops "FREE!"
Access any PATH workshop with an internet connection on a computer, tablet or smartphone.

Diabetes PATH
November 6-10th (Fri)
Nov 8 Sessions 10:00am - 11:30am
Nov 9 Sessions 10:00am - 11:30am
Nov 10 Sessions 10:00am - 11:30am

Chronic Pain PATH
November 11-15th (Fri)
Nov 11 Sessions 10:00am - 11:30am
Nov 12 Sessions 10:00am - 11:30am
Nov 13 Sessions 10:00am - 11:30am
Nov 14 Sessions 10:00am - 11:30am

HBP Control
November 18th (Fri)
Sessions 10:00am - 11:30am

800-462-1433 | www.nkf.org/PATH | PATH@nkf.org
Telephone and in-person workshops available! Call or visit the website for information.

OCTOBER | 2024
LEADING THE WAY
Leader Dogs for the Blind - Lions Newsletter

2024 PUPPY SPONSORSHIPS HAVE ARRIVED!

Linthearted Heroes: Support Our Future Leader Dogs Through Puppy Sponsorship!

This year, we have three incredible puppies with bright futures ahead of them! Each puppy is currently being cared for by a dedicated volunteer puppy raiser, giving the groundwork to become the amazing Leader Dogs we know they can be. We're especially excited to share that each of these adorable puppies are being raised by Lions - they're truly in good paws!

To make things even more exciting, we're launching a friendly competition to see which Lion-raised puppy can contact the most sponsors. As Lions, we know the power of teamwork and puppy spirit - we'll make this opportunity to serve together and support our Future Leader Dogs!

When you symbolically sponsor a Future Leader Dog for \$500, you'll receive:
• A personalized puppy profile sheet
• 5x7 photos of your sponsored puppy
• Four 4x6 inch photos to share with friends and family
• An official certificate of sponsorship
• A lobby Future Leader Dog dog tag

Your support not only helps our puppy thrive but also transforms the lives of those who are ultimately served as guide dogs. Thank you, Lions, for your continued support and dedication to our mission. Together, we serve!

Do you recognize anyone from below!!!

33rd Annual District 11-C1 Projects Night



October 17, 2024, District 11-C1 held their 33rd Annual Project Night. And what an awesome night it was! We had the following District and State projects on site; ABVI, Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind (OUB), PAWS With a Cause, The Sight Seer Radio also, the MD11 State projects from Eversight, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Lions Bear Lake Camp, Lions of Michigan All State Band and Lions of Michigan Foundation, along with guests from Cherry Health, Color for a Cause/Ronald McDonald House, Youth Camps & Exchange, LOTUS Lions of the US. Which gave us a total of 99 Lions and Reps in attendance. This annual event included a

delicious dinner with some tasty cupcakes, and a silent auction. We then followed our same successful format as last year with "Speed Dating" our projects. This was a great way for the Lions to choose which project to visit and learn more about the services they provide. With an estimated 6-minute interval before they moved on to the next project. Thanks to our Great Lions who came out to support these amazing causes! We hope everyone enjoyed the fun interactive evening and Lions fellowship!



Special Thanks
to Lion Gail McCready, Lions Kitty & Chris Fortier, Lion Deb Davis, Lion Dianna Robach, our amazing "cupcake queen" Lion Penny Weller, and our awesome Bartenders, as well as all the behind-the-scenes Lions who helped with set up and clean up which made the evening run smoothly.



Also, Thank you to all of our amazing Lions Clubs, District and MD 11 State projects for your attendance as well as your donations for our silent auction which brought in \$1124.00.



THANK YOU!



PROJECT NAME	CONTACT PERON	EMAIL
Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ABVI) (Mary Free Bed)	Charis Austin	charis.austin@maryfreebed.com
Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind (OUB)	Tim Tuihill	tim.tuihill@maryfreebed.com
Guest: Color for a Cause/Ronald McDonald House	Gwen Botting	gwen@oubmichigan.org
	Lexi Green	lexigreen263@gmail.com
The Sight Seer Radio	Ken & Beth VanProoyen	ken.vanprooyen@thesightseer.org
Paws With A Cause	Kristy Blackmore	kblackmore@pawswithacause.org
	Mary Blain	mblain@pawswithacause.org
Lions All State Band	Deb Davis	debDavisrockford@gmail.com
Eversight Michigan	Bill Sutton	ssoftbl11@gmail.com
Leader Dogs for the Blind	Greg Wehby	gregwehby@ameritech.net
Lions Bear Lake Camp	Chrissy Andre	chrissy@bearlakecamp.org
Lions of Michigan Foundation	Sandra Graham	packfan1022@yahoo.com
Guest: Youth Camps & Exchange	Elvie Marfil	epmarfil5@gmail.com
Guest: Cherry Health	Dr Meagan Baker	meaganbaker@cherryhealth.com