

# THE LIONS

## Who We Are

- ✓ Lions began serving the blind and visually impaired in 1917.
- ✓ Lions are more than 1.4 million strong: men and women, young and old.
- ✓ Lions are in more than 190 countries and geographical areas.
- ✓ Lions speak dozens of languages and vary in nature and customs.
- ✓ Lions are united in a single cause: serving those less fortunate.
- ✓ Lions still are tackling the tough problems like blindness and finding help for the deaf.
- ✓ In fact, whatever the community needs to make life better, the Lions are there to help.



"My daughter received an educational grant. It allowed her to concentrate on her education rather than how she was going to pay for that education."

-- Dee Frizzell

"People take all the exuberance and friendships of Camp Dogwood home and the afterglow lasts until the VIP Fishing Tournament in the fall. It allows us to celebrate each other." -- Jesse Smith



90-year-old Ervin Thomas said the Lions Club programs allow "me to meet wonderful people. I really appreciate the Lions providing the opportunities they do."

"I love the Radio Reading Service. It keeps me from being isolated in my own home. They read local news and it keeps me informed on what's happening in the community." --Janet Wilson



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## *Service Programs of the North Carolina Lions Foundation*



*Camp Dogwood - a camp for the visually impaired*

The North Carolina Lions Foundation is the umbrella organization of the Lions Clubs of North Carolina.

The Foundation administers service programs as directed by the local Lions.



# Service Programs Lions Provide...

## Camp Dogwood

North Carolina Lions maintain Camp Dogwood as a unique summer vacation experience for the blind and visually impaired.



Visually impaired participants prepare to take a boat ride during summer camp.

## Clinical Eye Research

With contributions exceeding \$1 million, Lions have established the North Carolina Lions Clinical Eye Research Division at Wake Forest, the North Carolina Lions Pediatric Eye Care Center at Duke and the North Carolina Lions Diabetic Eye Care Center at UNC-Chapel Hill.

## Educational Grants

Lions award grants up to \$1,500 a year to children of a visually impaired parent, renewable for four years if the student maintains a grade point average of 2.0.

## Vision Van

Lions provide the vision van to screen and detect vision problems and to generate public awareness of the need for regular eye exams.



## Matching Funds

NCLF provides matching funds, dollar-for-dollar for local clubs to buy eye glasses and to meet other needs of the local blind and visually impaired people.

## Hearing Aids

Lions provide hearing aids and maintain a hearing aid recycling program.

## White Canes

Lions provide support and mobility canes to any visually impaired or blind person in North Carolina upon request.



## Radio Reading Service

Lions support the Radio Reading Services across North Carolina to meet the local needs of the blind and visually impaired.

## Governor Morehead School For The Blind

Lions provide funding to support the athletic and art programs for blind students. Lions become the booster club for these students who do not receive government funding for athletic or art programs.

## Services For The Blind Mini Centers

Lions fund programs to provide training and information for people who are newly blind and who want to remain independent individuals.

## VIP Fishing Tournament

More than 400 blind and visually impaired individuals participate annually in a three-day event that provides recreation, independent living skills and education.



## Organ and Tissue Procurement

Lions provide information on the importance, benefit and growing need of organ and tissue donations for life-saving transplants.

## Recycling Eye Glasses

Lions collect and recycle eye glasses that are used in third world countries and provide improved vision for thousands of people each year.

## Service Grants

The North Carolina Lions Foundation annually provides grants to help organizations with service projects. Recent recipients include: Lion Services of Charlotte, The Blind Center in Washington and Asheville Eye Clinic of Western North Carolina.

## Campbell's Soup Labels

Lions collect Campbell's labels from soups and selected products, and donate them to the two deaf schools in the state. The schools use them to buy computers and educational materials.

## Recycling Print Cartridges

Lions collect ink jet and laser cartridges, sell them to recycling companies and use the money to support the above services.

## Recycling Low Vision Aids

Lions collect low vision devices that are loaned to individuals for their personal use as long as they are needed.