LCIF’s Diabetes and Diabetic Retinopathy Programming

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

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LCIF at a Glance

- Official foundation of Lions Clubs International
- Provides grant support for large-scale service-oriented projects unable to be funded locally
- Relies on donations from Lions around the world
- Four pillars of investments: Sight, Youth, Disaster Relief and General Humanitarian
- LCIF is one of many ways that Lions express their humanitarian mission
Types of Grants

- Standard
- Core 4
- SightFirst
- International Assistance
- Major Catastrophe
- Emergency

We Care. We Serve. We Accomplish.
Core 4 Diabetes Grants

- Up to $200K available for large-scale Lions/Lions-affiliated efforts that support the expansion and enhancement of comprehensive diabetes education, prevention and treatment programs, especially for underserved populations.

- Grant applications should focus on public awareness and education; patient education and support, and increasing access to treatment.

- Since the inception of the Core 4 program in 1999, 27 diabetes projects have been approved for a total of approximately US$2.3 million.

- Please see the LCIF website for more information.

We Care. We Serve. We Accomplish.
SightFirst – “Vision for All”

• Builds upon the first phase of SightFirst, and Lions historical interest in serving persons who are blind or visually impaired
• Campaign SightFirst II successfully raised over US$205 million
• Grants available for a wider range of blindness prevention activities as well as programs for those with irreversible vision loss
• Greater opportunities for Lions from all countries to participate in SightFirst
• US$13 million approval ceiling

We Care. We Serve. We Accomplish.
The Lions’ SightFirst program builds and strengthens comprehensive eye care systems to fight the major causes of avoidable and reversible blindness and care for the blind or visually impaired. The program funds high-quality, data-driven, sustainable projects that deliver eye care services, develop infrastructure, train personnel and/or provide rehabilitation & education in underserved communities.
SightFirst Program Areas

- Cataract
- River Blindness
- Trachoma
- Childhood Blindness
- Education & Rehab.
- Eye Health Education
- Low Vision
- URE
- Diabetic Retinopathy
- Research
SightFirst Diabetic Retinopathy Projects

- A total of 33 projects totaling US$5.0 million have been awarded since 1995, with several initiatives in the pipeline.

- Per evaluation of SF DR projects, and the SF policy paper, the following are identified as key elements of success:
  
  1. Community-based patient awareness campaigns in partnership with national or state organizations concerned with diabetes
  
  2. Community-based diabetic retinopathy screening programs, in collaboration with established diabetes or eye care clinics
  
  3. Availability of eye care infrastructure with professionals trained in diabetic retinopathy detection, diagnosis and treatment
4. Provision of basic equipment and treatment facilities as add-ons to an established clinic

5. A good monitoring system for patient outcomes, tracking & follow-up

6. Linkages to tertiary care centers with fully developed vitreo-retinal department to provide technical assistance and treatment

7. Projects should take place in areas where DR is a leading cause of blindness and especially target underserved populations

8. Significant local Lions involvement

Grants typically cover infrastructure costs, human resources training and direct service provision (as appropriate)
SightFirst Research Program

- US$400,000 is allocated each year, for up to four - five projects
- Supports research projects which directly influence the operation of the SightFirst program and contribute to global blindness prevention efforts
- Current focal topics: cataract, surveys/RAABs, trachoma and uncorrected refractive error