

DIABETES AWARENESS



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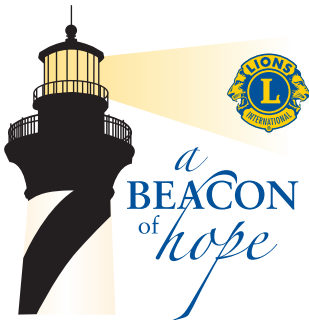


Lions Clubs International

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Diabetes is in Every Country – Lions Are Needed!



Something that countries all over the world have in common is the fact that Diabetes is a threat to healthy eyes. Diabetic eye disease refers to a group of eye problems that people with diabetes may face and includes

diabetic retinopathy, cataract and glaucoma. All can cause severe vision loss or even blindness.

While Diabetes is a non-communicable disease, it is spreading worldwide and is getting out of control. It is estimated that there are 300 million people with diabetes, and by 2030, there will be 500 million. In China alone, an estimated 92 million people have diabetes, and in India 50 million.

Now, more than ever, Lions across the world can make a difference by getting involved with diabetes projects. Lions can be a Beacon of Hope by participating in diabetes awareness activities such as a community Health Fair, [Strides Walk for Diabetes Awareness](#), or [Diabetes Screening event](#) (involving health care professionals).

Diabetes Awareness Month – Ways Lions Participated

Maitland Lions Club (306-C1, Sri Lanka) held a Strides Walk and



health awareness event at Hekitta, Wattala, on November 14, World Diabetes Day. Club President Douglas Nijanthan reported that several school children, Lions members and people in the surrounding community

participated. The club submitted their photos to the “virtual museum” on the [World Diabetes Day Web site](#).

In India, World Diabetes Day 2010 coincided with Children’s Day.



Lions in District 324-D2 launched a campaign to increase awareness of juvenile diabetes. There are one million children and youths in India with Type 1 Diabetes.

Lions in District 324-B1, India, commemorated World Diabetes Day by conducting screenings and promoting diabetes awareness in 105 area locations.

North Walsham District Lions Club (105-EA, England), held a Diabetes Screening Day. Approximately 130 people were screened, and three were recommended for further testing.

Park Falls Lions Club (27-C2 Wisconsin) held a diabetes screening at a local pharmacy.

Jefferson Lions Club (18-D Georgia) invited a local optometrist to speak to the club about diabetes, a major cause of vision loss.



Camps for Children and Youth With Diabetes – How Lions Can Serve



"Great Camps, Healthy Futures"

Lions involvement in a diabetes camp for children or youth can be a very rewarding experience for members. To learn more, members may download resources from the special "Lions" tab on partner organization DECA's Web site (Diabetes Education & Camping Association). To register, simply open the "Lions" menu tab, and select "Register Here" to create your own username, and enter the password "DECALIONS" – in all caps.

Resources include:

- *Lions Clubs and Diabetes Camps: A Great Partnership (Information on Connecting with Lions Clubs in Your Community)*
- *Diabetes 101* (share this free resource with your school nurse or others who work with children and youth)
- *Diabetes Camp Survival Manual* (provides information about starting and operating a diabetes camp)
- *DECA Newsletter* (available from the "Downloads" tab)
- *Until The Cure, There's Camp* (from the "Downloads" tab; PowerPoint presentation stressing importance of attending camp and information about the LCI-DECA partnership)

Watch for more resources!

Spotlight on Lions Strides Walk: Lennox Lions Club

On Saturday, November 13, the Lennox Lions Club (District 5-SE, South Dakota) held their second annual Strides Walk. In addition to the fun walk, participants learned about diabetes, and enjoyed prizes (donated by local businesses) and healthy snacks. Funds were also raised to help send kids to Camp Gilbert for kids with Type 1 Diabetes.

One young camper, in his "thank you" letter to Lions said, "Thanks for sponsoring me. I look forward to going to camp next year to learn more about Diabetes. I am so glad there is a camp for diabetics. I am also glad there are people like you that help kids like me go to Camp Gilbert."

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