



District 122
Czech Republic
and Slovak Republic

Together we serve.
Knights of the Blind

2023/2024



Lions Clubs International

*“I cannot do everything,
but I can do something.
I must not fail to do the
something that I can do.”*

Hellen Keller

Lions Clubs International is the biggest international humanitarian organization that works on a club principle.

We are more than 1,4 million members – volunteers gathered in 50,000 clubs in 206 countries and geographical regions all over the world. Together we can accomplish a lot. We work locally and globally, to help with mastering the challenges that humankind has to face. There are Lions Clubs almost everywhere, wherever people live in freedom. The size and reach of our worldwide organization is our biggest advantage. Our movement is non-religious and politically independent.

We, Lions, besides organizing humanitarian affairs also help cultural, sportive, and social events, we support international understanding, tolerance, humanity, friendships, and education. We help personally, quickly, and unbureaucratically.

Our help is diverse:

- We help people in need
- We support people with disabilities in their therapy and integration
- We are active in taking care of seniors
- We support talented children and youth
- We actively fight against alcohol and drug abuse and support preventive health measures
- We constantly work on enforcing multicultural cohabitation of all people
- We support the conservation of old cultural values and institutions
- We engage in sustainable environmental protection

Who are Lions?

Under the motto “WE SERVE” Lions volunteer to help in places where help is needed, both in their surrounding areas and internationally.

Beginnings

Lions have helped people since 1917 when Melvin Jones, a businessman from Chicago, challenged his club “Chicago Business Circle” to rise above the promotion of only good business practice. He convinced his members that helping others will create a better community – and a better world – for everyone.

Melvin Jones knew that clubs who work together can achieve much more than clubs working independently. Similar groups from the whole country of the USA were invited on the 7th of June 1917 to Chicago. There, this new organization adopted the name of one of the participating clubs and the International Association of Lions Clubs was born. Three years later a Lions Club in Windsor, Ontario, Canada was formed.

In over 100 years since the establishment of the organization called Lions Clubs International, it spread into the whole world. Lions are welcomed and respected in all of those places, thanks to their vision, integration, and devotion to their official motto:

We Serve



Our activities

Lions help everywhere where there is a need. This is why our activities are as diverse as the needs of communities which we are helping. Our humanitarian activities contain many categories, and, in some areas, we even have professional experiences and knowledge.

VISION. For over 100 years Lions have been connected with the prevention of blindness and the restoration of sight. In 1925 the American author and activist Helen Keller, who was blind and deaf, personally challenged the Lions to become “knights of the blind” and “to bring closer the day when there will be no more preventable darkness”. Since the moment, in which Lions Clubs International adopted this challenge, gaining a lot of experience and professional knowledge, it became part of the leading international agencies that pay attention to sight protection.

PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH AND CHILDREN.

Lions take care of children. Everywhere, where there are children who need food, medical help, educational materials, or other life needs, there are Lions to help them. For some of the poorest and most endangered children and young people, we try to create an environment that provides a safer and healthier growing up. Through an international program of life abilities, we help young people to cope with the complicated world of today. In youth camps, we enable them to find friends from around the whole world. Our yearly Peace Poster Contest enables children around the whole world to express their hope to live in peace.

DIABETES. Lions together with LCIF work on reducing the prevalence of diabetes and improving the lives of people with diabetes.



CHILDHOOD CANCER. In the whole world, there are too many children suffering from cancer. We help to establish programs and to provide better services and access to medical care for those who are diagnosed. This way we give them, and their families, hope.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. We organize projects about the protection of our planet. We realise that the health of local communities and our surroundings has an impact on all of us. Our goal is to help create a sustainable future for generations to come.

HUNGER. Hunger is a problem without borders. LCIF offers grants for programs and initiatives, which help Lions to improve the availability of food and nutrition for those who need it - in the hope, that one day there will be no child that has to live in uncertainty about where to get food from.

DISASTER RELIEF. Everywhere where floods, earthquakes, or other disasters take place, Lions are ready to help. We can mobilize international resources and working forces in order to help local Lions in taking care of their Neighbours. Through the program Lions ALERT, Lions get ready for their role in emergencies.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. In 1945 Lions Clubs International helped to write the United Nations Charter for non-governmental organizations. It still maintains active relationships with UNESCO, UNICEF, and other departments of the UN. Moreover, we take more concrete actions in order to fulfill one of the goals of Lions Clubs International: To create and support understanding between different nations.



1.4 million members

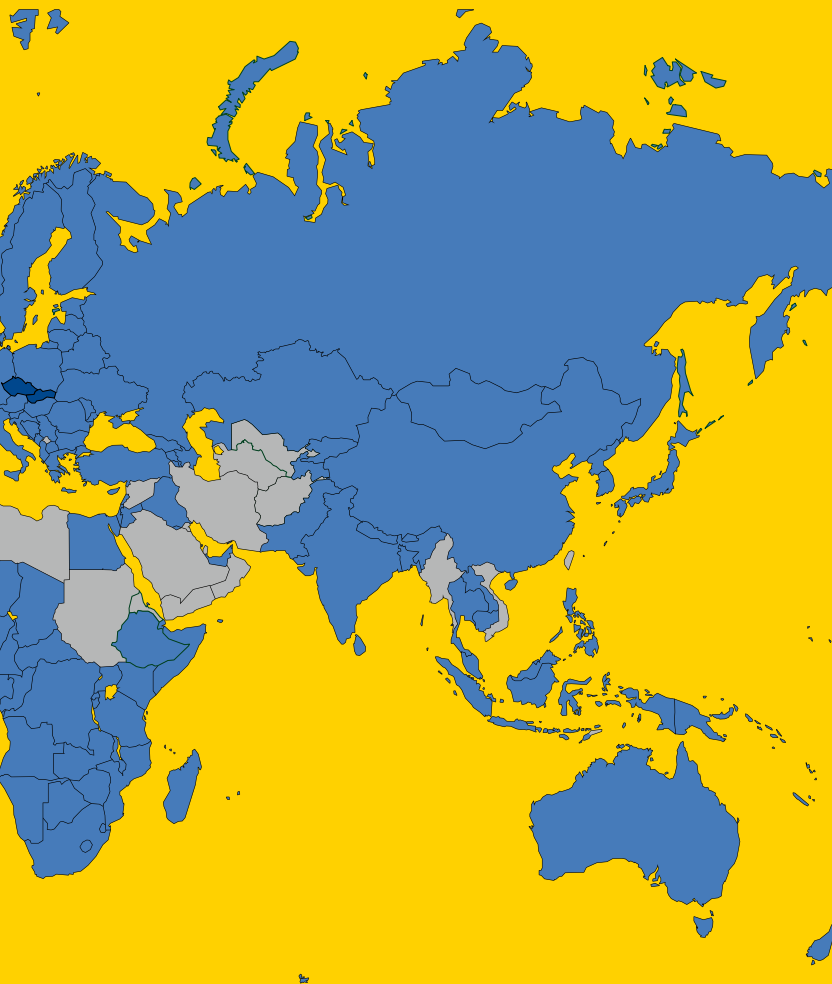
206 countries and geographical areas

50,000 clubs





Lions Clubs International



Where there's a need, there's a Lion.

LCI – D 122 Czech Republic and Slovak Republic

The first Lions Club on our territory was established in 1990. JUDr. Vojtěch Trapl became the founding governor of our district. Today we have 611 members in 26 clubs (23 clubs in Czechia, 13 in Slovakia).

Together we organize many events in order to gain as many finances as possible for our fellow citizens, who need this support. Lions from our district are also helping the country of Ukraine and Ukrainian families in our countries during the war. Some clubs organize and realise help programs in which they take care of refugees (accommodation, nutrition, etc.) or they organize money collections for their support.





The Lions Clubs in Košice, Slovakia (1. Lions Club Košice and LC Košice Cassovia) belong to the most active clubs in this matter. Their help goes beyond the Ukrainian borders. Our Lion's help is continuous and relentless. German districts are a big support, as we started a close collaboration and were able to transport medical supplies and food from Germany to eastern Slovakia and Ukraine worth 1 million Euros.



Lions' activities LCI – D 122 CZ and SK

Mulled wine and punch on Christmas

Many Lions clubs spend a few days each year on their local Christmas markets in order to sell mulled wine. Each club has its own recipe, and their mulled wine is mostly considered one of the best in their region. In Slovakia, the clubs sell Christmas punch. This punch is very famous in the cities Žilina and Košice.

Festive balls

Among the biggest events belong charity balls. In the Czech Republic, they are organized in Plzeň, Mariánské Lázně, Tábor and Brno. In Slovakia, the traditional charity balls are organized in Žilina and Piešťany. Lions and guests from both republics meet on these balls and the money gained helps those in need.



Charity events

Lions from D 122 CZ and SK are very open-minded when it comes to organizing different activities and events. There are for example concerts, collections, sports competitions, and many more. These activities are organized by the clubs but there are also events organized by the whole district or together with friendly clubs from neighbouring districts. This is how the help for Ukraine was organized.

Lion's eye

Thanks to a special technology we are able to measure

eyesight of preschool children. With this measuring, it is possible to warn about potential visual impairment and recommend visiting a professional ophthalmologist. The measuring takes only a few minutes, it is painless and can help to improve the quality of the children's life.



White crayon

The project “Bílá pastelka”, in English White crayon is organized by SONS (Sjednocená organizace nevidomých a slabozrakých České republiky, in English “Czech Blind United”) and D 122 is one of their main partners. These white crayons are sold in a specific period of time during September and October in every city and town. In the Slovak Republic, the project is called “Biela pastelka”, it is organised by the ÚNSS (Únia nevidiacich a slabozrakých Slovenska, in English “Slovak Blind and Partially Sighted Union”) and realized two weeks earlier. In 2022 the project managed to collect 3 956 908 Kč in the Czech Republic and 211 786,96 EUR in the Slovak Republic. Both projects are supported by our Lions Clubs not only financially but also with the active participation of our Lions.

Youth Camps and Exchange

The international Lions Youth Camps and Exchange among districts is a great opportunity for young people to meet new people and cultures. The offer of camps and activities is every year presented at the Lions Europa Forum which is attended by Lions from all over Europe.

The LCI – D 122 CZ and SK is supporting and realizing many district projects:

The Hospital in Kenya

Nevidím, ale fotím (I can't see, but I take photos)

V4

Peace Poster

Collecting glasses

Lions Quest



“Every day, every way, Lions are investing their time, talents and resources in the communities where we live, work and serve. We believe there is no challenge that can't be overcome when we unite for good.”

Why am I a Lion?

Jaroslav Dobiš

District Governor 2023–2024, LC Nitra

“It was back in 1993. I came back from my studies in the USA and was full of impressions and excitement about the things I have seen there. Besides others, there was this ability of people to connect in independent organizations in order to help people in need. And somehow the universe helped me... I met Tibor Kraščeníc, the charter president of LC Nitra and at the age of 25 I became one of the founding members of the LC Nitra. Why? It was a challenge, something new, an opportunity to learn, get to know and grow. But why did I stay a Lion? Firstly, because Lions are usually good people. They have a heart and humanity. Around them there is an aura of good energy. And also, because Lions do good work for those who need help and it is amazing to feel the happiness of those whom we are helping. And why am I an active Lion? Well, I probably cannot change the world and not even the high politics, but I can have an influence on my surrounding and my community. It's a small-big part of the world, in which I can focus my energy on making this part of the world a little bit better. I hope I am succeeding at least a little bit, but that's up to you...”

Jan Štěrba

PDG, LC Teplice

“In 1990 I met a classmate who had a friend who was a teacher living with his family in Sweden. One year later I met this friend from Sweden, and he told us about Lions and founding a Lions Club in Linköping. At the same time, I met an Italian man, who was the construction manager of the sanatorium Beethoven in Teplice and who was a Lion in Varese, close to Milano. Those Lions members told me about Lions, its history, and its activity.

As a doctor, I meet people with almost unbelievable life fates, who need help. This is why I, together with a friend of mine, decided to found a club in Teplice with the help of those 2 foreign Lions friends and their clubs.

Later, a great support were members like Alois Daněk and

Vojtěch Trapl who were founding Lions clubs in other cities. During the years, there were new clubs founded in the whole Czech and Slovak Republic. I and my friend convinced 22 other people with a similar mindset in the surrounding of Teplice and all together we created our new club."

Dušan Leng

ZCh Slovensko Východ, 1. LC Košice

"Being a part of Lions is an honor and privilege. I met a lot of fantastic people in the Lions movement who have a good heart and the will to do something for others. I would have never met them without Lions. When we meet during club meetings, there is this feeling of friendship and a good mood... and also the willingness to do something good. To fulfill our motto, we serve and to help people. The organizing of concerts, events, beneficial nights, Christmas markets... all with the idea of helping.

The great time we spend with Lions and their families on balls, hiking, cycling, fishing, hunting, yachting, golfing is just as important as the helping.

Without the lions friendship, a Lion wouldn't be strong."

Věra Příbylová

LC Rychnov nad Kněžnou

"My Lions activities started 15 years ago. In Rychnov nad Kněžnou there were 2 clubs. A men's club, which was one of the first in our country, and a women's club founded in 2006. I was invited to take part in a club meeting, learned what Lions is all about, and decided to join the club.

I became part of this group of people in our club and realized how nice it is to organize activities and support handicapped people in our region.

After the women's club broke up, I decided to join the men's club, which is a mixed club today.

I enjoy organizing our traditional humanitarian and team-building activities. I am not alone in this, my husband Jirka is a big support and one of the reasons, why I am a member of Lions Clubs International."

Marcela Laiferová

LC Piešťany

“I have always wanted to be in a community of people that is useful for others. My life is beautiful and I would like to share what I have. This is why I was happy about the possibility of becoming a member of this organization with good people who care about others and help those who are weaker.”

Milan Horáček

Club president 2023–2024, LC Prague Strahov San Giorgio

“I entered the Lions movement out of curiosity because I had no idea what it was about. A former classmate convinced me. After a few club meetings, I realized that the humanitarian work of Lions would satisfy my philanthropic inclinations and that it has a social value in supporting the weaker and handicapped, in the case of our club mostly blind children and youth.

Later I valued being in a society of polite and friendly people, a society corresponding to my character and the possibility to regularly meet people and spend time with them in a meaningful way. I don't regret the time and resources I give to Lions, because this activity gives my life more quality and allows me to find new friendships with interesting and kind people. A big reward and satisfaction is the happy smile of those, whom we are helping. Another big bonus is the connection to Slovak clubs and friends, which in other organizations isn't possible anymore.”

Cabinet LCI – D 122 / 2023–2024

Jaroslav Dobiš

District Governor

Josef Ciglanský

IPDG, District Honorary Committee

Chairperson

Alexandra Koželuha

1. VDG, Region Chairperson CZ

Jozef Čuboň

2.VDG, Region Chairperson SK

František Novotný

Cabinet secretary

Jarmila Bokorová

Cabinet treasurer

Radim Dvořák

Marshal of ceremonies

Zone chairpersons:

Miloslava Procházková

Praha

Josef Ledvina

Čechy Lázňě

Ivana Loukotová

Čechy – Západ

Jiří Příbyl

Čechy – Východ

Jan Gaisler

Čechy – Sever

Pavel Šimák

Čechy – Jih

Helena Rabinská

Morava a Slezsko

Roman Jilly

Slovensko – Západ

Emil Pečík

Slovensko stred – Sever

Vladimír Šťiasny

Slovensko stred – Juh

Dušan Leng

Slovensko – Východ

Emilie Štěpánková

District GLT Coordinator, Chairman
of Committee for Constitutions and
By-Laws

Tomáš Renčo

District Youth Camp and Exchange
Chairperson

Ivan Galán

District GST Coordinator, District
Marketing Chairperson

Vojtěch Trapl

District GMT Coordinator, District
Membership Chairperson

Jan Haur

District Information Technology
Chairperson

Čestmír Koželuha

District Vision Chairperson CZ

Milan Ondruš

District Vision Chairperson SK

Anna Koželuho

District Lions Quest Chairperson

Jana Kovářová

District Peace Poster Contest
Chairperson

Rudolf Hlavačka

District Environment Chairperson

Milan Taškár

LCIF District Coordinator
District Fundraising and Financial
Committee Chairperson

Past District Governors

1992–1993	Vojtěch Trapl
1993–1994	Zdeno Somora
1994–1995	Jan Loukotka
1995–1996	Jaroslav Slípka
1996–1997	Rudolf Vévoda
1997–1998	Peter Štecko
1998–1999	Alois K. Daněk
1999–2000	Jan Štěrba
2000–2001	Branislav Béreš
2001–2002	Jaroslav Štekl
2002–2003	Martin Hart
2003–2004	Daniela Vojtušová
2004–2005	Ladislav Bouček
2005–2006	Jiří Zatloukal
2006–2007	Tibor Buček
2007–2008	Tomáš Ryba
2008–2009	Jana Flanderová
2009–2010	Juraj Schwarz
2010–2011	Odlřich Choděra
2011–2012	René Hudzovič
2012–2013	Radim Dvořák
2013–2014	Rudolf Hlavačka
2014–2015	Emílie Štěpánková
2015–2016	František Kočka
2016–2017	Lea Janků
2017–2018	Bohumír Krátký (vyloučen z LCI)
2018–2019	Jan Kalaš
2019–2020	Pavel Mora (vyloučen z LCI)
2020–2021	Čestmír Koželuha
2021–2022	Milan Ondruš
2022–2023	Josef Ciglanský
2023–2024	Jaroslav Dobiš

Code of Ethics

To SHOW my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

To SEEK success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

TO REMEMBER that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

Whenever a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.

To HOLD friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

Always to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state, and my community, and to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, act, and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor and means.

To AID others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

To Be CAREFUL with my criticism and LIBERAL with my praise.

TO BUILD UP AND NOT DESTROY.

As a Lion...

- ... you are part of a global network of volunteers
- ... you have the possibility to find unique friendships and precious relationships
- ... you experience the feeling of truly helping
- ... you will be a great example
- ... you won't only help with money, but with your own hands
- ... you will use your talent to truly change something

How to become a Lion?

If you are motivated to help and ready to give a little bit of your time, contact a Lions club in your surroundings. This club will invite you to a few club meetings where you get the chance to learn about its activities. If you feel good in the Lions movement and if you want to spend more time doing humanitarian work, just ask the club about joining them. Do not hesitate to talk to Lions or Lions Clubs. They are a society of polite, intelligent people who will be very happy to welcome you. And what do we need from you?

Your time and an annual membership fee different in each club (150–200 EUR/year). But trust us, the value of what you gain will be much higher than the value of what you give.



Contacts

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District web:

<https://www.lci-d122.org>



International web:

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en>



Lions won't stop what they are doing until everyone in this world won't have a chance of living a full-fledged life.



“To make a difference in someone’s life you don’t have to be brilliant, rich, beautiful, or perfect. You just have to care.”

Mandy Hale



Lions Clubs International