

■ Historical background

As the District Foundation, its main purpose then was for emergency disaster relief. However as the District Foundation was not a registered body, funds could only be raised from Lions and not the public. Hence its only source of income was the RM10 per year subscribed by each Lion in the District. Thus the proposal to establish a duly registered Foundation with tax exempt fund raising privileges was recommended by the Long Range planning Committee during the term of PCC Dr Winston Koh, when he was District Governor 308A, FY 1997/1998. The following year Lions Clubs in Singapore were to form a separate District 308-A1.

The resolution to register the Lions Foundation under the Societies Act was unanimously approved and adopted at the 4th District 308-A1 Convention held in Singapore, in April 2002. The present Constitution and Bylaws of Lions Community Service Foundation (Singapore) was approved, and the first



Board of Directors of the Foundation elected at the 5th District 308-A1 Convention in April 2003. The Foundation was registered with Registrar of Societies and Commissioner for Charities in 2003.

■ Sources of Fund

The Lions Foundation receives fund from the following sources:

1. All Lions pay an annual subscription of a maximum **\$10** per year to the Foundation as part of our district dues.
2. **\$162,724.29** transferred from the former District Foundation, being the Singapore Lions Clubs' share of fund when we became a separate district together with subsequent annual subscription from Singapore Lions up to 30 June 2003.
3. Funds raised by Lions Clubs in our District.
4. Direct Donations to the Foundation.
5. Income such as Interests earned from existing Accumulated Fund and in future the Endowment Fund.

Total Accumulated Fund (audited) in the Foundation as at 30 June 2008 was \$339,298.00

■ Management of the Foundation

The Foundation's Management Committee comprises 10 elected Lions, the District Governor, the Immediate Past District Governor, the Chairman of the Lions Home for the Elders, the Chairman of Lions Befrienders, and one representative appointed by each of the respective Boards. The Committee members are elected to a 2 year term of office, half of whom are elected at each Annual General Meeting. The Committee then elects the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer from amongst themselves.

In addition the Foundation would have a Board of Trustees who may be non Lions to be elected by the members. The intention of including non Lions as trustees of the Foundation is to leverage on the prominence of these non Lions in our community to enhance the transparency of the Foundation's operation in fundraising and charity giving. The Trustees have certain responsibilities and authority enshrined in the Foundation's Constitution & Bylaws.

At present the Board of Trustees has not yet been elected.

■ The Lions Foundation Award Scheme

The Award Scheme was established by the Foundation to recognize individuals (Lions and Non Lions) and corporate donors for every donation of S\$1,000 or more to the Foundation.

An "LCSF Fellow" award would be for contributions of a minimum of S\$1,000 Awards in the form of banner patches and plaques will also be given respectively to:

- a) Lions Clubs
- b) Corporations and Public

Guidelines for the disbursement of LCSF funds to support charitable causes of Lions Clubs have been set up. Lions or Lions clubs would have to meet the pre-requisite criteria in their application for funding with all submissions endorsed by the incumbent District Governor. The decision to award funding support would be made by the LCSF Board of Directors.

For more information on the Lions Community Service Foundation, please visit our website:
www.lcsf.org.sg



LIONS COMMUNITY SERVICE FOUNDATION DISTRICT 308-A1 (SINGAPORE)

The Lions Community Service Foundation (“Lions Foundation”) is the successor to the former District Foundation, which was established in the seventies.

All Chartered Clubs in District 308-A1 are members of the Lions Foundation.

It was registered with the Registrar of Societies and Commissioner of Charities in 2003, as a central organization for fiscal resources generated by Lions fund-raising activities.

Its Institute of Public Character (IPC) was renewed from 1 November 2008 to receive tax exempt donations.

Lions Clubs in Singapore, can Raise funds for the Lions Foundation in two ways

- (1) You can designate the fund raised through the Foundation’s IPC to any other charitable cause in Singapore. Tax exempt donations to Lions Home and Lions Befrienders may be channelled directly to them.
- (2) You can raise the fund directly for the Foundation that would be accumulated in the Foundation’s Endowment Fund to generate income to support Lions service activities including Lions Home & Befrienders.

■ Purpose

The Lions Foundation was established to **harness the fiscal resources generated by Lions fund raising activities through a central organization**. This would unite Lions in their community service efforts and maximize the value of the funds application. By pooling all funds raised, the Lions would derive higher returns on their fund.

The Foundation would also be able to **extend the scope of Lions fund raising activities with tax exemption privileges beyond that raised for services to the elderly**, such as Lions Home for the Elders and Lions Befrienders.

In furtherance of its objects stated in the LCSF Constitution & Bye Laws, LCSF aims to raise funds to support any relief work and community service projects and activities carried out by the Lions Clubs in the District in advancing their club charter obligations.

These include, and are not limited to the following:

- Bursaries and Study Awards to deserving and the poorest students through Lions clubs



***Note:** The Singapore Lions Educational Fund was established by the District on 25 October 2008 at a District Meeting for the purpose of establishing scholarships, bursaries or other schemes for financial assistance with institutions of learning in Singapore for the benefit of deserving recipients.*

- Financial assistance to destitute individuals or families in need
- Administering of funds raised by clubs for disaster relief.

During the flood disaster in 2006 in Johor, Malaysia, a donation of RM\$10,000 was made by the LCSF to the Lions Clubs there to assist in the flood relief operations.

- Local application of LCI programmes:
 - Lions Quest. A school-based, comprehensive positive youth development and preventive programme that unite



the home, school and community through life skills, character education, civic values, drug prevention and service learning education. Two such programmes have been conducted by the Lions clubs in Singapore, working in conjunction with local school teachers and principals. Programme Trainers from overseas have been sponsored to conduct the programmes.

- communication aids/assistive devices for individuals with speech and hearing impairment
- free diabetic screenings on a large scale
- other local charity that currently enjoys IPC status eg Children societies.
- The tax exemption receipts would be issued by the IPC of that charity eg Lions Home and not the Foundation if the fund raised is designated for and immediately transferred to that charity.

Currently all non tax exempt funds raised for the Lions Foundation that has not been designated to any specific charity will go towards establishing the Foundation’s Endowment Fund (initial target \$30 million). It is envisaged that the income from the Endowment Fund would be used to fund Lions service activities in Singapore including Lions Home, Befrienders and other Lions projects.

Most importantly, centralising Lions fund raising activities under the banner of the Lions Foundation would **eliminate public confusion** in competing Lions charitable causes and encourage donors’ loyalty.