



District 122
Czech Republic
and Slovak Republic

Together we serve.
Knights of the Blind

2024/2025



Lions Clubs International

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*“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.

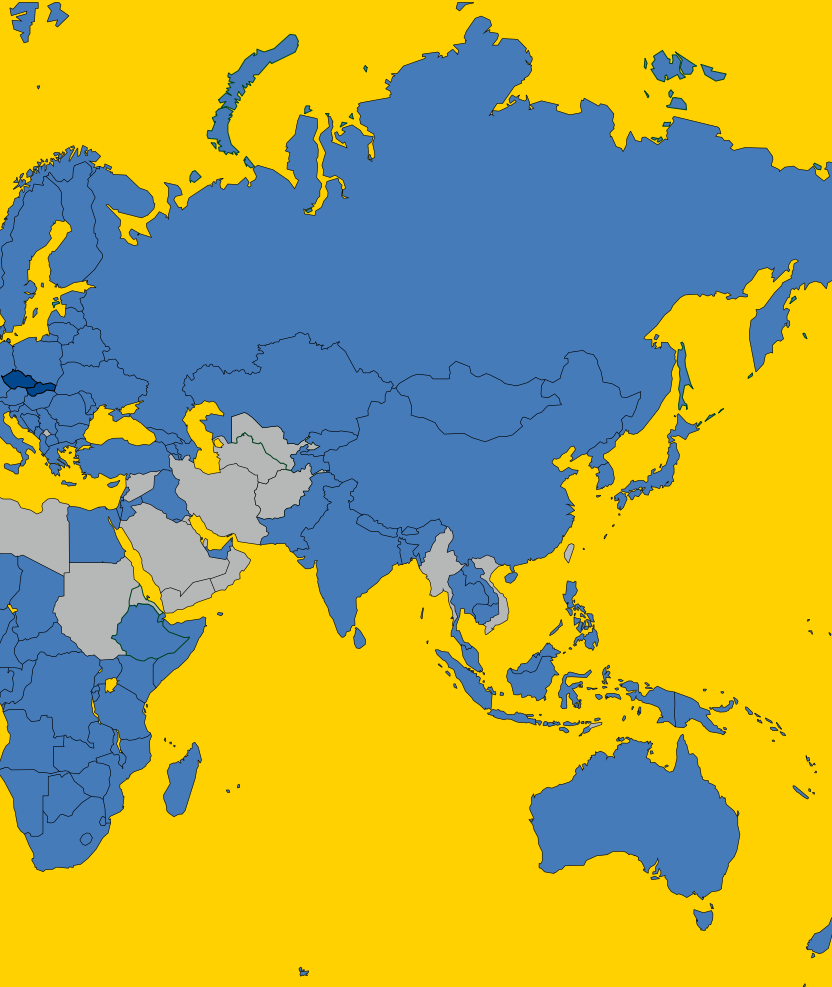


1.4 million members
206 countries and geographical areas
50,000 clubs





Lions Clubs International



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

LCI – D 122 Czech Republic and Slovak Republic

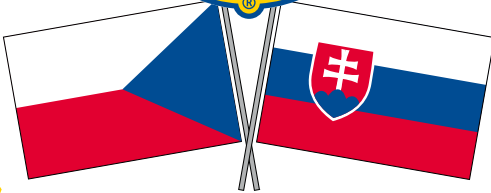
The first Lions Club on our territory was established in 1990. JUDr. Vojtěch Trapl became the founding governor of our district. Today we have 681 members in 27 clubs (23 clubs in Czechia, 14 in Slovakia).

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. 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?

Alexandra Koželuha

District Governor 2024–2025, LC Plzeň Bohemia

“When I moved to Czechia more than 20 years ago there were many obstacles in my way. The biggest obstacle for me was the foreign language. I am a very social person and I love to be part of a society where there is a lot of fun and where people share their interests. This is something I was missing in my first years in the Czech Republic. But then a friend of mine asked me to join her club and I happily accepted the invitation. I was welcomed very warmly and it was a great experience to see that Lions are an open and inclusive society that is not only looking for some fun in its free time. They have a common goal: helping others. And that was the most important reason for me why I became a Lion. I found a place, where I can do exactly what is important for me. It doesn't matter if we support local projects or if we organize international humanitarian aid, with Lions there is always fun. We cannot solve all the problems of today's world but we can do our part when we help exactly there where our help is needed. During 11 years of membership, I felt the happiness and the gratitude of those whom we helped. This is one of the biggest presents a Lion can get. Another very big present is the possibility that I could meet so many great people even behind the borders of our countries and that I could find true friendships. No matter where Lions meet each other, our common goal is connecting us regardless of language barriers, and in this way, Lions always understand each other. That was something I felt from the beginning.”

Daniel Rochlitz

LC Košice Cassovia

“I have been a Lions member for nearly 20 years. I grew up in a family in which selfless help for others was a normal part of life. I remember how my mom was recording study materials for a blind student or how our 3-room apartment became a refuge for a family that had lost their home in a fire. Lions interested me because they intend to connect

people from different professions, of different ages, and also from different social contexts. Each one of us is unique with all our talents, abilities, and imperfections. In a Lions club, we complement each other and differences become our strength. I felt the strength of the Lions movement also during the attack on Ukraine and the following war. Every personal help was only a drop in the sea. But thanks to the support of the district, foreign clubs, and the personal commitment of the members we managed to gift tens of thousands tons of food, and hygiene articles, provide hundreds of people with accommodation, take care of transportation or health care, but also give a hug, happiness or compassion. It was the first time for me to wear the yellow vest with the big Lions logo so that everyone could see where I belonged, that no one needed to be afraid to accept my helping hand, and that I didn't want anything in return. Every honest "thank you" or tears of happiness from those, whom we helped, are proof to me, that all the energy and time we put into Lion's work is worth it."

Yvetta Škrdlíková

Club president, LC Prague Heraldic

"A few years ago I was invited by a friend of mine to the LC Prague Heraldic. The club was not in a good state back then. During the pandemic, there were only a few active members and we were asking ourselves: end the club or change it? A crisis is always a chance to create something new. And that's exactly what I wanna do as a Lion: live in the moment, contribute, and make the world around me better, friendlier, and more sustainable. It is amazing how a small group of positive people can change the lives of those, who don't have so much positivity. That's why I love being a Lion! We serve!"

René Hudzovič

PDG, LC Nitra

"I entered the Lions movement in Nitra where I was invited into the LC Nitra. Since I am a person that values the principles of the Lions movement I was excited about it and it was an honor for me to accept the invitation. In this way,

I could get the possibility to support the thoughts and goals of Lions with my active work. The essence of my personality is all about my motto "Fill hearts with happiness". For me, that means helping people. I was always trying to fulfill this motto of mine and after entering the Lions Clubs I learned that I can extend this philosophy also in the Lions world. I was excited by the possibility of creating circumstances to help others through specific projects, and serve certain people in collaboration with extraordinary people – the members of Lions Clubs who are wise, humble, full of empathy, determination, and the ability to help selflessly. My life credo itself is explaining "why I am a Lion". I am a proud Lion and I am happy that also thanks to Lions I can experience extraordinary moments when helping people in their complicated life moments. It is a great honor for me to be in the company of Lions, a society that makes me happy, a society of people with values with whom every meeting enriches me and develops my knowledge. Thank you for the possibility of being a Lion. We serve."

Josef Ledvina

District National Convention Chairperson, LC Mariánské Lázně Marienbad

"I became a Lion because I was honored to be invited to a Lions Club by people who I appreciate a lot. Before that, I only knew that something like Lions existed but I didn't have any deeper knowledge about it. In general, I think, that a person doesn't have to be a Lion to show a certain dose of empathy, to help or for example to "just" follow god's ten. I am lucky enough to be raised like that and I am trying to live like that all my life. After entering the Lions Club I understood that being a Lion has a much deeper meaning. The effort of a single person to help someone is great and makes a lot of sense, but the effort of a bigger group of people can make a bigger impact and maybe even change the world a little bit. Besides that, any form of helping others is very uplifting, and no matter if we call it karma or something else it is purifying. For me, it is an amazing feeling to make someone, even if just for a few moments, a little bit happier. And that's the reason why I am a Lion."

Cabinet LCI – D 122 / 2024–2025

Alexandra Koželuha

District Governor

Jaroslav Dobiš

IPDG, Chairperson of the Board
of PDG's

Jozef Čuboň

1. VDG, Region Chairperson SK

Ivan Galán

2. VDG, Region Chairperson CZ

Anna Koželuhová

Cabinet secretary

Jarmila Bokorová

Cabinet treasurer

Zone chairpersons:

Milan Horáček

Praha

Pavel Dynda

Čechy Lázňe

Ivana Loukotová

Čechy – Západ

Jiří Příbyl

Čechy – Východ

Jan Gaisler

Čechy – Sever

Jan Bouma

Čechy – Jih

Lea Janků

Morava a Slezsko

Roman Jilly

Slovensko – Západ

Bernard Janík

Slovensko stred – Sever

Tomáš Renčo

Slovensko stred – Juh

Dušan Leng

Slovensko – Východ

Daniel Kollár

Chairperson of Committee for
Constitutions and By-Laws
District GET Coordinator

Tomáš Renčo

District Youth Camp and Exchange
Chairperson

Štěpán Klokočka

District LIONS magazine Chairperson

Miroslav Šušol

District Membership Chairperson
District GMT Coordinator

Jan Haur

District Information Technology
Chairperson

Čestmír Koželuha

District Vision CZ Chairperson
Chairperson for the project Bílá
pastelka CZ

Milan Ondruš

District Vision SK Chairperson
Chairperson for the project Biela
pastelka SK

Helena Rabinská

District Peace Poster Contest
Chairperson

Milan Taškár

LCIF Coordinator
GST Coordinator

Dušan Moskaľ

District Social Media Chairperson

Josef Ciglanský

GLT Coordinator

Josef Ledvina

District National Convention
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 |
| 2024–2025 | Alexandra Koželuha |

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