

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4 October, 2026

October 8th brings World Sight Day, a good reason to ask what becomes of the glasses sitting in your drawer. This issue follows a donated pair from a Lions collection box to its next wearer, then turns to information about diabetes, and then hearing loss, with practical steps you can take at home and at work.

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CPN NEWSLETTER | FEATURE

Where Do Your Old Glasses Go?

Follow a donated pair of glasses from a drawer in your home to someone seeing clearly for the first time, just in time for World Sight Day on October 8.



Look for a Lions collection box at local businesses, libraries, and eye care offices.

The Glasses in Your Drawer

Chances are there's a pair of glasses somewhere in your home that nobody wears anymore. Maybe it's an old prescription, a pair of readers, or sunglasses from a few summers ago. To you, they're clutter. To someone else, they could be the difference between squinting through the day and seeing clearly.

On Thursday, October 8, the world marks World Sight Day, an annual reminder to take care of our eyes. This year's campaign from the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness carries a simple message: #LoveYourEyes. One of the easiest ways to take part is to give that forgotten pair a second life. Here's what happens after you let it go.

Why One Pair Matters

According to the World Health Organization, at least 2.2 billion people worldwide have a near or distance vision impairment. For at least 1 billion of them, the problem could have been prevented or simply hasn’t been addressed yet. The leading cause of poor close-up vision is presbyopia, the natural loss of near focus that comes with age, and it affects 826 million people.

Behind those numbers are ordinary lives. Lions In Sight, the Lions eyeglass recycling center serving California, supports children who struggle in school, adults whose near vision fades, and seniors who lose independence as their eyesight declines. Lions International notes that millions of people in low- and middle-income countries lack access to even basic eye care. A donated pair of glasses helps close that gap.

Stop 1: The Collection Box

The journey starts close to home. Lions clubs place collection boxes in local businesses, schools, libraries, places of worship, city offices, and eye care practices. When a box fills up, club members pack the glasses and ship them to the next stop.

Stop 2: A Warehouse in Vallejo

Glasses collected across the region head to Lions In Sight of California and Nevada, a nonprofit warehouse in Vallejo. Lions International has designated it as the official Lions eyeglass recycling center for the Western United States.

Dr. Wayne Cannon founded Lions In Sight in 1987, and it became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 1992. Lions clubs across California have endorsed it as their regional recycling center since 1991.



The Lions In Sight warehouse in Vallejo processes donated glasses from across California and Nevada. Photo for illustrative purposes, not the actual warehouse.

Stop 3: Sorted, Cleaned, Bagged, and Nothing Wasted

At the warehouse, volunteers sort every donation to separate glasses that can be worn again from those that can't. Usable pairs are cleaned, their prescriptions are measured, and each pair is sealed in a small plastic bag with its prescription written on the outside. That label is what lets volunteers match each pair to the right person later.

Glasses too damaged to reuse don't go to waste either. Through Lions International's recycling program, unusable frames are sent for metal reclamation and scrap processing, keeping them out of landfills.

Stop 4: Someone Sees Clearly

Once processed, the glasses travel with volunteer teams to vision clinics in communities that need them. Lions In Sight has held clinics in Mexico, Panama, and the Philippines, most recently in Santa Catarina, Mexico, in March 2026. At these clinics, people receive free eye exams and leave with recycled glasses.

The glasses help people here at home, too. Lions In Sight supplies eyeglasses to Veterans, people experiencing homelessness, and low-income clients in the San Francisco Bay Area, Nevada, and elsewhere in the United States.

A Clinic Close to Home

You don’t have to travel far to see the program at work. On January 20, 2024, Lions In Sight held a six-hour vision clinic in Atwater, in Merced County. Volunteers screened 180 people, most of them immigrant farmers, along with schoolchildren. The screenings found astigmatism, a common focusing problem, in several of the children. Dozens of pairs of glasses were handed out on the spot, and patients who needed specialty lenses were referred on.

A partner organization, the Global Initiative for Health and Wellness, set up health stations at the same event, offering blood pressure checks, body mass measurements, and blood sugar screenings. It’s a reminder that vision is often one piece of a bigger health picture, and blood sugar is where our next feature picks up.



Vision clinics bring free screenings and recycled glasses to people who need them.

When a Community Pitches In

Recycling glasses is work that grows with every pair of hands. On September 25, 2021, members of 26 Lions clubs joined 70 members of San Jose State University's Delta Gamma sorority and the Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired for a single day of hands-on service. Together, they recycled 118,000 pairs of prescription eyeglasses weighing 20,000 pounds.

The impact reached beyond the numbers. According to Lions In Sight, some of the volunteers who weren't Lions went on to join, and the University's sorority asked to start a Lions club on campus. For schools, businesses, and community groups, it's proof that a partnership with Lions can start with a single day and a pile of glasses.

How You Can Help

- **Donate.** Drop off prescription glasses, reading glasses, sunglasses, and even broken frames. Lions In Sight asks that you not donate the cases.
- **Host a collection box.** Businesses, eye care offices, schools, and community groups can all host boxes. Lions In Sight provides Lions stickers so everyone knows what the box is for.
- **Mail them in.** Send glasses directly to Lions In Sight, 1404 Lemon Street, Vallejo, CA 94590. A USPS Priority Mail flat-rate box, free at the post office, ships for one price no matter how much it weighs.
- **Volunteer.** Lions In Sight welcomes helpers at its Vallejo warehouse and on clinic trips. Call the warehouse at (707) 648-2306 to learn more.
- **Questions?** Email District 4-A1 Lions at 4a1lions@gmail.com. Or you can contact the co-chairs of Lions In Sight CA/NV at thomsod9020@gmail.com or keanani1@gmail.com

Quick Answers

Question	Answer
Is my donation tax-deductible?	Lions In Sight is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and donations to it are tax-deductible.
Should I include the case?	No. Thrift stores would be happy to take your cases..
Can I donate broken glasses?	Yes. Broken eyeglass parts are recycled.
Are sunglasses accepted?	Yes, both prescription and non-prescription.
What about old hearing aids?	Lions In Sight accepts those, too. See "The Quiet Cause: Lions and Hearing Loss" in this issue.

Clear the Drawer

This World Sight Day on October 8th, take a minute to open that drawer. The pair you set aside years ago could help a child keep up in school, an adult keep working, or an older neighbor hold on to their independence. It's one of the simplest ways to love someone else's eyes as well as your own.

Learn more: lionsinsight.net

The Not-So-Sweet Facts About Diabetes

Diabetes is common, often silent, and frequently preventable. Here's what every family and workplace should know before World Diabetes Day, and how Lions help communities take early action.

A Clue at the Eye Clinic

In our feature on eyeglass recycling, we visited a Lions In Sight vision clinic in Atwater, where a partner organization checked blood sugar right alongside the eye screenings. The pairing makes sense. Diabetes can damage the eyes, and blindness is among its most serious complications. Like many vision problems, it often develops quietly, long before a person notices anything is wrong.

That's why the International Diabetes Federation chose "Early Action on Diabetes" as the theme for World Diabetes Day, observed each year on November 14. Early action starts with knowing the facts, and some of them aren't so sweet.

Fact 1: It's More Common Than You Think

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's latest National Diabetes Statistics Report, released in September 2026, 40.1 million people in the United States have diabetes. That's 12% of the population, or roughly 1 in 8 people. About 11 million of them, more than a quarter, don't know they have it.

The picture is similar around the world. The International Diabetes Federation estimates that 589 million adults are living with diabetes, about 1 in 9. An estimated 43% of them are undiagnosed, and 4 in 5 live in low- and middle-income countries. By 2050, the number of adults with diabetes is projected to reach 853 million.

Fact 2: Prediabetes Is the Warning Most People Miss

Prediabetes means blood sugar levels are higher than normal, but not yet high enough to be diagnosed as type 2 diabetes. It's a warning sign, and it's remarkably common. The CDC reports that 115.2 million U.S. adults have prediabetes, more than 2 in 5. Among adults 65 and older, the rate climbs to more than half.

Here’s the catch: 8 in 10 adults with prediabetes don’t know they have it. Prediabetes usually has no symptoms, so the only way to find out is to check.

Fact 3: Diabetes Affects the Whole Body

Over time, diabetes can affect many parts of the body. The CDC lists blindness, kidney failure, heart disease, stroke, and the loss of toes, feet, or legs among the serious health problems diabetes can cause.

The effects reach our other senses, too. Hearing loss is twice as common in people with diabetes as in people the same age without it, and even people with prediabetes have a 30% higher rate of hearing loss. You can read more in “The Quiet Cause: Lions and Hearing Loss” in this issue.



Free screenings help people learn their risk before problems start.

Fact 4: The Cost Reaches Everyone

Diabetes doesn’t only affect the people who have it. In the United States, it cost an estimated $640 billion in 2021, about a quarter of all health care spending. Worldwide, diabetes accounted for more than $1 trillion in health spending in 2024. For employers, nonprofits, and families alike, prevention is one of the best investments a community can make.

The Sweet News: Type 2 Is Often Preventable

Not everyone faces the same risk. The CDC lists these common risk factors for prediabetes and type 2 diabetes:

- **Age:** being 45 or older

- **Family history:** having a family history of type 2 diabetes
- **Weight:** being overweight
- **Activity:** being physically active fewer than three times a week
- **Pregnancy history:** having had diabetes during pregnancy, or giving birth to a baby who weighed more than 9 pounds
- **Background:** being African American, Hispanic or Latino, American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, or of some Asian American backgrounds

The encouraging part is how much small changes can help. Losing 5% to 7% of body weight, about 10 to 14 pounds for a 200-pound person, and getting at least 150 minutes a week of brisk walking or similar activity can make a real difference. The CDC's National Diabetes Prevention Program, a lifestyle change program, can lower the risk of developing type 2 diabetes by 58%, and by 71% for people over 60.

Take 60 Seconds

The American Diabetes Association offers a free, 60-second online Type 2 Diabetes Risk Test at diabetes.org/diabetes-risk-test. If your results show a higher risk, the Association recommends three next steps: talk with your doctor about whether more testing is needed, share your results with them, and look for a National Diabetes Prevention Program near you.

How Lions Fight Diabetes

Diabetes is one of the global causes that Lions International focuses on, and Lions clubs tackle it in four main ways:

- **Type 2 diabetes screenings.** Community events that help people understand their risk and take steps toward prevention.
- **Strides for Diabetes Awareness.** Fun physical activities that promote awareness and help people prevent or delay type 2 diabetes. A Strides event can be anything from a walk or run to a Zumba class or dance competition.
- **Diabetes peer support groups.** Gatherings where community members living with diabetes can support one another.

- **Diabetes camps.** Camps designed to improve the quality of life for young people living with diabetes.

California has its own example. The Lions Youth Diabetes Camp at Lake McCumber, in Shingletown in Northern California, is open to all kids and youth with diabetes. Its most recent session ran June 20–27, 2026. Learn more at lionsyouthdiabetescamp.org.

How You Can Take Part

- **Know your risk.** Take the 60-second risk test, and share it with your family and coworkers.
- **Get moving together.** Join a Strides event, or partner with a local Lions club to host one for your organization, employees, or clients.
- **Bring screening to your community.** Nonprofits, workplaces, and faith communities can team up with Lions to host a type 2 diabetes risk screening.
- **Spread the word about camp.** If you know a young person living with diabetes, let their family know about Lions diabetes camps.
- **Questions?** Email District 4-A1 Lions at 4a1lions@gmail.com.



Strides events turn physical activity into diabetes awareness, and anyone can join.

Diabetes by the Numbers

	United States	Worldwide
Living with diabetes	40.1 million people (12%)	589 million adults (1 in 9)
Don’t know they have it	11 million (27.6%)	252 million (43%)
At risk	115.2 million adults with prediabetes; 8 in 10 don’t know it	1 in 8 people at high risk of type 2 diabetes
Health care spending	$640 billion (2021)	More than $1 trillion (2024)
Looking ahead	—	853 million adults projected by 2050

Sources: CDC National Diabetes Statistics Report (2023 data) and CDC; International Diabetes Federation Diabetes Atlas, 11th edition (adults ages 20–79), and World Diabetes Day 2026–27.

Early Action Starts With You

Diabetes may be common, but it doesn’t have to be inevitable. This World Diabetes Day, take a minute to learn your risk, encourage someone you love to do the same, and look for ways your organization can join Lions in helping our community stay healthy.

Knowing what to do in an emergency matters, too. Turn to this issue’s Know Your Risk page to learn the signs of low blood sugar and how to help someone who needs it.

The Quiet Cause: Lions and Hearing Loss

Lions are known for helping people see. Fewer people know they've spent decades helping people hear, and October is the perfect time to learn how.

"Deafness Separates People From People"

Helen Keller once observed, "Blindness separates people from things; deafness separates people from people." Lions took those words to heart. Since the early 1970s, Lions International has treated hearing as a major area of service, alongside the sight work it's best known for. October, National Protect Your Hearing Month, is a good time to look at this quieter side of Lions service.

A Bigger Problem Than Most People Realize

The World Health Organization estimates that 430 million people, more than 5% of the world's population, need help for disabling hearing loss. By 2050, nearly 2.5 billion people are expected to have some degree of hearing loss, and more than 1 billion young adults are at risk of permanent, avoidable hearing loss from unsafe listening.

Closer to home, 22% of U.S. adults ages 65 to 74 and 55% of those 75 and older have disabling hearing loss. Yet only about 16% of adults ages 20 to 69 who could benefit from hearing aids have ever used them. Among adults 70 and older, it's fewer than 1 in 3.

The Diabetes Connection

Hearing loss is twice as common in people with diabetes as in people the same age without it, and even people with prediabetes have a 30% higher rate of hearing loss, according to the CDC. If you have diabetes, add a hearing check to your to-do list.

Your Old Hearing Aids Can Help Someone Else

Lions In Sight, the Vallejo recycling center featured in "Where Do Your Old Glasses Go?", accepts used hearing aids along with eyeglasses. According to Lions In Sight, the hearing aids are refurbished by the Lions Hearing Foundation and given to

low-income clients. Lions International launched its Hearing Aid Recycling Program in 2000.

To donate, give used hearing aids (less than 5 years old) to a participating Lions club, drop them at a Lions In Sight collection site, or mail them to Lions In Sight, 1404 Lemon Street, Vallejo, CA 94590.

A Camp Just for Them



At Lions Wilderness Camp, deaf children ages 7 to 15 spend a week learning outdoor skills.

Since it opened around 1979–80, California Lions have supported the Lions Wilderness Camp for Deaf Children, a week-long outdoor camp for deaf children ages 7 to 15, where campers learn outdoor skills and enjoy the beauty of nature. The 2027 sessions are July 11–17 at Camp Teresita Pines in Wrightwood and July 25–31 at Camp Ross Relles in Nevada City. The full camp fee is $425, and the Lions of California offer full sponsorships for eligible campers.

Protect the Hearing You Have

Sounds at or above 85 decibels can put you at risk for gradual hearing loss. The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders recommends three simple habits:

- **Lower the volume.** Set electronic devices to a safe level.
- **Move away.** Put some distance between you and the noise.

- **Wear hearing protectors.** Use earplugs or earmuffs if you can’t leave a noisy place.

On the job, the stakes are real. About 18% of U.S. workers with five or more years of on-the-job noise exposure have hearing loss in both ears, compared with 5.5% of workers without that exposure.

How You Can Help

- **Spread the word.** Tell families of deaf children about camp (lionswildcamp.org).
- **Get checked.** Schedule a hearing test, especially if you have diabetes.
- **Questions?** Email District 4-A1 Lions at 4a1lions@gmail.com.

Spotlight: Ear of the Lion

• While Lions In Sight and the Lions Hearing Foundation refurbish hearing aids nationally, California and Nevada have their own dedicated program: Ear of the Lion. Founded in 1982 by Northern California Lions Clubs, this Multiple District Four-sanctioned nonprofit provides hearing aids to qualified low-income residents who don't qualify for government assistance and can't afford one on their own. • Eligibility is on the household size and income (see their site for specific details.) Applicants must be sponsored by a local Lions club. • Ear of the Lion is currently accepting donated behind-the-ear (BTE) and receiver-in-canal (RIC) hearing aids manufactured within the last five years, plus tax-deductible monetary donations.	• **How to Donate** • **Hearing aids:** Mail to Ear of the Lion, 850 San Jose Ave., STE 115, Clovis, CA 93612. Include your name and address for a tax receipt. • **Funds:** Give online by credit/debit card or PayPal at earofthelion.org. • **Contact Phone:** (800) 327-8077. • **Website:** earofthelion.org

Low Blood Sugar: What to Do If Someone Needs Help

A coworker, volunteer, or guest with diabetes suddenly seems shaky and confused. Knowing the signs and a few simple steps can make all the difference.

Why This Matters

Millions of people manage diabetes every day, many of them with medicines that lower blood sugar. Sometimes blood sugar drops too low, a condition called hypoglycemia. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers blood sugar below 70 mg/dL low, and below 54 mg/dL severely low. Low blood sugar can come on quickly, and the CDC says friends, family, coworkers, and others that a person is often around should know how to handle it.

Know the Signs

Early signs, according to the CDC, can include:

- a fast heartbeat, shaking, or sweating
- nervousness, anxiety, or irritability
- confusion or dizziness
- hunger

Signs that low blood sugar is becoming severe include feeling weak, trouble walking or seeing clearly, acting strange or confused, and seizures. A person may also pass out.

If the Person Is Awake and Can Swallow: The 15-15 Rule

Ask whether they have diabetes and need sugar. Many people carry their own supplies and will know what they need. The CDC recommends the 15-15 rule:

- **Give 15 grams of fast-acting sugar.** See the chart below for examples.
- **Wait 15 minutes.** If the person has a meter, they should check their blood sugar again.
- **Repeat if needed.** If blood sugar is still below 70 mg/dL, give another 15 grams.

- **Follow with a snack.** Once blood sugar is back to normal, a snack with protein and carbohydrates helps keep it steady.

What Counts as 15 Grams of Fast-Acting Sugar

Good choices	Why not chocolate?
• 4 ounces (½ cup) of juice or regular (non-diet) soda • 1 tablespoon of sugar, honey, or syrup • Glucose tablets or gel (follow the instructions) • Hard candies or gumdrops (check the label for the amount)	Foods high in fat, like chocolate and baked goods, and foods high in fiber, like fruit and beans, slow down how fast the body absorbs sugar. In a low blood sugar event, speed matters.

Source: CDC, Treatment of Low Blood Sugar (Hypoglycemia).

If the Person Is Unconscious or Can't Swallow

- **Don't give food, drink, or insulin.** Someone who is unconscious can't swallow safely.
- **Call 911.** The American Diabetes Association says not to hesitate. If someone is unconscious and glucagon isn't available, or no one knows how to use it, call 911 immediately.
- **Use glucagon if it's available and you know how.** Glucagon is an emergency medicine, given as an injection or nasal spray, that raises blood sugar quickly. Follow the kit's instructions, and get emergency medical help right away.

Be Ready Before It Happens

If you manage a workplace, run events, or lead volunteers, a little preparation goes a long way:

- **Talk about it.** Invite staff and volunteers with diabetes to share, if they're comfortable, what their lows look like and what help they want.
- **Keep fast sugar handy.** Juice boxes, regular soda, or glucose tablets in your first-aid supplies mean no one has to hunt for help.
- **Learn the kit.** If someone on your team carries glucagon, ask them to show you where it is and how it works.

Want to understand the bigger picture? Read "The Not-So-Sweet Facts About Diabetes" in this issue.

This information is for general education and is not a substitute for medical advice. When in doubt, call 911.

CPN NEWSLETTER | RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Pecan-Crusted Pork Tenderloin with Apples and Onions

A cozy fall dinner that's friendly to your heart and your blood sugar, plus easy sides and a warm dessert to round out the meal.

Serves	Prep	Cook	Per serving
6	10 minutes	30 minutes	210 calories · 7 g carbs · 2 g fiber · 24 g protein · 10 g fat (1.5 g saturated) · 160 mg sodium

One serving is 2 slices (about 4 ounces) of pork with 3 tablespoons of the apple-onion mixture.



Sweet apples, savory onions, and a crunchy pecan-and-sage crust make this one-skillet dinner feel like a special occasion. As discovered on the American Diabetes Association's Diabetes Food Hub, each serving is low in carbohydrates, saturated fat, and sodium.

Ingredients

- 1½ pounds pork tenderloin
- ¼ cup chopped pecans
- 1 tablespoon fresh sage, minced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 5 teaspoons olive oil, divided
- 1 med onion, sliced
- 1 med Braeburn apple, ½-inch slices

Directions

1. **Heat the oven.** Preheat your oven to 425°F.
2. **Mix the crust.** In a small bowl, stir together the sage, garlic, salt, pepper, pecans, and 1 teaspoon of the olive oil.
3. **Coat the pork.** Pat the tenderloin dry, brush it with 2 teaspoons of olive oil, and press the pecan mixture over the top.
4. **Start the apples and onions.** Warm the last 2 teaspoons of oil in a large oven-safe skillet over medium heat. Add the onion and apple slices and cook, stirring now and then, for about 5 minutes.
5. **Roast.** Slide the apples and onions to the edges of the skillet and set the pork in the middle. Transfer the skillet to the oven and roast for 20 to 25 minutes, until a thermometer in the thickest part of the pork reads 145°F.
6. **Rest and serve.** Let the pork rest for 3 minutes, as the USDA recommends. Cut it into 12 slices and spoon the apples and onions over the top.



Pecan-crusted pork tenderloin with roasted apples and onions.

Round Out the Meal

These Diabetes Food Hub favorites pair beautifully with the pork. Click any dish for the full recipe.



Dish	Course	Serving	Calories	Carbs	Sodium
Spaghetti Squash with Pine Nuts & Sage	Side	1 cup	120	16 g	120 mg
Braised Red Cabbage with Apples	Side	½ cup	40	6 g	10 mg
Baked Cinnamon-Stuffed Apples	Dessert	½ apple	100	15 g	30 mg
Whole plate (pork + both sides + dessert)			**470**	**44 g**	**320 mg**

Swap idea: Want something fresh and green? Trade the cabbage for Roasted Sweet Potato and Arugula Salad (150 calories, 18 g carbs, and 180 mg sodium per cup).

Recipe adapted from the American Diabetes Association's Diabetes Food Hub. Get the original recipe and full nutrition details at diabetesfoodhub.org.

Proud Moments

Service In Action — a look at the achievements, awards, and fundraising wins from Lions clubs around the world and across the district this month.

From Around the World

- **Vision Week of Service Opens October 8:** Lions International is rallying volunteers worldwide for its Vision Week of Service, October 8–18. Some 2.2 billion people live with vision impairment, and about 1 billion of those cases are preventable or still unaddressed; last year Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) put$8.67 million into vision work that reached 4.37 million people in 30 countries.
- **LCIF Sends $200,000 to Flood-Stricken Nepal:** The Lions Clubs International Foundation awarded a $200,000 Major Catastrophe Grant in September after flash floods killed more than 1,000 people in Nepal. Lions there raised a further $67,000 and are delivering food, drinking water, blankets, hygiene kits, medical supplies, and temporary shelter.
- **Nearly 345 Million People Served in One Year:** Lions and Leos served nearly 345 million people between July 2025 and June 2026, and LCIF raised $84 million over the same year. The figures were announced at the 108th International Convention in Hong Kong, which drew more than 18,000 attendees from 140 countries.
- **Mental Health Service Grows Nearly Tenfold:** With World Mental Health Day arriving October 10, Lions International reports that clubs logged more than 15,000 mental health and well-being service activities in the 2024–2025 Lions year, reaching about 2.4 million people, up from roughly 245,000 the year before.

Right Here in Our Own District

- **61 Lions, Leos, and Cubs Gather in Chowchilla:** The September 19 District Meeting, coordinated by Zone Chair Karla Gran with support from Lion Paula Hansen, carried a football theme and opened with Past District Governor John Posey of the Lions Eye Foundation explaining the vision the foundation makes available to every club.
- **8,000 Pairs of Eyeglasses Sorted in One Morning:** As the meeting's service project, attendees processed 8,000 pairs of donated eyeglasses and 400 pounds of pull tabs, bound for Lions In Sight in Vallejo. Lions Beth Estante, Xena Ferrario, and PDG Don Allen organized the effort.
- **“Patchwork of Purpose” Quilt Project Gets Underway:** Clubs are invited to create six-inch tactile quilt squares for the 2026–2027 MD4 Lions for Access traveling quilt, with a closer look planned for the November 7 District Meeting in Jackson. The Lions for Access Club Banner Patch has also been extended to December 31 for the first 45 California Lions clubs and first 5 Leo clubs that qualify.

Club and Fundraising Achievements

- **Sutter Creek Lions Win a Grant for Childhood Cancer “Comfort Packs”:** A California Lions Foundation grant will let the club assemble comfort packs for five families whose children travel outside Amador County for cancer treatment, in partnership with Amador’s Heart of Gold and

Amador STARS. The club also made 300 bookmarks for the Amador County Library StoryWalk and collected more than 60 pounds of food at its September 11 blood drive.

- **Stockton San Joaquin Lions Rededicate the Helen Keller Bench and Mural:** On August 29 at the Maya Angelou Library, the club rededicated its Helen Keller Centennial Mural and Bench after the original bench, earned by recycling more than 1,000 pounds of soft plastics, was stolen in 2025. MD4 Past Council Chair Claudia Miller donated the replacement.
- **Stockton Host Lions BBQ Crew Feeds About 300:** In one September weekend, the crew fed first responders at the Welcome Home Heroes event, then served tri-tip and chicken to roughly 300 people at the Gospel Center Rescue Mission's alumni graduation, which honored 18 Stockton residents.
- **Mokelumne Hill Lions Serve "Pies in the Park":** Now in its third year, the September fundraiser is building toward a $5,000 donation to replace the grass in the town park.
- **Chowchilla Lions Ready the Fairgrounds for the Riding for Heroes Rodeo:** Lions Tim Alford, Norman Kuhr, Duarte Goncalves, Alvara Reyna, and Dianne Alford replaced water-damaged siding and weathered boards and repainted the club's concession and storage buildings ahead of the event.
- **District Leos Start the School Year Serving:** Merced High School Leos cooked and served a full dinner at the D Street Shelter and volunteered at the Merced Lao Boat Racing Festival and the Merced Breakfast Lions' Casino Night. Yosemite High School Leos, sponsored by the Bass Lake Lions, opened the year with 20 students at their first meeting.

Individual Recognitions

- **Leos Return from Japan:** Sponsored by the Merced Breakfast Lions, the two Leos spent 18 days on a cultural exchange, staying with host families and completing service projects alongside Japanese Leo clubs.
- **PDG Don Allen Receives a Certificate of Appreciation:** Linden Lions 1st VP Paul Castillou presented the certificate after PDG Don's August 25 presentation on LCIF and the vision and hearing programs it supports.
- **New Lion David Valdez Makes His First LCIF Gift on Day One:** Inducted into the Stockton San Joaquin Lions by DG Steve Moore at the District Meeting, with Lion Jennifer Gass as his sponsor, Lion David answered a challenge from PDGs Kent Christensen and Don Allen by making his first donation to LCIF.
- **Chowchilla Lions Welcome Two New Leo Advisors:** New members Brandi S. and Katrina M., sponsored by Lion Liz Bockhop, both bring backgrounds in education and will serve as advisors to the Chowchilla Leo Club.
- **More New Lions Across the District:** Warren Wigfell joined the Stockton Delta Pacifica Lions, sponsored by his father, Lion George, and inducted by Zone Chair Ron Cutler. DG Steve Moore inducted Clare Atkins into the Tracy Tank Town Lions, and PDG Doug Campbell inducted Scott Ostrander, whom DG Steve sponsored.
- **Lions Tim and Celeste Sharp Organize a Packed Casino Night:** The Merced Breakfast Lions credited the couple's organization for an annual Casino Night fundraiser that packed the hall, with every dollar raised staying local for community service projects.

On the Calendar

Public events happening around District 4-A1 this October.

Date	Event Name	City	Details
Now thru Feb 2027	California Lions' Move Be-Cause Campaign		See Event Details
Now thru Jun 2027	“Bags for Benches, Round 10” – Stockton San Joaquin Lions	Stockton	See Event Details
Now thru Oct 7	Gourmet Popcorn, Pretzel & Cotton Candy Fundraiser – Stockton San Joaquin Lions	Stockton	See Event Details
Oct 1–31	7th Annual Food Drive – West Point Lions	West Point	See Event Details
Oct 4	Harvest On Main – Escalon Lions	Escalon	See Event Details
Oct 8–18	Lions Int'l VISION Week of Service		See Event Details
Oct 9	Community Blood Drive – Sutter Creek Lions	Sutter Creek	See Event Details
Oct 10	Bingo Night – Escalon Lions	Escalon	See Event Details
Oct 10	Bingo – Chowchilla Lioness Lions	Chowchilla	12:00, Fuller School Cafeteria
Oct 10	White Cane Awareness Walk & Celebration, 11 AM–2 PM – Stockton San Joaquin Lions	Stockton	See Event Details
Oct 17	Pancake Breakfast – Ripon Lions	Ripon	See Event Details
Oct 18	Bunco – Lathrop Lions	Lathrop	See Event Details
Oct 23	Surf & Turf Dinner – Sonora Lions	Sonora	See Event Details
Oct 24	Moke Hill's Got Talent – Mokelumne Hill Lions	Mokelumne Hill	See Event Details
Oct 24	Prime Rib Dinner – Hughson Lions	Hughson	See Event Details
Oct 31	Harvest Faire – West Point Lions	West Point	See Event Details

Save the Date

Date	Event Name	City	Details
Nov 7	Turkey Shoot – Sierra Lions	Corsegold	**See Event Details**
Nov 14	5K Walk/Run – Stockton Healthy Leo Lions	Stockton	**See Event Details**
Nov 14	World Diabetes Day – LI's new Diabetes Service Program Overview		**See Event Details**
Nov 21	Rib Dinner Fundraiser – Los Banos Lions	Los Banos	Stay Tuned
Dec 5	Winter Wonderland Craft Showcase – West Point Lions	West Point	**See Event Details**
Dec 19	Wreaths Across America, Linden Cemetery, 9 AM – Linden Lions	Linden	Stay Tuned
Jan 16	Cioppino Dinner – Merced Breakfast Lions	Merced	**See Event Details**
Jan 16	Dining in the Dark – District 4-A2	Clovis	**See Event Details**
Feb 27	100th Anniversary – Jackson Lions	Jackson	**See Event Details**
Mar 20	Lions Eyes Across California's Awareness Day		Stay Tuned



Find A Club
Near You

Lions International has a Find A Club search function. To access it, use the following link: Find A Club. Or go to District 4-A1's Clubs In District webpage.

Let's CONNECT

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