

BRANCH CLUBS- A PART OF OUR FUTURE

As many clubs struggle to carry on through aging, burnout, and shifting priorities branch clubs are going to be a key component of moving forward. For aging clubs that would struggle absorbing 20, 30 and 40 year olds branch clubs can be the key to survival for Lions in communities. They can also be very useful in getting special interest groups involved in Lions. It takes 5 members to form a branch and they can be an effective way of starting new full Lions clubs well into the future.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF CLUBS SPONSORING BRANCH CLUBS

- To make sure the branch club is on firm financial footing and that their dues are paid. The dues are collected by the sponsoring club and they are responsible to pay the dues to Lions Clubs International, The Multiple District and District.
- Allow the branch club free reign to choose service projects, fund raisers and where they wish to contribute their resources.
- To make sure the branch clubs have the required club officers in place to satisfy Lions Clubs International requirements.
- To be supportive of the branch club when they ask for advice or direction.
- To make sure the branch club has Lions Clubs Internationals guide to branch club development and guidelines.

SUCCESS IDEAS FOR NEWLY FORMED BRANCH CLUBS

- To have a common focus area or special interest. Commonality of ideas and focus insure long term success.
- Have a guiding Lion for a period of time to make sure the new club gets proper direction in getting started.
- Be independent- Have a clear focus that the members agree to and work towards these purposes
- Have the district give an orientation as soon as possible. This is essential
- Let new club know of resources available for service opportunities. Spot cameras, diabetes awareness kits etc. If it is a special interest club be sure to identify other groups with similar interests.
- Use social media to contact friends and family about new clubs existence. Use social media to promote service projects to outside interests.
- Use all Lions club resources to the new clubs advantage. Insurance, project ideas and ideas on how to grow and serve.