

COUNCIL 2025-2026 OF GOVERNORS MEETING

Date Aug 8, 2025

Time 9:00 am

Call to Order.....Chris Headley, Council Chair

Pledge of Allegiance.....Gene Goetz, DG 31-N

Invocation.....Steve Cline, DG 31- I

Approve Agenda and appoint Parliamentarian.....Chris Headley, CC

Recognition of and comments by Past/Present International Officers.....Chris Headley, CC

PIP Sid L. Scruggs III

PID Gwen White

PID Harvey Whitley

PID Dr. Lacy M. Presnell, Jr.

PID Ron Huber

ID Gary Steele

Council Chairperson Report.....Chris Headley, CC

Reading of the Minutes from the May 3, 2025 Meeting.....Gary Steele CST

Approval of the Minutes.....Chris Headley, CC

MD 31 Financial Report.....Gary Steele CST

Approval of the Financial Report.....Chris Headley, CC

Governors' Reports.....2025-2026 Council of Governors

District L – DG Eileen Artavia

District I – DG Steve Cline

District O – Juanita Brown

District N – Gene Goetz

District S – Dwayne Turner

New Business:

Statewide Committee Chair Reports

Boys and Girls Homes of NC.....	Garry Elliott
Campus Clubs/Leo Clubs.....	Fanta Dorley
Celebrate Liberty.....	Nathan Medlin
Constitution and By-Laws.....	Dale Dupree
Diabetes Awareness.....	Sharon Axelberg
Hall of Fame.....	Carlton Metts
History.....	Kirby Matthews & Thersea Matthews
Information and Technology.....	John Lynde
LCIF MD-31 Coordinator.....	Michael Schwartz
Leader – Guide Dog.....	Peter Crumley
Lions Alert.....	DeAngelo Jackson
Marketing.....	Paul Bledsoe
MD-31 Global Extension Coordinator.....	Tim Williams
MD-31 Global Leadership Coordinators.....	Harvey Whitley & Barbara Thompson
MD-31 Global Membership Coordinator.....	Jim Maitland
MD-31 Global Service Coordinator.....	DeAngelo Jackson
Nominations.....	Jeffrey Price
Peace Poster.....	Marilyn Jackson
Promotions.....	Elizabeth Steele
Protocol.....	Elizabeth Steele
Research and Long Range Planning.....	Michael Schwartz
State Convention.....	Laraine Dupree, Barbara Thompson & Susie Dailey
Technology for the Blind & Visually Impaired.....	Sharon Weddington
VIP Fishing Report.....	Gwen White
NCLF Report.....	Carlton Metts II
Announcements.....	Chris Headley, Council Chair
Benediction and Lunch Blessing.....	Steve Cline, DG 31-I
Adjournment	

In Person Meeting 9:00 am

Council Chair Chris Headley called the meeting to order at 9:00 am with District Governor's Gene Goetz (31-N), Steve Cline (31-I), Juanita Brown (31-O), Dwayne Turner (31-S), and Eileen Artavia (31-L) present. DG Gene Goetz led the Pledge of Allegiance and DG Steve Cline gave the invocation.

Past Council Chair Governor Dale Dupree agreed to be the parliamentarian. DG Dwayne Turner made a motion that the agenda be approved as presented and DG Eileen Artavia seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Chair Chris Headley recognized the International Officers that were present (ID Gary Steele, PID Lacy Presnell, and PID Harvey Whitley). PID's Lacy and Harvey indicated that they were happy to be here and would reserve their comments until later. ID Gary Steele thanked everyone for all their support during his campaign and asked for their continues support during his time on the LCI Board

Council Chair Chris gave his quarterly report. (A)

Council Secretary/Treasurer Gary Steele reported that the last minutes from May 8 were emailed and posted on the State and NCLF websites. DG Eileen Artavia made a motion that the minutes be approved as posted. DG Dwayne Turner seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Council Secretary/Treasurer Gary Steele presented the financial report. DG Steve Cline made a motion that the financial report be approved as presented. DG Dwayne Turner seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. (B)

Council Secretary/Treasurer Gary Steele presented the proposed budget for 2025-2026. DG Eileen Artavia made a motion that the budget be approved as presented. DG Juanita Brown seconded the motion. PID Harvey Whitley presented a proposal to add a budget item for ELLI that will be conducted in the spring of the year. Council Treasurer Gary Steele indicated that the cost for this program will have to come from the State Budget since it wasn't presented in time for the District's to put it in their budgets. There should be money available (\$8400) for this year. DG Steve Cline made a motion to amend the budget to include the ELLI event. DG Dwayne Turner seconded the motion. The amended motion was approved unanimously. (C)

The Council presented their quarterly reports. (D)

DG Steve Cline made a motion to approve the quarterly reports. DG Gene Goetz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Secretary/Treasurer Gary Steele reported that PDG Carlie Metts had submitted a resignation letter for the Council Chair 2026-2027 due to his acceptance of the position of Executive Director for NCLF. He also reported that we received a thank you note from Rhonda Edwards and we had to put a stop payment on a check mailed to the South Carolina Lions to pay for the Southeastern Breakfast that was lost. Another check was mailed by register mail. (E)

There was a discussion about what to do with the Promotions Trailer. DG Eileen Artavia made a motion that we sell it since it's not being used. DG Steve Cline seconded the motion. After more discussion, DG Dwayne Turner made a motion that we table this item until the next meeting. DG Eileen Artavia seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

PDG Lorraine Dixon gave a report on Boys and Girls Homes of NC.

PCC Dale Dupree gave a report on Constitution and By-Laws. (F)

PDG Carlton Metts gave a report on Hall of Fame.

PDG Theresa Matthews had no report on History.

PDG Michael Schwartz gave a report on LCIF. (G)

PDG DeAngelo Jackson gave a report on Lions Alert. (H)

PCC Tim Williams gave a report on Global Extension. (I)

PID Harvey Whitley and PDG Barbara Thompson gave a report on Global Leadership. (J)

PDG DeAngelo Jackson gave a report on Global Service. (K)

Lion Marilyn Jackson gave a report on Peace Poster. (L)

Lion Elizabeth Steele indicated that the Promotions report would be given during the Promotions Meeting.

PDG Michael Schwartz gave a report on Long Range Planning. (M)

PDG's Lorraine Dupree, Barbara Thompson and Susie Dailey gave a report on the State Convention. Dates are April 17-19, 2026 and April 23-25, 2027. A check for \$4226 was requested for the per member fee. (N)

PDG Michelle Myers gave a report on Technology for the Blind and Visually Impaired. (O)

PDG Michael Schwartz gave a report on the VIP Fishing Tournament.

Outgoing Executive Director Carlton Metts gave a report on NCLF. (P)

DG Eileen Artavia reported that the Audit for the State Convention accounts had been completed by PDG Gary Greene with no issues found. DG Eileen Artavia made a motion that the Audit be accepted. DG Steve Cline seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.



DG Dwayne Turner made a motion to approve the committee reports. DG Steve Cline seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was announced that the person that the 2026 State Convention would be dedicated to will be PID Lacy Presnell.

The Benediction and lunch blessing was given by DG Steve Cline.

DG Juanita Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting. DG Steve Cline seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted

Gary Steele
International Director
MD31 Secretary/Treasurer

Council Chairperson Report

First and foremost, let us give our 2025-2026 District Governors a round of appreciation. They were inducted by Lions International President A. P. Sing in Orlando Florida. It was a moment that they were waiting for, when their partner in service pulled the elect ribbon from their name tag.

For the last three years, they have attended training at Camp Dogwood, Chicago, Las Vegas and Orlando Florida and are ready to show the world that Multiple District 31 is the best.

Since then, all the Governors have been holding District Officers Installation, Awards and Brighter Vision kickoffs.

Shortly, they will be giving a short report of their District.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Respectively,

Chris Headley Council Chairperson

NC LIONS STATE COG ACCOUNT #4815

Council Budget As of: 7/1/2025
July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

	Budget 24/25	Actual	Budget 25/26
COUNCIL INCOME			
100 Balance forward from 6/30/24	\$38,818.20	\$39,068.20	
105 Council Dues - 4472 @ \$5.50	\$24,596.00	\$24,266.00	\$23,243.00
110 District Surety Bond \$64 X 5	\$320.00	\$320.00	\$320.00
112 Internet Domains & Web Hosting	\$443.80	\$443.80	\$549.83
115 Interest Earned	\$200.00	\$1,771.08	\$1,750.00
120 LEO Clubs Income	\$2,100.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
125 RLLI Income	\$8,400.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,400.00
130 Ad from District Governors \$42.86 X 7	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
135 Miscellaneous Income	\$5,000.00	\$500.00	\$5,000.00
140 LEO Sale of Pins	\$100.00	\$140.00	\$100.00
145 Refund from State Convention	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
150 Disaster Grant	\$0.00	\$100,009.79	\$0.00
155 Marketing Grant	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL COUNCIL INCOME	\$41,459.80	\$135,450.67	\$41,662.83
COUNCIL EXPENSES			
200 Annual Audit	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
205 Awards, Plaques & Gifts	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
210 Bank Fees	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
215 CC & SST Clothing (2 @ \$130)	\$260.00	\$260.00	\$260.00
220 CC, SST, 1st & 2nd VDG Crest X 17	\$440.00	\$396.25	\$440.00
225 2nd VDG Clothing 5 @ @130.00)	\$650.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
230 NCLF Clerical Service & Rent	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
235 Forum Travel for CC	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
240 Council Chair Travel Expense	\$2,500.00	\$1,376.38	\$2,500.00
245 5 District Officers Surety Bond	\$320.00	\$320.00	\$320.00
250 Hall of Fame Plaques	\$1,200.00	\$787.56	\$1,200.00
255 In Coming CC International Convention	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00
260 Internet Domains & Web Hosting	\$600.00	\$1,214.72	\$600.00
265 Leo State Convention	\$2,000.00	\$500.00	\$2,000.00
270 Meeting Space	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
275 Office Supplies Sec/Treas	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
280 Peace Poster/Essay Contest	\$600.00	\$435.45	\$600.00

285 Postage/Printing Sec/Treas	\$200.00	\$29.99	\$200.00
290 State Sec/Treas Travel Expenses	\$2,500.00	\$646.00	\$2,000.00
295 State Council Meeting Expenses	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
300 Bond for State Sec/Treas	\$298.00	\$298.00	\$298.00
305 Video Conferencing Equipment	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
307 Marketing Grant	\$1,500.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
310 RLLI Expense	\$8,400.00	\$3,036.44	\$8,400.00
COMMITTEE EXPENSES			
315 Boys & Girls Home	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
316 Constitution & By-Laws	\$250.00	\$107.80	\$250.00
317 Diabetes Awareness	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
318 E-Sight/Guide Dogs	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
319 Global Action Team (GAT)	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
320 Global Leadership Team (GLT)	\$4,000.00	\$854.52	\$4,000.00
321 Global Membership Team (GMT)	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
322 Global Service Team (GST)	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
323 Hall of Fame	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
324 History	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
325 Info. Technology/Public Relations	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
326 Lions Alert	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
327 LCIF	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
328 LEO L& Campus Club	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
329 Nominations	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
330 State Convention	\$250.00	\$4,671.75	\$250.00
331 State Convention Host	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
332 Long Range Planning	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
333 Hospitality Room COG Meeting	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
334 Ad for COG State Convention	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
335 Celebrate Liberty	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
336 NC Lions Council State Convention	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
337 Marketing	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
338 Protocol	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
339 Global Extension	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
340 Technology for Blind & VIP's	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
341 Disaster Grant		\$38,518.89	\$60,000.00
TOTAL COUNCIL EXPENSES	\$44,218.00	\$72,753.75	\$100,968.00

Multiple District 31
Financial Report 07/01/2025

	START	CURRENT	
COUNCIL CHECKING ACCOUNT # 4815	\$39,068.20	\$51,458.63	
PROMOTIONS CHECKING ACCOUNT # 4823	\$16,591.11	\$15,934.09	
PROMOTIONS MONEY MARKET # 5714	\$11,094.11	\$11,399.12	
COUNCIL MONEY MARKET # 0757	\$63,191.24	\$64,952.73	\$143,744.57
DIABETES AWARENESS	\$1,200.14	\$1,495.32	
LEO CLUBS	\$212.22	\$507.40	
STATE CONVENTION RESERVE	\$50,352.11	\$50,647.29	
STATE COUNCIL RESERVE	\$3,397.93	\$3,693.11	
LEADERSHIP	\$350.25	\$645.43	
CLELEBRATE LIBERTY	\$7,678.59	\$7,993.77	\$64,982.32
INTEREST EARNED	\$0.00	\$1,771.08	
Split between the 6 sub accounts @ 295.18 each			
CATASTROPHE GRANT ACCOUNT #7139		\$61,490.95	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$129,944.66	\$207,036.19	

(C)

NC LIONS STATE COG ACCOUNT #4815

Council Budget

As of: 7/1/2025

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Budget 25/26 Actual Budget 26/27

COUNCIL INCOME

100 Balance forward from 6/30/24	\$39,068.20	\$39,068.20	
105 Council Dues - 4472 @ \$5.50	\$23,243.00	\$0.00	
110 District Surety Bond \$64 X 5	\$320.00	\$0.00	
112 Internet Domains & Web Hosting	\$549.83	\$0.00	
115 Interest Earned	\$1,750.00	\$0.00	
120 LEO Clubs Income	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	
125 RLLI Income	\$8,400.00	\$0.00	
126 ELLI Income	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	
130 Ad from District Governors \$42.86 X 7	\$300.00	\$0.00	
135 Miscellaneous Income	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	
140 LEO Sale of Pins	\$100.00	\$0.00	
145 Refund from State Convention	\$0.00	\$0.00	
150 Disaster Grant	\$0.00	\$0.00	
155 Marketing Grant	\$0.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL COUNCIL INCOME	\$46,662.83	\$0.00	\$0.00

COUNCIL EXPENSES

200 Annual Audit	\$500.00	\$0.00
205 Awards, Plaques & Gifts	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
210 Bank Fees	\$50.00	\$0.00
215 CC & SST Clothing (2 @ \$130)	\$260.00	\$0.00
220 CC, SST, 1st & 2nd VDG Crest X 17	\$440.00	\$0.00
225 2nd VDG Clothing 5 @ @130.00)	\$650.00	\$0.00
230 NCLF Clerical Service & Rent	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
235 Forum Travel for CC	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
240 Council Chair Travel Expense	\$2,500.00	\$0.00
245 5 District Officers Surety Bond	\$320.00	\$0.00
250 Hall of Fame Plaques	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
255 In Coming CC International Convention	\$3,100.00	\$0.00
260 Internet Domains & Web Hosting	\$600.00	\$0.00
265 Leo State Convention	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
270 Meeting Space	\$500.00	\$0.00
275 Office Supplies Sec/Treas	\$100.00	\$0.00

280 Peace Poster/Essay Contest	\$600.00	\$0.00
285 Postage/Printing Sec/Treas	\$200.00	\$0.00
290 State Sec/Treas Travel Expenses	\$2,500.00	\$0.00
295 State Council Meeting Expenses	\$500.00	\$0.00
300 Bond for State Sec/Treas	\$298.00	\$0.00
305 Video Conferencing Equipment	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
307 Marketing Grant	\$0.00	\$0.00
310 RLLI Expense	\$8,400.00	\$0.00
311 ELLI Expense	\$8,400.00	\$0.00

COMMITTEE EXPENSES

315 Boys & Girls Home	\$250.00	\$0.00
316 Constitution & By-Laws	\$250.00	\$0.00
317 Diabetes Awareness	\$250.00	\$0.00
318 E-Sight/Guide Dogs	\$250.00	\$0.00
319 Global Action Team (GAT)	\$250.00	\$0.00
320 Global Leadership Team (GLT)	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
321 Global Membership Team (GMT)	\$250.00	\$0.00
322 Global Service Team (GST)	\$750.00	\$0.00
323 Hall of Fame	\$250.00	\$0.00
324 History	\$250.00	\$0.00
325 Info. Technology/Public Relations	\$500.00	\$0.00
326 Lions Alert	\$250.00	\$0.00
327 LCIF	\$250.00	\$0.00
328 LEO L& Campus Club	\$250.00	\$0.00
329 Nominations	\$250.00	\$0.00
330 State Convention	\$250.00	\$0.00
331 State Convention Host	\$250.00	\$0.00
332 Long Range Planning	\$250.00	\$0.00
333 Hospitality Room COG Meeting	\$500.00	\$0.00
334 Ad for COG State Convention	\$300.00	\$0.00
335 Celebrate Liberty	\$250.00	\$0.00
336 NC Lions Council State Convention	\$0.00	\$0.00
337 Marketing	\$250.00	\$0.00
338 Protocol	\$250.00	\$0.00
339 Global Extension	\$250.00	\$0.00
340 Technology for Blind & VIP's	\$250.00	\$0.00
341 Disaster Grant	\$60,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL COUNCIL EXPENSES	\$110,368.00	\$0.00

\$0.00

Multiple District 31
Financial Report 07/01/2025

	START	CURRENT	
COUNCIL CHECKING ACCOUNT # 4815	\$51,458.63	\$51,458.63	
PROMOTIONS CHECKING ACCOUNT # 4823	\$15,934.09	\$15,934.09	
PROMOTIONS MONEY MARKET # 5714	\$11,399.12	\$11,399.12	
COUNCIL MONEY MARKET # 0757	\$64,952.73	\$64,952.73	\$143,744.57
DIABETES AWARENESS	\$1,495.32	\$1,495.32	
LEO CLUBS	\$507.40	\$507.40	
STATE CONVENTION RESERVE	\$50,647.29	\$50,647.29	
STATE COUNCIL RESERVE	\$3,693.11	\$3,693.11	
LEADERSHIP	\$645.43	\$645.43	
CLELEBRATE LIBERTY	\$7,993.77	\$7,993.77	\$64,982.32
INTEREST EARNED	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Split between the 6 sub accounts			
CATASTROPHE GRANT ACCOUNT #7139	\$61,490.95	\$61,490.95	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$205,265.11	\$205,265.11	

We have started our Lion's new year with a bang. We had our officer installation and first cabinet meeting on August 2, with 75 in attendance. Tim Williams reported 100% of zone chairs have been trained and 80% of club officers. We raised \$135.00 for Brighter Visions. I hope to raise \$30,000.00 or more at our kickoff.

We have an increase of ¹¹/₇ members to date. We have a branch Club at Wallburg, with 12 members and 3 to join at the next meeting.

We have one club in Elkin in danger of folding, they have only 3 members. I plan to meet with them next week.

Our Brighter Visions kickoff is August 24. Several clubs are planning fundraiser events. Davidson County Lions Council is having a reverse raffle, steak dinner October 1. Fair Grove has a reverse raffle, steak dinner, August 23. Linwood has their turkey shoot coming up in November. Mooresville is planning their peanut sales starting in August at their football games. These are just a few that I know of. *Creston River View Duck Race Aug. 16*

I have visited 5 clubs to date, with 11 planned in September and October.

Respectfully submitted DG Steve Cline

District 31-O Status Update

Hello Fellow Lions,

I'm excited to share a quick update on the strong start we've made in **District 31-O** this Lions year.

Since **July 1st**, we've seen a **net membership growth of +10**—a sign that people are being drawn to the meaningful service and connection our clubs offer.

A special welcome to our **new Branch Club in Person County**, which has already completed its **first service project**—packing and distributing **300 toiletry bags** to middle and high school students. What a powerful way to begin serving their community.

District-wide, clubs are already making plans to take part in the upcoming **Mental Health and Well-Being Initiative Week**, organizing events, care packages, and awareness efforts to support those in need. It's clear: Lions show up where it matters most.

On the leadership side, **all our zone chairs have been trained**, and **many club presidents, secretaries, and treasurers** have also completed training—putting us in a great position for a strong, well-supported year ahead.

Even in the heat of summer, our Lions have been anything but idle. We completed our first **District-wide service project by collecting underwear for Bob's closet**. Across District 31-O, clubs are launching back-to-school projects, planning fall service events, and preparing for

our Brighter Vision Kickoff. We're seeing energy, collaboration, and creativity in every corner of the district.

As we look ahead, our focus remains clear:

- **Grow and retain membership** by welcoming new Lions and keeping current ones engaged.
- **Empower clubs** through strong leadership and consistent training.
- **Elevate visibility** through social media, public relations, and community partnerships.
- And **align service with timely, high-impact initiatives**, like our district-wide focus on mental health and well-being.

District 31-O is not just starting strong—we're building momentum, together. With growing membership, active leadership, and service that matters, we're well on our way to making this Lions year one of the most impactful yet.



DISTRICT MD31-N

District Governor
Gene Goetz

Secretary
PDG George
Holston Jr

Treasurer
Lion Betty
Shingleton

GET
PDG Mayra
McCloud

GMT
PDG Vince
Schimmoller

GLT
PDG DeAngelo
Jackson

GST
PDG Bob Block Jr.

LCIF
Lion Keith Toman

QUARTLY REPORT

August 9, 2025



On April 25th I held a pre planning meeting with my cabinet, chairpersons and zone chairs at Lions Industries for the Blind, Kinston. It was a great opportunity for everyone to get acquainted.

Twenty-three Lions attended with 5 attending via zoom.

We discussed duties of zone chairs and they being the link between the district governor and the clubs.

The Following District Governor goals were reviewed, discussed and agreed on:

- ✓ The district will raise \$15,000 for LCIF.
- ✓ 100% of zone chairs and 80% of Club Officers will be trained.
- ✓ 60% of clubs in 31-N will report service projects.
- ✓ By the end of the 2024-2025 Lion year, our district will start 2 new clubs and will achieve a +50 in membership growth with a net gain of 38 members.

It was recommended that the district submit a Grant to Lions International for \$10,000 to renovate and improve the District Disaster Trailer.

We discussed suggestions for a second global cause for 2025-2026, Children's Diabetes was favored.

Training session dates throughout the year were presented and approved.

Because many of the previously purchased vision screeners are out of warranty a suggestion was made to consider submitting a district grant to LCIF to purchase vision screeners by individual clubs.

Our efforts to raise \$10,000 to support a \$20,000 grant through LCIF are going well. Over \$5,000 has been raised and the grant paperwork has been sent to the LCIF board for approval. A 5K fun run is scheduled for October 25th in Greenville to raise funds to support the grant.

Our GET coordinator PDG Mayra McCloud is working on two new clubs and we have hopes of forming a new club in Washington NC.

Already this year I have attended one zone meeting and another zone chair has schedule meetings with all clubs in that zone.

Our Brighter Visions Kickoff and First Cabinet meeting are scheduled for August 16th.

The year has started and we're up and running.

Respectfully Submitted
DG Gene Goetz

District 31S is off to a strong start!

2nd VDG Kayla is working on forming a new Cyber Club. We've also made a new contact in Youngsville with hopes of restarting a Lions Club there.

We held our first Zoom training session with several Zone Chairs and Club Presidents, and plan to continue these sessions monthly. This month, we will also be scheduling Zoom meetings for club secretaries and treasurers.

Mark your calendars—our **Brighter Vision Kickoff** will be held at the Williamston Lions Club on **August 17th at 3:00 PM**.

Aug 17th hdp with vision screening

Help

Ricky Person Jr

NFL



E

Council Chair Chris Headly
Multiple District 31
North Carolina Lions

July 29, 2025

Dear Council Chair Chris Headly,

I am writing to formally resign from my position as Council Chair for the 2026–2027 term for Multiple District 31 North Carolina Lions, effective August 1, 2025. After much reflection, I have accepted the position of Executive Director of the North Carolina Lions Foundation. This new role will allow me to continue serving our state in a broader capacity, and I am excited for the opportunity ahead.

The 2026–2027 Council of Governors will need initiate the process of interviewing candidates to select a new Council Chair. In the interim, Vice Chair Sandy Frazier-Thomas will assume the role of Interim Council Chair until a permanent appointment is made.

As the 1st Vice District Governors begin their journey for the 2026–2027 term, I look forward to seeing their continued success and progress. I remain fully available to offer mentorship and guidance whenever needed and am committed to supporting them in any way I can.

Sincerely,

PDG Carlton "Carlie" Metts II
Executive Director
North Carolina Lions Foundation

Cc: ID Gary Steele, Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer
Lion Jeffery Price, Nominations Chair

Constitution and By-Laws report for August 16 and 17, 2025

The Constitution and By-Laws committee is continuing the process of reviewing the present District 31 constitution and making sure that the changes from LCI are incorporated into the necessary places.

Once again, we ask anyone that may have a question or suggestion please write it down and send it to a member of the committee.

Thank you, that concludes our report.

Dale Dupree, chair



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

1678-C Robins Nest Court
Gastonia, NC 28054

Multiple District Coordinator
PCC Michael H. Schwartz
Gastonia Lions Club
704-854-5315
Schwartz5483@gmail.com

District 31-L Coordinator
PCC Michael H. Schwartz
Gastonia Lions Club
704-854-5315
Schwartz5483@gmail.com

District 31-I Coordinator
April Mesimer
Denton Lions Club
338-225-5370
Mesimer.april@gmail.com

District 31-O Coordinator
PDG Susie Dailey
Guilford County Wide Cyber
Lions Club
704-439-6278
lionsusied@gmail.com

District 31-N Coordinator
Kevin Toman
Shallotte Lions Club
910-754-8794
ktoman@columbus.k12.nc.us

District 31-S Coordinator
Jeffrey Price
Zebulon Lions Club
919-696-6679
Jeffreyhprice0602@gmail.com

**Regional Development
Manager**
Dannette Pryor
630-468-6726
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**Regional Development
Specialist CA-1, Area E**
Kristi Garcia
630-468-6885
Kristi.garcia@lionsclubs.org

District Governors & Lions,

It's an honor to stand before you today as your multiple district coordinator for Lions Clubs International Foundation, the charitable arm of our great organization. LCIF is more than a name—it's a lifeline. It's the force behind our global impact and the partner that empowers us to serve when our communities need us most.

Let me begin with a number that speaks volumes: \$3.5 million.

That's how much LCIF has awarded to North Carolina in grants and project funding. That's not just money—it's meals served, homes rebuilt, children helped, and lives changed.

And here in Multiple District 31, we've seen that impact firsthand. Last year, LCIF awarded our state:

- \$30,000 in emergency grants and a \$100,000 major catastrophe grant, both in response to Hurricane Helene, helping us provide immediate relief and long-term recovery for those affected.
- LCIF has already said that if we need another \$100,000 major catastrophe grant for hurricane relief, the money is available.

I know many of our clubs redirected their fundraising efforts last year to support hurricane relief—and I commend you for that. Your compassion and responsiveness are what make Lions who we are.

But now, it's time to reinvest in the Foundation that made that support possible.

Last year, clubs and individuals across Multiple District 31 contributed \$301,649 to LCIF.

- District 31-L: \$5,772.92
- District 31-I: \$18,857.10
- District 31-O: \$21,211.69
- District 31-N: \$16,615.62
- District 31-S: \$20,109.98

That's a start—but we can do better.

Some of you who are math wizards will note that the amounts that I just mentioned doesn't add up to \$301,649. In fact, it totals \$82,567.31. The other \$208,549.60 contributed to LCIF last year came from non-Lions or were donated anonymously. The bulk of those contributions came from the estate of a North Carolina woman named Betty Jane Willis, who was from Mt. Airy. Some of you may remember Mrs. Willis as she often appeared on the Betty Feezor

Lions Clubs International Foundation
300 W. 22nd Street
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Show on WBTV. Mrs. Willis had designated part of her estate to go to our Foundation when she died in 2023. Her bequest to LCIF was through our planned giving program. When you include LCIF in your estate plan, your generosity makes sure we can continue to bring volunteers together to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding. If you're interested in this program, let me know or visit the LCIF website under ways to give.

So let me talk about our multiple district goals. Today, I'm asking each club in Multiple District 31 to consider a simple goal:

Donate a minimum of \$10 per member to LCIF this year. Some clubs and district donate a whole lot more to LCIF. But with roughly 4,237 members as of July 1, that would raise \$42,370 for LCIF — a meaningful amount that strengthens our ability to respond to future disasters, support youth programs, fight hunger, and preserve sight.

But giving is only part of the story. Recognition matters too.

Did you know that 3,372 Lions in Multiple District 31 are on the LCIF rolls are having received a Melvin Jones Fellowship? 287 of those Melvin Jones Fellows are progressives. That's a whole lot of Lions whose dedication has been honored through one of the highest forms of recognition in our organization. North Carolina is the 9th largest multiple district in Constitutional Area 1 when it comes to Melvin Jones Fellowship. It requires a \$1,000 contribution to receive one—meaning North Carolina Lions clubs have contributed \$3.6 million to LCIF to honor a club member.

And here's something important:

Our clubs currently hold \$318,355.82 in undesignated funds at LCIF. These are donations already made—but not yet assigned to a specific purpose. I've reviewed the report, and some clubs have thousands of dollars in undesignated funds that could be used to award a new or progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship. Use this money or give a new contribution this year.

So I'm asking each club in Multiple District 31 to do two things this year:

1. Make a contribution—at least \$10 per member
2. Award at least one Melvin Jones Fellowship or a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship—to honor a Lion whose service deserves recognition. That would recognize a minimum of 244 Lions who deserves our recognition.

Supporting LCIF is not just about funding—it's about fulfilling our mission and celebrating our members. It's about showing the world that the North Carolina Lions are committed, compassionate, and ready to lead.

Let's make this a year of generosity.

Let's make this a year of recognition.

Let's make this a year where Multiple District 31 stands tall in support of the Lions Clubs International Foundation.

Thank you for your service. Thank you for your heart. And thank you for being Lions.

Lions Club International

MD 31

Alert Chair Goals

It is an honor to be selected to serve as MD 31 Alert Chair. I think as a team more can be accomplished. This year I would like to focus on three goals: Be Alert, Distribution, and Disaster Trailer.

1. Be Alert. With all the technology we have today we need to be alert to any disastrous situation that's going on throughout North Carolina or surrounding area. As your District Chair you have to stay in tune to potentially hazardous conditions and communicate.
2. Distribution. When a situation does arise, we need to be able to distribute the needed materials to the area in need. Communication would be key here.
3. Disaster Trailer. Develop a standard operating procedure for the three trailers within the state.

PDG DeAngelo Jackson
MD 31 Alert Chair
Walking By Faith

(I)

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING

Camp Dogwood

August 9, 2025

MD 31 Global Extension Team Report:

We need to prioritize extension. If your districts do not charter at least two new clubs this year, they will show a net loss of members. If you want your district to grow, you'll need to charter three or more clubs!

An MD 31 GET meeting was held via ZOOM on August 4, 2025. Two GET Coordinators and two District Governors were in attendance. Topics discussed included:

- Forming District Extension Teams
- Selecting areas for Extension Efforts
- Using social media (Facebook) to locate interested parties

District O continues to lead the Multiple in extension success. Having chartered a new club in May, they currently have two branch clubs, the Ramseur Community Lions Club and the Person County Lions Club, each with 10 members. District I's branch club, The Wallburg Lions Club, has 12 members. Hopefully, all three of these clubs will charter this year.

A copy of the "District 31-O Extension Report" for August 2025 was emailed to each GET Coordinator and District Governor. PDG Gary Greene's team's successes, as outlined in the report, and how we can use and adapt them in our own districts will be a topic of discussion at our next meeting in September.

Respectfully submitted,
PCC Tim Williams
MD 31 GET Coordinator

GLT MD Coordinator

GLOBAL ACTION TEAM



Position Overview

As the GLT Multiple District Coordinator, you are appointed annually to drive leadership development in support of **MISSION 1.5**. You serve as the primary leadership development expert within your MD, coaching and empowering district GLT coordinators to strengthen the skills of current and future leaders. Through training strategy, mentorship, and strong collaboration, you ensure Lions and Leos at every level are equipped to lead with confidence and support club and district success.

Performance Expectations

Commitment to Growth:

- Champion **MISSION 1.5** by ensuring leaders are equipped to support membership and club growth.
- Sponsor at least one new member and help establish at least one new club annually.
- Ensure Vice District Governors complete required MD-level training.

Engagement and Collaboration:

- Work closely with the GAT area leader, Council Chairperson, and fellow MD coordinators to track progress on district goals and submitted action plans.
- Mentor district GLT coordinators and encourage collaboration with club officers, zone chairpersons, and region leaders.
- Engage past international leaders and other GAT Ambassadors to support leadership initiatives.
- Promote international and local leadership development opportunities to all levels of the association.

Monitoring and Adjustments:

- Track training participation and leadership development metrics using Learn & Insights reports.
- Forecast training needs and help districts adjust leadership strategies.
- Ensure accurate reporting of local MD and district-level learning events and leadership training.

Training and Resource Sharing:

- Lead the development and execution of the MD training and leadership development plan.
- Share local, regional and international learning opportunities, tools and resources to strengthen district and club members.

Broaden Participation:

- Encourage engagement of Lions and Leos from all backgrounds in leadership opportunities.
- Support the development of emerging leaders and expand access to training at all levels.
- Promote inclusive leadership and identify talent for growth in membership, service, and leadership.

UPCOMING DATES:

October 23-25, 2025

Vice District Governor Training

February – dates TBD

Emerging Leaders Leadership Institute - ELLI

MD 31 Global Service Team and Goals

August 9, 2025

MD 31 – PDG DeAngelo Jackson

District L –

District I –

District O –

District N – PDG Robert Block

District S – Lion Glenn Day

Goals for the 2024-2025 Year:

1. Reporting Our Services
 - a. Research problems associated with reporting.
 - b. Map out solution to the problems with reporting.
 - c. Improvement in reporting services for MD 31
2. Kindness Matter Service Award (KMSA) [Kindness Matters Service Award | Lions Clubs International](#)
 - a. Implement MD KMSA Program
 - b. Submit MD31 KMSA to Lions Clubs International
 - c. At Mid-Winter Convention award district level KMSA
3. State-wide project Childhood Cancer

**North Carolina Lions Club
Peace Poster Contest**

Students ages 11, 12 or 13 as of November 15 are eligible to participate in the International Peace Poster Contest. Entries not meeting the following deadlines will be disqualified.

Clubs can order peace poster kits either as physical or digital versions.

To save costs, the district will place a mass order on June 1st. This will eliminate the club's shipping fees. The club needs to reimburse the district treasurer for the peace poster kit, but not for shipping.

Physical kit: \$11.95

Each kit contains:

- Official Club Contest Guide and Rules
- Official School or Youth Group Contest Guide and Rules
- Participant flyer to duplicate and give to participating students to take home
- Sticker to place on back of winning poster
- Certificates for contest winner and school or youth group

Digital kit: \$11.95

Each kit contains:

- Downloadable Official Club Contest Guide and Rules
- Downloadable Official School or Youth Group Contest Guide and Rules
- Downloadable participant flyer to print and give to participating students to take home
- Downloadable sticker to place on back of winning poster
- Digital certificates to print for contest winner and school or youth group

<https://lionsclubsinternational.myshopify.com/products/ppk1d>

Peace Poster Contest Deadlines

- **January 15:** Kits go on sale from the Club Supplies Sales Department at International Headquarters.
- **May 31:** Deadline for District 31N bulk order.
- **October 1:** Deadline to purchase kits from the Club Supplies Sales Department at International Headquarters.
- **November 15:** Postmark deadline for a club to send one winning poster (per contest sponsored) to the district governor.
- **December 1:** Postmark deadline for a district governor to send one winning district poster to multiple district council chairperson.
- **December 1:** Postmark deadline for a district governor not belonging to a multiple district to send one winning poster to the Brand & Creative Department at International Headquarters.
- **December 1:** Postmark deadline for a club not belonging to a district to send one winning entry to the Brand & Creative Department at International Headquarters.
- **December 15:** Postmark deadline for the multiple district council chairperson to send one winning poster to the Brand & Creative Department at International Headquarters.
- **February 1:** International winners notified on or before this date.

Lion Marilyn Jackson
World Peace



Multiple District 31

Long Range & Planning Committee
1678-C Robins Nest Court, Gastonia NC 28054
(704) 854-5315
Schwartz5483@gmail.com

August 8, 2025

During the 2024–2025 Lions year, the Long Range & Planning Committee operated under a singular directive from the Council of Governors:

To identify and encourage qualified, dedicated Lions to serve in district and state leadership roles.

We took this charge seriously and worked diligently to promote leadership development across Multiple District 31. Our efforts included:

- Outreach to past and current club officers to gauge interest in district-level service
- Informal mentorship and encouragement of emerging leaders
- Coordination with district leadership teams to identify potential candidates

Despite these efforts, we continue to face a persistent challenge: Some districts in North Carolina remain without a 2nd Vice District Governor; and this leadership gap limits succession planning and weakens continuity in district governance.

As we prepare for the new Lions year, the Long Range & Planning Committee respectfully asks the Council of Governors to provide clear guidance on what you would like our committee to focus on in 2025–2026.

We believe this committee can be a valuable resource to help state and district leaders:

- Develop long-term strategic goals
- Strengthen leadership pipelines
- Support club sustainability and growth
- Enhance statewide collaboration and communication
- Evaluate and improve district-level structures and processes

But to be effective, we need your input.

District Governors: We ask each of you to share your priorities, challenges, and vision for the future. What areas of planning and development would you like us to explore? Where can we best support your leadership and your district's success?

Whether it's membership growth, leadership training, club revitalization, or statewide initiatives—we are here to help. Your direction will shape our agenda and ensure our work aligns with the needs of our districts and the goals of Lions across North Carolina.

The Long Range & Planning Committee exists to serve the future of Lionism in North Carolina. With your guidance, we can move from reactive to proactive planning — building a stronger, more sustainable foundation for generations of Lions to come.

Thank you for your leadership, and thank you for your partnership.

N

Multiple District 31
State Convention Coordinator Report
August 9, 2025

Contracts have been signed for the North Carolina Council State Conventions for 2026 and 2027 at the Greensboro/High Point Marriot Airport site.

Convention dates are April 17-19, 2026 and April 23-25, 2027.

Suggestions are needed for 2028 and 2029 convention sites. Those suggestions are needed by the November 2025 Council meeting so that the vetting process can begin.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as the State Convention Coordinator this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Lion Laraine Dupree, PDG
MD 31 NC Council State Convention Coordinator

Through June 5, 2025

NC Lions 2025 State Convention General Account

		2025			
Line	Income	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	Comment	Difference
100	Proceeds from '24 convention (State Council)	\$ 8,700.00	\$ 8,910.27		\$ 210.27
105					\$ -
110	Marriott Room Credits		\$ 872.69		\$ 872.69
115	Convention Registrations (net of Square fees)	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 16,627.20		\$ (372.80)
120	Sponsorships		\$ 700.00		\$ 700.00
125	Raffles (50/50 etc.)		\$ -		\$ -
130	Hospitality Room - 5 districts	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00		\$ -
135	Live Auction (net of Square Fees)		\$ 6,908.01		\$ 6,908.01
140	Program Ads (net of Square Fees)	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 21,486.37		\$ 5,486.37
145	Sale of Pins		\$ -		\$ -
150	Peace Poster Room & Meal Reimbursement		\$ 185.45		\$ 185.45
155	Miscellaneous	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 30.00	Analyze Cake	\$ (970.00)
Total Income		\$ 43,700.00	\$ 56,719.99		\$ 13,019.99
	Expenses	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	Comment	Comment
300					
305					
310	Brighter Visions Donations		\$ 2,302.67		\$ 2,302.67
315	International Family Expense		\$ 411.08	Fri breakfast & lunch	\$ 411.08
320	Committee Expenses	\$ 200.00	\$ 91.03	Thurs Lunch	\$ (108.97)
325	Decorations	\$ 500.00	\$ 292.32		\$ (207.68)
330	Entertainment	\$ 600.00	\$ 749.48	DI + Dance Setup & AV	\$ 149.48
335	Gift Bags	\$ 300.00	\$ 135.55		\$ (164.45)
340	Hospitality Room	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 764.14	Line item previously included Sat lunch	\$ (1,335.86)
345	Hotel Rooms - Host Council & Int'l Family	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 6,108.90		\$ 608.90
350	LCIF		\$ 2,302.67		\$ 2,302.67
355	Friday Meal Expense	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 7,366.07	Line item was previously FPN, TTB & DGB combined	\$ (20,633.93)
356	Saturday Breakfast Expense		\$ 5,013.13		\$ 5,013.13
357	Saturday Banquet Expense		\$ 9,245.67		\$ 9,245.67
358	Sunday Breakfast		\$ 374.18		\$ 374.18
359	Saturday Lunch		\$ 969.13		\$ 969.13
360	Meal - Thursday evening	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,612.60		\$ (87.40)
365	NC Pins		\$ -		\$ -
370					
375	Refunds		\$ 168.00	Gasperson	\$ 168.00
380					\$ -
385	Service of Remembrance	\$ 50.00	\$ 22.01		\$ (27.99)
390	Hotel meeting room charges	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,522.04		\$ 522.04
395					
400	VIP Fishing Tournament		\$ 2,302.67		\$ 2,302.67
405	Miscellaneous	\$ 500.00			\$ (500.00)
Total Expenses		\$ 41,450.00	\$ 42,753.34		\$ 1,303.34
Net Income or (Expense)		\$ 2,250.00	\$ 13,966.65		
BANK LEDGER RECONCILIATION AS OF JUNE 5, 2025					
Add in Admin Account Amounts:			\$ 622.56		
Total Ledger / Bank Balance		May 29, 2025	\$ 14,599.21		

TOTAL CONVENTION ATTENDANCE

318

2025 NC Lions State Convention Recap

Fellow Lions,

It is our privilege to give you the final report for your 2025 State Convention as well as some details for your 2026 State Convention.

First, our heartfelt thanks to PDG Laraine Dupree and her phenomenal convention committee. They did a superb job and made your 101st NC Lions State Convention one to remember.

We have some numbers for you...which is always exciting

318 registered attendees

\$22,000 in program ad sales

And a net profit of \$13,966.65 all of which will be put towards the cost of meals for our 102nd convention. None of this money will be spent on anything else! This exceeds previous years by almost \$5,000.

With that in mind, once again all registered attendees will have a free lunch on Saturday. Also, thanks to our Past District Governors Organization, registered attendees will have a free grab and go breakfast on Sunday, served by your PDGs. Thank you so much.

PDG Barbara Thompson and I are honored to serve as your 2026 Convention Host Committee Co-Chairs. We met with the Council on Wednesday, via zoom, to review an email that was sent to them earlier. This email explained the two items that needed to be voted on today by the five District Governors and we were able to address any questions and concerns.

The first item to be voted on is the final convention budget and the results of the audit performed by PCC Gary Greene. Copies of both were distributed to the councils. There is a difference of \$632 in the bank balance and the convention profit. That represents the amount of money to be returned to the Council from the administration fund for the past two years. The exact amount of the check will be slightly less (about \$10) as one additional receipt was recently turned in.

We are officially asking the Council Treasurer to forward the 2026 NC Lions Council State Convention Committee a check for \$4,226 which represents \$1.00 per lion in North Carolina for the convention administration fund, from the dues collected for the North Carolina Lions State Council and State Convention Fund. This money can only be used for specific administrative expenses.

Please vote now on the approval of the audit.

The second item to be voted on by the five current District Governors, is the person or persons that the 2026 NC Lions Council State Convention will be dedicated to. This has already been discussed and no name will be mentioned at the time of this vote, but will be disclosed at the appropriate time.

Please vote on the person or persons that the 2026 NC Lions Council State Convention will be dedicated to.

Our convention team will be meeting to discuss plans and ideas for 2026. Watch for some changes and lots of fun. Remember we will be gathering, once again at the Greensboro High Point Marriott Airport on April 17-19, 2026. We can't wait. Watch for details in the next few months and we will have lots to share in November.

Does anyone have any questions? If not, thank you again for this incredible opportunity to serve you all!

Respectfully submitted,
PDG Susie Dalley

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NC Lions Foundation Quarterly Meeting – August 8-10, 2025

Council Of Governors Committee Report

Technology Devices for the Visually Impaired and Blind

Since the May meeting our committee members continue working toward Lions' goals and service areas to assist with the technology devices and low vision aids.

The outgoing state chair spent a week in June in District L. We visited the McCune Center and attended a zone meeting in that area. We also visited the Etowah Lions Farmers' Market. Lion Michelle spoke at the Mills River Lions Club. It was a rewarding and wonderful week in the Asheville area.

Lion Michelle demonstrated the eSightgo glasses to a lady in Winston Salem in July. I retested her on August 8th during a zoom call with the eSight representative, Carolyn Bradley. This individual has decided to try the "at home" telehealth visit. It gives her about one week with the device and virtual training with the eSight Team.

Lion Michelle and her husband PDG Jimmy will be visiting Waynesville on August 15 and 16 to demonstrate the eSightgo with a gentleman. If the device proves successful, he will be recommended for the telehealth trial. He is a veteran. If he should decide to purchase, then the VA will be contacted as they will pay for the device.

PDG Mark Bateman was able to demonstrate the eSightgo to several of our campers at Camp Dogwood the week he and his wife volunteered. He has contacted several previous visually impaired individuals that tested well on the old eSight unit. Several had positive demonstration experiences with the new unit. He is working on funding for these individuals.

Lion Jim Jansco has received a grant for his club, Lake Gaston, to purchase several WeWalks to donate to our visually impaired. I believe UNC Wilmington provided the funding for the grant.

PDG Mayra continues to speak with clubs, libraries, health fairs and anywhere she can to promote all the items we know about that can assist the visually impaired.

The Durham Lions Club working with a local library held an event with the Grandpa's White Cane storybook in July.

PDG Sharon Weddington is transitioning into her new role as state chair of this committee. Thanks to the Lake Gaston club, they have provided her with a WeWalk. We are in communication with Lion Jim to assist with scheduling the training that is offered by WeWalk. She send her regards and regrets that she couldn't attend this weekend. She is on a family vacation.

Please remember that October is White Cane Awareness Month and the 15th is the actual day. Please plan an activity with your club; possibly one that uses the children's book, Grandpa's White Cane.

It's not too late to sign up on the Enchroma website to receive two free pairs of Colorblind correction glasses in September. September is Colorblind Awareness month.

I have recently learned of the Blindshell cellphone and in the beginning stages of researching it. It was recommended by one of District I's VIPs.

Respectfully submitted,

Lion Michelle Myers

District I Chair

Technology for the Visually Impaired and Blind Committee

Executive Director's Report

From: Carlie Metts, Executive Director

Date: August 9, 2025

Subject: Gratitude, Operational Insights, Strategic Planning, and Community Engagement

Dear Members of the Council of Governors,

I want to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation for the confidence the Board of Directors have placed in me. It is an honor to serve in this role, and I am committed to leading with transparency, collaboration, and a deep respect for the mission of our foundation.

Over the past week, I've focused on learning the ins and outs of our operations—from program structures and administrative workflows to community engagement efforts. This foundational understanding is essential as we move forward with clarity and purpose.

As part of this process, I plan to meet individually with each staff member. These conversations will allow me to better understand their roles, perspectives, and ideas, and will help foster a culture of open communication and shared ownership.

In addition to internal engagement, I had the privilege of visiting Miracle in Sight to deliver a \$50,000 grant on behalf of the North Carolina Lions Foundation. This grant will support their vital work in restoring sight and enhancing lives across our communities. The visit was a powerful reminder of the real-world impact of our mission and the importance of our partnerships.

Looking ahead, we will begin evaluating how to position ourselves to meet both our short-term and long-term goals. This includes aligning our resources, refining our strategies, and identifying opportunities for growth and impact.

Additionally, I've been working closely with Carlton Metts, our outgoing Executive Director, to ensure a smooth and informed transition. His insights and experience have been invaluable as we review key updates, analyze data points, and shape the strategic direction of the foundation. Carlton will continue to provide essential information that will support our planning and decision-making in the weeks ahead.

Thank you again for your trust and support. I look forward to working closely with each of you as we continue to build a strong and impactful foundation.

Warm regards,

Carlie Metts

Executive Director

North Carolina Lions Foundation



Financial Audit

NC Lions 2025 State Convention

I have reviewed financial materials that provided a complete accounting of the transactions undertaken for the 2025 NC Lions State Convention from September 6, 2024, through May 31, 2025. These transactions included all income generated for the event as well as a detailed listing of expenses. The convention treasurer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

I reviewed the First Citizens bank statements and randomly cross checked deposits against the Excel sheet showing the event's running balance. All reviews demonstrated accurate accounting. The convention financial committee provided a thorough breakdown of expenses across 24 categories as well as income across eight categories. There was also a breakdown of administrative expenses and revenue.

The conclusion of my review and that I am not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements and records. I express my heartfelt appreciation to our Lions leaders who undertook this task on behalf of all the Lions of North Carolina.

PCC Gary Greene
July 4, 2025