

## ***Lions 4 Kids House Update***

The Lions 4 Kids House continues to serve and support the children of our community. The volunteers are busy and work hard to make ends meet for families who need help. Unfortunately the long drawn-out downturn of the economy has impacted the activity at Lions 4 Kids in two ways. First, donations have declined putting a strain on our budget. Second, the number of new clients has grown significantly over the last two years.

While our material donations have changed some, possibly due to the new location of The Good Will, the biggest impact on our services has been the drop in financial support of just over \$5,000 from the school fundraisers, churches, businesses, and community members. The timeline is a comparison between 7/1-2/28 for 2009/10 and 2010/11 because our fiscal year is July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. Monetary donations are used to purchase personal care items such as shampoo, body products, underwear, and socks as well as some operating expenses such as laundry soap, paper towels and toilet paper for use at the House. Currently there is only about \$600 in our account for these purchases. For your information, if you donate to United Way you can declare which charity you wish to support. Lions 4 Kids House is listed with them as a charity you can choose. Thank you for your consideration!

We track our clients by school year September through August.

9/2009 thru 8/2010 we served 2,511 children 127 being new to us.

9/2010 thru 2/2011 we have served 1,082 children 126 being new.

The numbers appear to be down this year but most children come to the house in July and August for "Back to School" so the numbers usually go up at that time.

We have had wonderful volunteers that keep the House neat and clean and organized to make it easy for the clients to find what they need while "shopping."

The yard has been well kept by dedicated volunteers as well. You see that just by driving by the House. The moles, however, do keep making their presence known.

Both individuals and school groups have participated in the care of the house. There were many who turned out to work on "Beautify Bonney Lake Day!" On one occasion a very enthusiastic girls' swim team came to spend an afternoon weeding and cleaning at the House.

We still have some work to be completed out back. The rails on the ramp need sanding and painting. The roof of the shed needs fixing. Hopefully, this will take place when the weather improves.

## **Other News:**

Please be aware that the Bonney Lake Lions Club offers community support when a qualifying adult or child is vision or hearing impaired.

Information may be found on our website: [www.bonneylakelions.com](http://www.bonneylakelions.com)

The governor declared November 30th Appreciation Day for First Responders.

Bonney Lake Lions members visited the local police and fire stations on the plateau providing cookies, cupcakes and liquid refreshment in their honor. The Sumner Lions club did the same for the Responders in the valley.

Some very exciting news to share with you all is that the Bonney Lake Lions Club has sponsored a Leo Club of just over 30 members.

A new member of the Bonney Lake Club is the advisor of the Leos and they have already participated in a joyful community event. In December both BL Lions and Leos sponsored and served Christmas Dinner at the Senior Center in Bonney Lake. The Leos with the great guidance from the Senior Center staff served over 100 people their food in 6 minutes time. Imagine that, their food was still hot. The students also brought a lovely present for each Senior. On February 23<sup>rd</sup> the Leos had their Charter Night at the Bonney Lake High School where all of them attend. It was a splendid celebration.

### **Important dates to remember for the future:**



This year the Community Summit will be held on *March 17<sup>th</sup>* at the Calvary Community Church in Sumner from 3-8:30 PM. Lions 4 Kids House and the Bonney Lake Lions Club will have displays for view. There will be interesting seminars, a key-note speaker and a meal for FREE. You are asked to pre- register at [www.sumnersd.org](http://www.sumnersd.org) to insure there is food for all.



*April 2<sup>nd</sup>*, there will be a large garage sale at the House to raise funds for the Prom Project which is currently underway. The Prom Project helps seniors from the 5 school districts served who otherwise would be unable to attend their school prom. The students are required to complete an application which must be received by March 24<sup>th</sup>.



Bonney Lake Lions Club will be having “Our Fifth Annual Dinner and Charity Auction, Death by Chocolate” on *April 9<sup>th</sup>* with the Lions 4 Kids House to be the recipient of the Fund in Need. It includes a live auction, silent auction, a delicious meal prepared by the Bonney Lake Culinary Art Class and Entertainment all for \$20 Presale/\$25 at the Door. You may visit our website for more details or to order tickets: [www.BonneyLakeLions.com](http://www.BonneyLakeLions.com). Please consider joining us for a wonderful evening and bidding on something you can’t do without while helping the Lions to SERVE our own community members in need.



On *April 30<sup>th</sup>* the 12 Lions Clubs of Zone C-3 provide an exciting opportunity for Special Needs Youth to go fishing for FREE on Opening Day of fishing season at Mill Pond Park in Auburn from 9 AM-1:00 PM. The Bonney Lake Lions Club supports and encourages families from this community to participate. It is very exciting to watch children enjoy a sport they may never have had a chance to experience before. Siblings and friends are welcome though the Special Needs Youth will have the first opportunity to fish. Pictures are taken of the fishermen with their catch and the Green River Steelhead Trout Club cleans them.



**May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>** are White Cane Days at which time Bonney Lake Lions will be collecting donations at Top Foods in Lakeland Hills from 10 AM to 2 PM to help community members with their sight and hearing. We also collect eyeglasses and hearing aids to be recycled at that time.



From **July 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>** Seattle will be hosting the 94<sup>th</sup> Lions International Convention. Lions is the world's largest International Service Organization, having been founded by Melvin Jones in Chicago, IL in 1917. There are currently 1.35 million members in 45,000 Clubs in 206 countries and geographic areas worldwide. Do plan on enjoying an exciting time in Seattle this July. There will be a Parade of Nations, a gala international show, business sessions, special events and more.



Last but not least MD 19C Lions offer children with diabetes an opportunity to spend a week at Panhandle Lake near Shelton, this **July 17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>**. They are able to camp, fish, go horseback riding, and swim. Even more importantly they learn how to monitor their food consumption, test their blood sugar, and most of all learn that they are not the only ones with diabetes. The Bonney Lake Lions are looking for children to sponsor this coming summer. Because of Privacy issues we must receive referrals for this program. Camp Leo served over 100 children at this camp last year. Check it out on the website [www.campleo.org](http://www.campleo.org). Members of the various clubs volunteer to make and serve meals during the week. We do a lot of dishes but it is very rewarding.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all of you who have given of your time, talent and any donations you have shared with those in need, most especially the children who are

the most vulnerable. You are welcome to visit us at Lions 4 Kids' House for a tour should you want to see what we are all about. You may call me on my cell at 253-431-7061 but when driving I don't answer so please leave a message.

Most sincerely,

Bibiana Burrill

Chairperson of Lions 4 Kids' House

Immediate Past President, and Membership Chair

Of the Bonney Lake Lions Club