

What are Leo clubs?

Leo clubs are an official activity of Lions Clubs International that encourages young men and women to serve others in their community and around the world. Leo clubs are sponsored by local Lions clubs and may be either school-affiliated or community-based.

Leo club activities include regular meetings, service projects and social functions. The Leo motto—Leadership, Experience, Opportunity—is fulfilled as members work together in response to the needs of others.

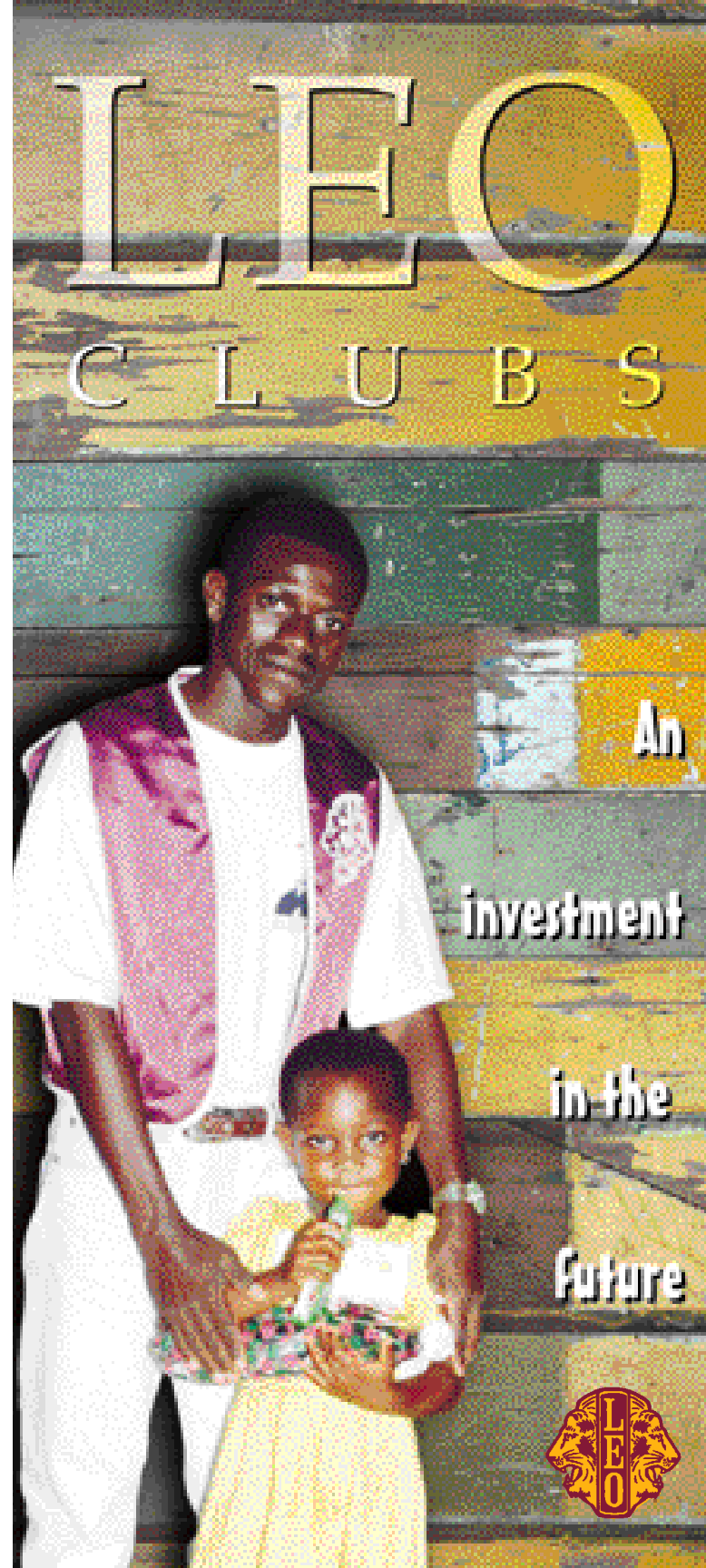


**to invest in the future of
their communities**



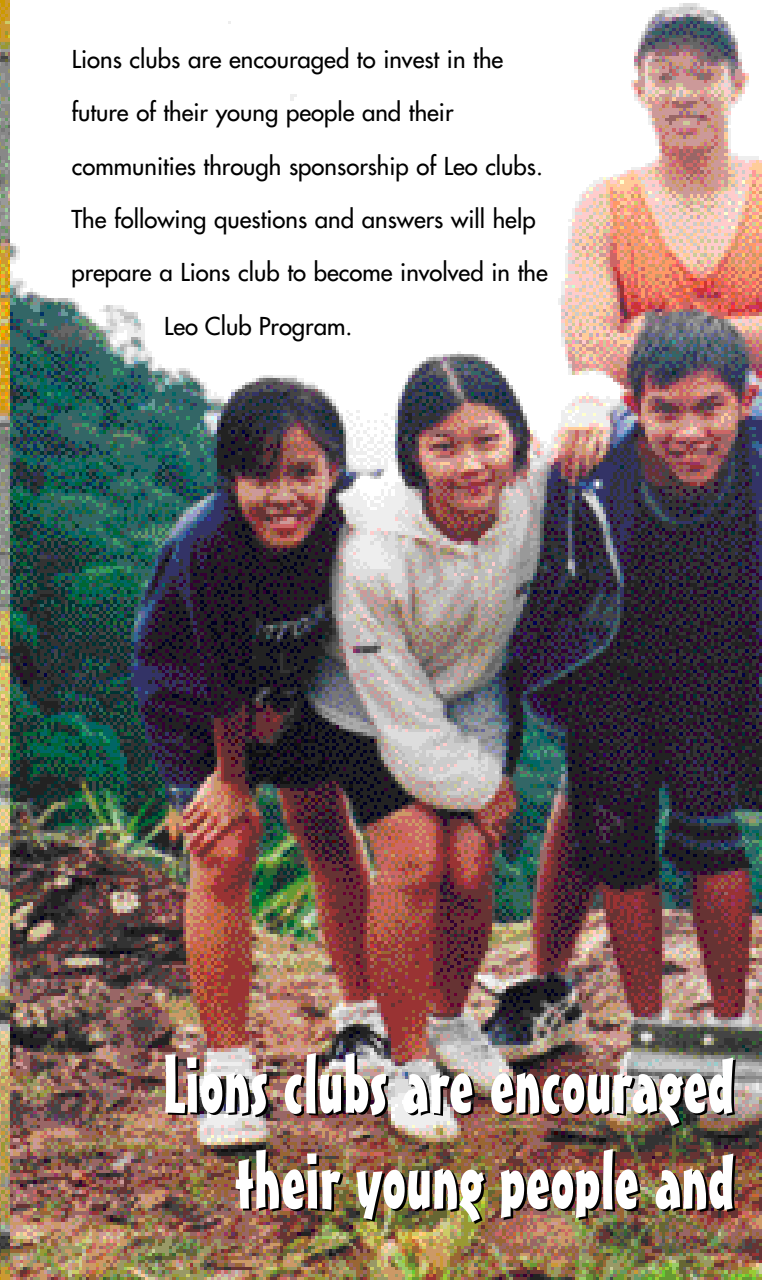
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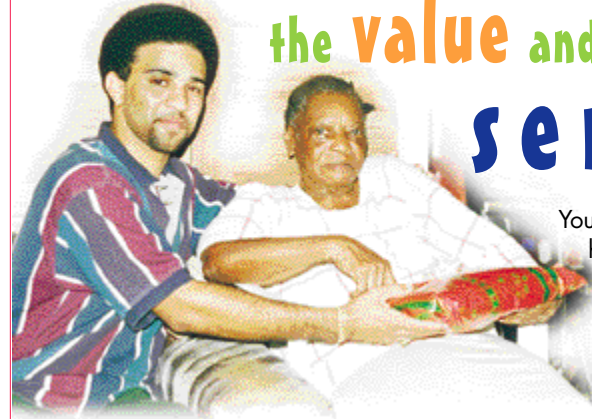
The youth of a community are a valuable resource, but one that cannot be taken for granted. Many of today's young men and women have the capabilities and the desire to make a difference in the world around them. Too often, however, they do not have the opportunity to do so. Leo clubs provide this opportunity.

Lions clubs are encouraged to invest in the future of their young people and their communities through sponsorship of Leo clubs. The following questions and answers will help prepare a Lions club to become involved in the Leo Club Program.



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their young people and**

Leos learn firsthand the value and rewards of service



Young people of high moral standards who wish to serve others are eligible to become Leos. School

administrators, Lions, friends of Lions and community leaders can provide names of potential members. Candidates may also be recruited through public announcements.

What is the Lions - Leo relationship?

The success of a Leo club depends on a close partnership with its sponsoring Lions club. The Lions' role is to offer support, guidance and counsel while the Leos are responsible for planning and implementing their own activities, financing their projects, and maintaining the smooth operation of the club. Leos have their own club officers and constitution.

The Leo club advisor (a member of the sponsoring Lions club) serves as the chief liaison between the Leo and Lions clubs. Duties of the advisor include offering constructive suggestions to the Leos, reporting on their activities to the Lions club and promoting a cooperative relationship between the two clubs.



Who benefits from Leo clubs?

Young people. Participation in Leo activities and projects helps young people prepare for the future by developing leadership, organizational and social skills. Members experience increased self-esteem and personal growth as they meet challenges and accept responsibilities.

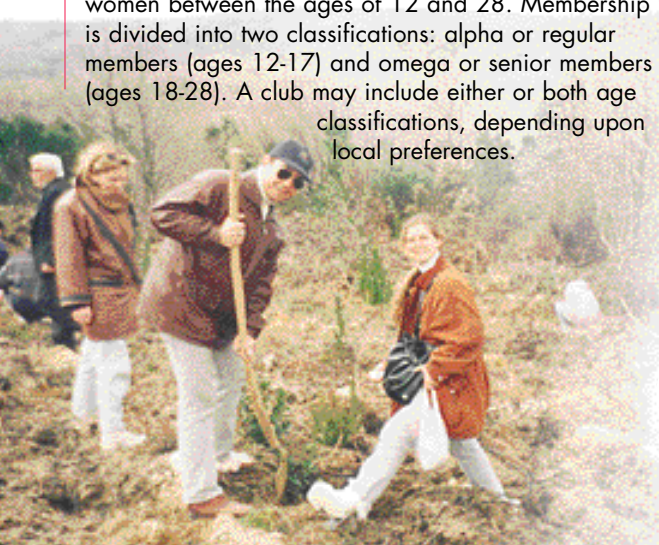
By volunteering their time and talents for the benefit of others, Leos learn firsthand the value and rewards of service. Leo club involvement can start young men and women on a lifetime of helping others.

The sponsoring Lions club. By sharing in service activities, a Leo club can increase a Lions club's effectiveness in helping others. Leo projects within the community also contribute to a Lions club's visibility and good reputation. Working with young people can help Lions club members experience renewed interest and enthusiasm for projects and activities. If Leos are sons or daughters of Lions, club involvement becomes a "family affair."

The community. Leo projects contribute to the well-being of the community. Improving the environment, promoting drug awareness, offering health services, visiting the elderly and providing food, clothing and supplies to the needy are some of the ways Leos improve the quality of life for others. Involvement in the Leo International Environment Project helps to create a more ecologically concerned world.

Who can be a Leo?

Leo club membership is open to young men and women between the ages of 12 and 28. Membership is divided into two classifications: alpha or regular members (ages 12-17) and omega or senior members (ages 18-28). A club may include either or both age classifications, depending upon local preferences.



What are some of the privileges of Leo membership?

As a sponsored activity of a Lions club, Leo clubs are entitled to many services and benefits offered by Lions Clubs International. Informational and club materials include new member kits, guides for service activities, leadership aids, ideas for fundraising, club supplies and international newsletters.

Leos can participate in the annual Lions Clubs International Convention, attending their own functions. Leos are also entitled to receive official awards and recognition for their achievements.

Because of the international scope of Leo clubs, members enjoy the global identity of a worldwide organization. International programs such as club twinning, youth exchange and youth camps enable Leos to connect with and learn from other young people around the world.

Yes, our Lions club is interested in starting a Leo club.

Please send an organization kit to:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

Postal Code _____ Country _____

Name of Lions club _____

District _____

Return to:
Youth Programs Department
Lions Clubs International
300 22nd Street
Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842 USA
Fax: 630-571-8890
E-mail: lionexcsrv@worldnet.att.net



What about school-based Leo clubs?

Leo clubs can be formed in public, private, preparatory, military, technical or parochial schools. The supervision by the sponsoring Lions club is exercised in full cooperation with the school authorities. The Leo club is subject to the regulations and policies established for all student organizations and activities. A faculty advisor, usually a member of the school's staff or administration, serves as a liaison between the school and Leo club. The faculty advisor also works closely with the Leo club advisor.

How do we begin?

If Lions club members are interested in sponsoring a Leo club, complete the coupon to obtain an organization kit. The kit includes:

- Suggestions for organizing a Leo club;
- Informative brochures for prospective Leos;
- Leo club constitution;
- Handbook for Leo club advisors;
- Application for Certificate of Organization;
- Membership application blanks.

A brief history

Today's international Leo Club Program began with a single club at Abington High School, Pennsylvania, USA, organized in 1957 by the Glenside Lions Club. Other Lions clubs soon began organizing youth service clubs and in 1967, Leo clubs were adopted as an official program of Lions Clubs International. The Leo Program has grown to include more than 140,000 Leos in over 138 countries.

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