

Medical Assistance/Diabetes/Sight/Hearing Committee

Report for District Cabinet Meeting

October 15, 2011

Jan Bassett, District Chair

The District Medical Assistance Committee is alive and well.

We now have a combination of new and experienced members willing to respond to our members needs in a timely manner. Please call on them at any time you hear of a need.

Members include:

PDG Terry Bebee tbebee@chartermi.net

PDG Mitch Smith mitchs048@hughes.net

William Stead, Indian River Lions Club williamstead@centurytel.net

Suzanne Aldred, Wolverine Lions Club aldred1961@att.net

Jan Kane, Gaylord Lions Club jkane@agh.org

Jan Bassett, Chair, Elk Rapids Lions Club jbassett@charter.net

PDG Wayne Schultz has retiring from the committee after ten years of service. Thank you PDG Wayne.

Committee actions to date since last (august) Cabinet Meeting:

I have had a few requests for applications for surgery and/or hearing aides, and spoke with some club members by phone, but to date no applications for District funds have been sent to me.

I have spoken with both the state Hearing committee Chair and to the Lions of Michigan Foundation Executive Director to clarify how to best respond to needs for hearing aides.

I have consulted with both of our district representatives to LMIF- PDG Florence Kelpinski and PDG Ed Hupert.

The Rose City Lions are working with at least two clients in need of hearing aides. They have

found a Dr. Schell Hearing Aides in Tawas that will test, mold, provide aides and program them for about \$450/each or \$900 a pair. I am waiting to hear if they will be requiring assistance from the district for these clients.

I have forwarded copies of the type of hearing aides the Lions of Michigan Foundation will provide at a cost of about \$400 for the pair. (Copies are attached to this report (4 pages)

I serve on the multi-district committee for Hearing, and I am the multi-district chair for the Sight conservation Committee. I will be working with both committees to keep you updated on activity in the state. Getting responses from these committee members is a slow process.

Application Forms for funds from the District are available on the district website or by calling me or any other member of our committee. Our goal is to respond to needs as efficiently as possible, remembering that referrals have to come from local clubs.

Our committee hopes to develop a questionnaire to send to all clubs in the district to see if we can establish:

- how many requests clubs are getting, and if they have funds to respond to the needs.
- How many requests they have denied due to lack of funds
- Do they budget for medical assistance, eyeglasses, hearing aides, and if so do they use the budgeted amounts or exceed that amount within a year

Our hope is to see if Clubs need help from the district to meet ongoing needs, and if so how can we best respond to those needs. We will develop and distribute this in the next few months, and anticipate we can report our findings in the spring.

Jan Bassett, Chair

District 11 E-2 Medical Assistance/Diabetes/Speech/Hearing Committee

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