



Teaching families how to live with diabetes

Southeastern Diabetes Education Services (SDES) has just finished the 2006 Camp Seale Harris summer camp season. We have had an amazing summer. It is an incredible feeling to help children gain the independence that they need to accomplish their first insulin injections. I am awestruck at the children who can design and follow a quality meal and exercise plan and accurately count and manage their carbohydrates, and it inspires me when I watch our new campers—who prior to camp had very little confidence in their ability to manage their diabetes—depart from camp with a better understanding of diabetes and how to successfully live with this illness.

Our kids gain so much by participating in our programs. They receive up-to-date education regarding diabetes and diabetes care, support, and friendships that last a lifetime. During our 2006 Camp Seale Harris summer programs, SDES provided direct service to almost 230 children and approximately 19 families. This was an amazing task, and we could not have provided such a successful season without the help of our devoted Lions' Family.

Over the past Lions' year, Alabama Lions have contributed approximately \$55,000 to assist

with camper scholarships and general program support. Lions have also been vital in promoting our organization and reaching out to children with diabetes—specifically those in the rural areas of the state. In addition, Lions help SDES and the individuals that we support by serving on our board of directors and advisory committees, assisting with program implementation, and providing transportation to children who otherwise are unable to get to camp.

The Alabama Lions' Organization is one of the most significant forces driving the success of our organization, and you continue to work with SDES daily to positively impact the lives of children with diabetes. On behalf of Southeastern Diabetes

Education Services and the children and families that we serve, I would like to say THANK YOU for your dedicated service.

SDES knows that one day there will be a cure for diabetes. Until then, we will strive to provide our participants with every opportunity to develop into strong, independent adults, and with continued support from Alabama Lions' Clubs throughout the state, we will successfully "teach children how to live with diabetes."

Miranda Springer
Fund Development Director
Southeastern Diabetes
Education Services
(205) 402-0415
miranda@southeastern
diabetes.org

Leadership Campers attend state convention

William Filmore, Jr., center, was selected the Most Outstanding Camper at the Boys Camp and spoke to the Lions at their Annual MD-34 Convention in Decatur at the High School Breakfast. William will be a Senior this coming year at Daleville High School and served this past year as Charter President of the Daleville High School Leo Club. Also, attending the breakfast was the runner-up top camper, Ben Johnson, left, of Gurley, Alabama. Ben was a Senior at Gurley High School and will be attending Auburn in the Fall. The top campers are pictured with Lion Lynn Wolfe, Chairman of the Alabama Lions High School Leadership Camp. Lion Lynn encourages clubs to go ahead and budget for the camp for this year. Camperships are \$160 per student. Each Lions Club is challenged to send at least one high school boy and one high school girl to camp. Donations can be made to: Checks are to be made to "Alabama Lions High School Camp" and mailed to YMCA Camp Chandler, P.O. Box 2336, Montgomery, AL 36102. For more information on the camp or a program for your club, please contact Lion Lynn Wolfe by phone (Home: 334-277-9890 or Work: 334-206-2335) or by e-mail: wolfmantoo@msn.com or wolfel@dot.state.al.us. As Lion Lynn says, "Alabama high school youth are looking forward to attending the Alabama Lions High School Leadership Camp. They are depending on Lions Clubs like yours to give them the opportunity."



Thoughts

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give \$50-100 to 20 or 25 things, give \$250-500 to 4 or 5 things where the Club can make an impact. Use at least 50% of your funds for local activities.

Some of the things we have historically supported have fallen on hard times. Alabama Lions Sight (ALSCA) for instance has seen a 46% decrease in Lions giving over the last 20 years. Outside of providing glasses and screening for the local populace, ALSCA should be our bread and butter. Last year they provided for District 34I the following: 38 surgeries of various kinds; 38 anesthetic procedures; 49 eye exams and glasses; 8 tests of various kinds; 3 radiology procedures and 25% of their funding goes to support the

Mobile Screening Unit. If your Club is not supporting ALSCA, I encourage you to include this in your budget. For those who are, please consider raising your donation and to a few who wholeheartedly support the program please continue to do so. This is our bread and butter and no other activity so closely fulfills our missions as "Helen Keller's Knights of the Blind".

Keep your eyes open for opportunities to form new Clubs. With the Base Realignment and Closing (BRAC) activities in North Alabama we should surely be able to form a new club there as well as expand the membership in the existing clubs in the area. Also keep the new program "Campaign Sight First Two

in mind when you are considering this year's donations and work to get at least one additional Melvin Jones Fellowship over the next two years. This alone will bring \$32,000 to the Campaign from 34I.

We have a lot of work to do in 34I and I am looking forward to working with you to advance our goals in the coming year and to build on those begun by District Governor James Mick to whom we bid farewell.

Thanks to those who have consented to working in my Cabinet and I'm looking forward to working with and visiting you and your Club.

Yours in Lionism,
DG Bud Cook



Radio Show for CSFII

Lion Dr. Nate Parvin, Group Coordinator for CSFII along with National/Multi-National Coordinator PCC Bill Filmore talking about Lions, CSFII and SightFirst one hour radio show held recently on 93.7 FM in Ozark, Alabama.