



Balls For All Update

May 2026

Our MD State Project is into its second year. At the end of the first year, Lions handed out over 300 balls. 300 additional balls have been ordered for 2026-27 year. Contributions from clubs and individual Lions continue to come in. Requests for balls are also continuing to be asked for.

Our partnership with DBVI continues to grow, even beyond children receiving our balls. DBVI Clients are receiving help from Lions so that they can become and remain independent. Most of this help is not financial but instead in the form of friendship and in helping with simple tasks like reading the mail.

Our Balls For All program is now reaching VSDB. Several of their students, young and older have recently received balls on campus. During one event, parents were present and personally thanked us for being a part of their children's activities at VSDB.

My goal is still to find Lions and Clubs to sponsor balls who live in the same area as the child receiving the balls so that there is an opportunity to form bonds with the child and family. It has been truly amazing to hear from both the sponsors and the families after a child receives a ball. Several parents are asking about Lions and the possibility of becoming a Lion in the future.

The biggest “Lesson Learned” over the past two years is getting the word out to Lions about this statewide project. Unfortunately, there are some clubs who are not aware of this project and about the children and families that we are touching with every ball that is given out.

Every ball has a story and every child / family wants to tell us their story. It is amazing to listen to them as they tell us their history, their problems, their goals and their wishes for their children. We can be a small part of their story to help them be unstoppable and successful in the years ahead. I hope that we continue to find ways to reach these children and to be a part of their future.

Chuck Schwab