

GST 24L Cabinet Report Fall Conference 2026

Currently we have a total of 98 Clubs (79 Lions Clubs and 19 Leo Clubs)

The clubs have been very active since the beginning of the 2026-2027 Lions year (2 months) with a total of **481 overall activities** (474 Lions Club Activities & 7 Leo Club Activities) reported in the portal.

Number of Lions Clubs reporting – **42 (53%)**

Number of Leo Clubs reporting – **2 (11%)**

Percentage of all Clubs reporting - **45% (44 clubs)**

Number of people Served – **57,631**

Number of Volunteer Hours – **12,074**

Service Types:

Meetings **144**

Fund Raisers **34**

Donations **59**

Service Projects **237**

Activities in Lions Service Causes:

Childhood Cancer – **3**

Diabetes Awareness – **0**

Disaster Relief – **2**

Environment – **18**

Hunger – **51**

Humanitarian – **85**

Vision Activity – **63**

Youth – **15**

The Club Service Training was held via Zoom on August 22, 2026. The training was recorded and is on the website for those Lions unable to attend the Zoom training. All trainings should be reported to Lion Don Bradley at Donald.john.bradley@gmail.com in order to receive credit for taking the training.

The International President's specific **Weeks of Service** are:

Vision – October 8-18, 2026

Youth – February 13-21, 2027

Environment – May 29 – April 6, 2027

It is important that all clubs report service hours on the Lions Portal as quickly as possible.

Clubs are encouraged to apply for **The Kindness Matters Award**. Applications are due to the District GST by February 28, 2027. The winner will then be sent by the GST to the MD by March 31, 2027. The MD sends the next winner to LCI by April 30, 2027.

The **Peace Poster and Essay** (visually impaired) contest submissions need to be sent to the DG by November 15, 2026.

Clubs are encouraged to participate in the **Bland music competition**. This is a competition unique to Virginia Lions with local Club level competitions progressing up to Zone, then District, then State, where the final competition is held at the State Convention each year.

Special Projects

A Ball for All continues to be a special project for our District. Specially designed lightweight soccer balls with internal bells are distributed to blind and visually impaired children who are able to track the ball and play soccer (or football).

“**Listen-Up!**” initiative continues with fundraising efforts underway. \$66,000 needs to be raised to purchase the hearing screening equipment for the District. 110 Lions have been trained in the use of the OAE hearing testing device and certificates will be given out during the Fall Conference.

Disaster Preparedness - The most valuable thing Lions can do is assist their communities in preparedness. Things one can do - Work with appropriate organizations to lead workshops. Show people how to build Disaster Preparedness Kits. Our District will be putting together a service project specifically to put these kits together and give out to community groups. This Service Project has been tentatively planned for the Winter Conference in January.

Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind (VSDB) Fall Conference Service Project – School supplies are needed, especially plastic water bottles and nice pens for the students attending the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind. There is a public elementary school nearby the VSDB which also needs school supplies, so the supplies gathered will be shared with it. Please consider donating when you attend the Fall Conference on the 19th at Weyer's Cave. There are approximately 120 students who attend the VSDB.

As always, I am proud of Lions and Leos of District 24L and all the service being provided to our communities and globally. We are making a difference in peoples' lives and are living up to the phrase, “Where there's a need, there's a Lion”.

YIS,

Lion Evelyn Marr
District 24L GST

