When Lions see their community members struggling, they feel compelled to make a real difference. In Lowville, N.Y., Lions volunteer at a food pantry that serves up to 300 families each month. In this remote area, many people live below the poverty line. And many do not have transportation to the nearest grocery store, 20 miles away. For these reasons, the town food pantry is a vital part of the community.

The lifeline of the pantry was a passenger van, which was breaking frequently, resulting in costly repairs. Lions need it to travel back and forth to a food bank 90 minutes away, pick up donations, and make deliveries.

Just as the van broke down for the final time, Lions received a nearly US$20,700 Matching grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). With the funds, Lions purchased a cargo van and trailer and now can continue being a dependable part of their community.

Locals are thankful the pantry received this gift. “They help me out a lot when I need it,” said one pantry patron. With the larger cargo space, the pantry can now serve as many as 450 families each month.
Hunger... a Complicated Challenge

Despite global production sufficient to feed the entire population, chronic hunger remains a chronic problem. Political and economic instability, rising food and energy prices, and climate change all contribute to this sad truth: Hunger-related challenges are urgent – even in this part of the world.

1 in 6
U.S. children is food-insecure
14.3M households suffer food insecurity

Nearly 5.5M senior citizens face hunger

Annual cost of hunger/food insecurity:
- US$130.5B in illness
- US$19.2B in poor education outcomes, lower lifetime earnings

THAT’S HERE. GLOBALLY, THE PICTURE LOOKS LIKE THIS:

1 in 9
people is chronically hungry
At least
50% of children
under age 5 have hidden hunger
lack of essential nutrients

2 billion
people lack regular access to nutritious and sufficient food
25% of children are stunted due to lack of nutritious food

14.3M households suffer food insecurity

1 in 9 people is chronically hungry

Chances of food insecurity ~10% higher for women

At least
50% of children
under age 5 have hidden hunger

1 in 6 U.S. children is food-insecure

Nearly 5.5M senior citizens face hunger

Annual cost of hunger/food insecurity:
- US$130.5B in illness
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HUNGER GRANTS support school feeding programs, food banks, feeding centers, etc.
US$10,000 - US$100,000

MATCHING GRANTS fund construction and equipment costs
US$10,000 - US$100,000

DISTRICT AND CLUB COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS apply to local district and club projects
GRANT AMOUNT VARIES

LEO SERVICE GRANTS fund Leo-led projects
US$1,500 - US$5,000

LCIF AND LIONS
Funding Service, Delivering Solutions

Hunger is increasing steadily. LCIF, funding Lions’ global humanitarian work since 1968, is there and part of the solution.

SOURCES/NOTE:
1Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; 2Iowa Food Banking Association; 3Feeding America; 4World Health Organization; 5WhyHunger; 6UNICEF; 7United Nations

LCIF is the grant-making body empowering Lions to create greater impact in their communities and around the world. The vast majority of funding LCIF receives is from Lions; one hundred percent of every donation supports Lions service through LCIF grants and programs. Hunger is just one cause area supported by LCIF and Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service. With financial support from Lions and clubs worldwide, Campaign 100 is empowering Lions to increase service impact in vision, youth, disaster relief, and humanitarian efforts; fight the global epidemic of diabetes; and make important progress in expanded cause areas of childhood cancer, hunger, and the environment.

solutions.lionsclubs.org/donate