1 in 11 adults globally has diabetes

BALANCING DIABETES AND CHILDHOOD

“At camp, I was able to make new friends with kids who have the same disease. With them, I could talk easily about diabetes and didn’t feel so alone with my problems.”

These words of relief are from Thomas, a young teen who attended Lions Diabetes Camp in Austria, an uplifting experience made possible with a Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) grant of nearly US$34,000.

Focused on both diabetes education and letting kids be kids, the camp taught participants how to improve metabolic control, critical for those with diabetes, and provided something equally important — the chance for campers to simply feel like other kids while enjoying swimming, field sports, and other activities. Along with non-clinical and medical staff on hand to measure campers’ blood glucose levels throughout the week were Lions, who helped organize and implement the week-long camp.

Learning to count carbohydrates, calculate insulin doses, and administer injections is the reality for so many with diabetes. But youngsters with the disease deserve carefree childhoods filled with fun. Thanks to LCIF, kids like Thomas in Austria, and those attending Lions Diabetes Camps in other parts of Europe and around the world, can live happier and healthier lives.
A Disease of Epic Proportion

60 million.
That’s the number of people in this part of the world who have diabetes. But that’s just the beginning. Consider these sobering insights into the disease the World Health Organization says is the eighth leading cause of death worldwide:

9.5 million adults in Germany have diabetes
Cases expected by 2030: 10.7 million

In the UK, diabetes complications cause 3.5X more deaths among the poorest than the richest

21.2% of global diabetes expenditure is in Europe
2019 expenditure: US$161.4B
2030 expected expenditure: US$168B

THAT’S HERE.
GLOBALLY, DIABETES LOOKED LIKE THIS IN 2019:

~463 million 20-79-year-olds had diabetes
Cases expected by 2045: 700 million

50% of diabetes cases were undiagnosed

10% of all health expenditure on adults was due to diabetes

374 million people were at increased risk of type 2 diabetes

4.2 million deaths were caused by diabetes

Type 1 diabetes has no known cause nor cure; combatting type 2 diabetes — often caused by poor diet and lack of exercise — requires education and behaviour modification programs. Left untreated, diabetes can lead to blindness, nerve damage, kidney failure, stroke, heart attack, and more.

LCIF AND LIONS
Funding Service, Delivering Solutions
Since 2000, diabetes’ prevalence has risen more than 300%. LCIF and Lions are there, and part of the solution to this global epidemic.

Diabetes 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.

lcif.org/diabetes

SOURCES/NOTE: 1-4,6 International Diabetes Federation; 2,3 World Health Organization; grant limits subject to change