

Students in SEL programs increase academic performance up to 11%¹

EDUCATION FOR A HEALTHIER FUTURE



You know you've done something important when the TODAY show calls to feature you. Merrick Union Free School District has done something very important.

In 2018, New York's state education department made mental health education a required curriculum component. Recognizing the critical importance of the subject for both students and teachers, in 2016 Merrick began offering Lions Quest – Lions Clubs International Foundation's signature social and emotional learning program. When TODAY heard about the district's success with educating students and teachers on stress, peer pressure, bullying, and other impacts on mental well-being – it came calling.

"Lions Quest is invaluable for teaching social emotional skills."

"Social emotional development is as important as academic learning in preparing students for happy, productive, and resilient lives," said Merrick Superintendent Dr. Dominick Palma, who chairs a superintendent subcommittee on mental health and substance abuse issues. "Lions Quest is invaluable for teaching social emotional skills. The lessons are reinforced throughout the school day and apply to daily life."

With newly gained insight, fifth-grader Rachel said, "Lions Quest helps me get along with my classmates well and work as a community."

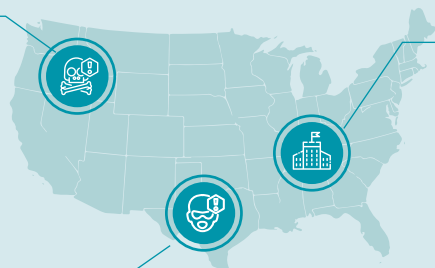


For the Children

During what should be a carefree time of life, many youth face daunting challenges. There is both heartache and hope:

4.300+

Annual deaths caused by
excessive drinking
US\$24B economic impact²



72%

Decrease in school suspensions
due to Lions Quest
in Tennessee⁴

1 in 5

high school students reported
being bullied at school³

THAT'S THIS PART OF THE WORLD. GLOBALLY, THE SITUATION LOOKS LIKE THIS:



1 in 3 students

reports being cyberbullied;
20% report skipping school
because of it or violence⁵

2 in 3 students

in 160 countries worry
about violence in and
around schools⁶



Reading scores
and bullying
are directly correlated⁷



Schools with **positive school
climate practices** like Lions Quest
have lower rates of absenteeism
and bullying⁸

LCIF AND LIONS

lcif.org/youth

Funding Service, Delivering Solutions

Harvard University found students participating in Lions Quest reported improved perceptions of school climate, and physical and emotional safety⁹. For 35 years+, LCIF has funded Lions Quest globally. Our commitment continues.

**LIONS QUEST
PROGRAM GRANTS**
develop/expand
the program

**UP TO
US\$150,000**

**LIONS QUEST
COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIP
GRANTS**
launch/reactivate
the program

**UP TO
US\$15,000**

**LIONS QUEST
PROMOTIONAL
GRANTS**
introduce the program
to a community

**UP TO
US\$1,500**

**DISTRICT AND
CLUB COMMUNITY
IMPACT GRANTS**
apply to local district
and club projects

**GRANT
AMOUNT VARIES**

SOURCES/NOTE: ¹Durlak, J.A., Weissberg, R.P., Dymnicki, A.B., Taylor, R.D., & Schellinger, K. (2011). The impact of enhancing students' social and emotional learning: A meta-analysis of school-based universal interventions. Child Development, 82 (1), 405-432; ^{2,3}Centers for Disease Control; ⁴Laird, M. (2009) An evaluation report of student attitude and behavior changes. A report to the Tennessee Department of Education and Volunteer Tennessee on the Learn and Serve America School-Based Program; ^{5,6,7}UNICEF; ⁸Thapa, A., Cohen, J., Guffey, S., & Higgins-D'Alessandro, A. (2013). A review of school climate research. Review of educational research, 83(3), 357-385; ⁹Jones, S., Kahn, J., Nelson, B., and Temko, S. (2019). "Year 2 Report: A Quasi-Experimental Evaluation of Lions Quest Skills for Adolescence in Two Middle Schools." Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Graduate School of Education; grant limits subject to change



**Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION**

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.

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