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.

“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 impact

72%
Decrease in school suspensions due to Lions Quest in Tennessee

1 in 5
high school students reported being bullied at school

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 violence

2 in 3 students in 160 countries worry about violence in and around schools

Reading scores and bullying are directly correlated

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

LCIF AND LIONS
Funding Service, Delivering Solutions

Harvard University found students participating in Lions Quest reported improved perceptions of school climate, and physical and emotional safety. 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


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.

Youth 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/youth