We see the effects of devastation every day. Sometimes, we live them. Such was the case for 80,000 residents of Fort McMurray, Alberta, who witnessed firsthand unfathomable destruction as a wildfire burned its way through their city, insatiably consuming nearly everything in its path. Where once stood homes, businesses, schools, places of worship, places of play, now lay the charred remains of everyday life.

Recognizing the need to restore their neighbours’ well-being, Lions looked defeat straight in the eye, developing a plan to help rebuild the once-vibrant community. With a US$100,000 Major Catastrophe grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), secured just days after the fire, they built a playground accessible to children with special needs, helping Fort McMurray recover.

“The grant from LCIF made the real difference.”

“Constructing a playground requires more than just back-breaking work. The grant from LCIF made the real difference,” said one Lion serving on the project. “I proudly support Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF so we have money that empowers us to do important work, like restoring Fort McMurray and children’s happiness.”

25.3 million people are displaced each year by disasters¹
Disaster Strikes at Home

That’s Canada. Globally, natural disaster looks like this:

90% of all natural disasters are water-related\(^3\)

25.3 million people are displaced each year by sudden disasters\(^4\)

Annual economic losses are estimated at US$250B–US$300B\(^5\)

LCIF AND LIONS
Funding Service, Delivering Solutions

The past 50 years have seen a 390% increase in natural disasters globally\(^6\). LCIF and Lions have been there. To date, LCIF has awarded US$134 million for disaster relief worldwide through:

**PREPAREDNESS GRANTS**
support preparing for future relief efforts

**UP TO US$10,000**

**EMERGENCY GRANTS**
support immediate and mid-term needs

**US$5,000 - US$10,000**

**COMMUNITY RECOVERY GRANTS**
support short-term cleanup and repair

**UP TO US$20,000**

**MAJOR CATASTROPHE GRANTS**
fund reconstruction after large-scale natural disasters\(^2\)

SOURCES/NOTE: 1, 3, 4, 5 United Nations; 2 for timeline, Government of Canada; 6 International Disaster Database; 7 awarded at discretion of Lions International President and LCIF Chairperson; grant limits subject to change

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.

Disaster relief 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.