

WisconsinLions



WHERE THERE'S A NEED, THERE'S A LION **APRIL 2020** wisconsinlions.org

SPECIAL EDITION WISCONSIN LIONS & COVID-19

photo CDC

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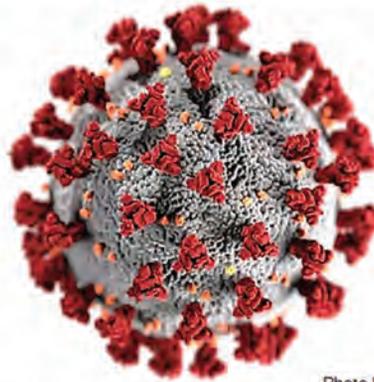


Photo by CDC on Unsplash

News

Contact

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Keeping Lions informed of pertinent information, cancellations and how you can continue your club's activities.

SERVICE IDEAS & QUESTIONS

MD27's Facebook page to capture/share service ideas and answers to your questions.

Like

- [MD27 Lions of Wisconsin](#)

Post

- your questions
- photos & stories of how your club is serving your community
- ideas on how to operate remotely
- etc

ELECTIONS

Multiple District & District Conventions

Plans are being developed & will be communicated as soon as they become available.

Club Officers

In order to ensure a smooth transition & no lapse in service, it is imperative that all Clubs find ways to complete their 2020-21 Officer Elections and report the results by May 15th.

A letter from LCI.

[LCI Elections Communication](#)

Need a tool to run your club's elections? Try this app out.

[Electionrunner](#)

ONLINE MEETING RESOURCES

No Cost Online Meetings

- [Facebook Private Groups](#)
- [Google Hangouts](#)
- [Zoom](#)
- [Go To Meeting](#)
- [Skype](#)
- [WhatsApp](#)
- [WebEx](#) – MD27 Lions of Wisconsin has a subscription – This is a limited resource. Meetings requests will be handled on a first-come-first served basis with priority given to large online events.
- Email webexwi@gmail.com the following:
 - Organizer name & contact information
 - Meeting Title
 - Meeting date
 - Meeting time
 - Meeting duration
 - Attendee Email addresses (used to invite attendees)

No Cost Conference Call

- [FreeConferenceCall.com](#)

ONLINE PAYMENTS

Collect Dues or Payments Online

- [PayPal](#)
- [Venmo](#)

CANCELLATIONS

- MD27 State Convention
- 27-C2 Convention
- 27-E1 Convention
- 27-E2 Convention
- Youth Exchange Summer Program

LATEST COVID-19 INFORMATION

- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)

LCI's response and tips on the Coronavirus. Have you made travel plans to attend the International Convention? Read this.

<https://lionsclubs.org/en/coronavirus>

WISCONSIN LIONS & COVID-19 - by MD27 Editor Jodi Burmester - wisconsinlion@gmail.com or 608-444-9123 - As Lions and human beings, we are all trying to figure out how we can help our family and neighbors during this time of social distancing and cancellations of face-to-face meetings. We have to find new ways to manage our clubs and organize our service, while doing all we can to ensure our own safety. To that end, this special edition of the *Wisconsin Lion* is designed to:

- Update you with the latest information available on how our Wisconsin Lion projects and programs are coping with the immediate challenges of COVID-19.
- Introduce you to online resources you may choose to use to hold meetings, plan service, learn more, etc.
- Additional information and resources to assist you through this crisis.

The information provided here is current at the time of publication, but may well have changed. Resource/Contact information is included with each article, please check the source often for the latest information.

Additionally, a special web page has been created to capture information related to serving through COVID-19. It is being updated regularly, so check <https://www.wisconsinlions.org/covid-19> often for the latest news and updates.

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All inquiries must go to the Advertising/Subscription Office.

Subscriptions: \$10/yr.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS should be submitted to your club secretary for update to your member record; all U.S. mail and email addresses come directly from LCI member records.

STORY SUBMISSIONS

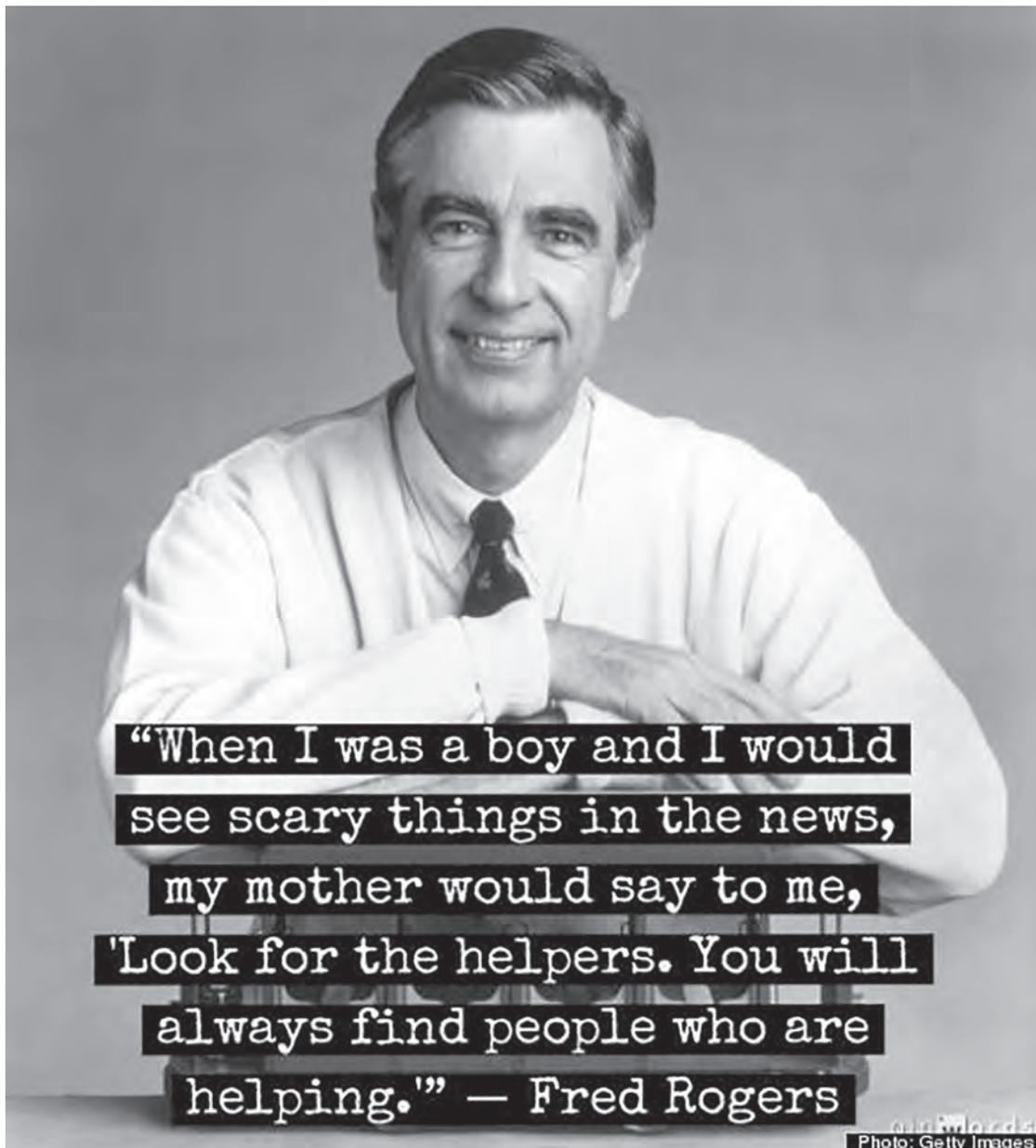
Articles and events, accompanied by photos of Lions in action, should explain the successful completion of a project or fundraising activity. Include the mailing address, daytime phone and e-mail of the person submitting the story. **Submission guidelines at: wisconsinlions.org/wisconsin-lion/**

OUR MISSION

To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs.

OUR VISION

To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service.



Serving During The Crisis

by MD27 Editor Jodi Burmester - wisconsinlion@gmail.com or 608-444-9123

As we all learn to navigate this world of self isolation and social distancing, there are new opportunities to live up to our motto, 'We Serve'.

We have the opportunity to reach out to check on our members and neighbors. Offer to help them with groceries and errands, and/or share a friendly voice that cares.

We have the opportunity to support those restaurants and businesses who have supported our clubs by ordering takeout or buying gift cards for future use.

We have the opportunity to take some of the pressure off parents who are home-schooling their children by

hosting daily live events on our Club Facebook pages to read a book to area kids.

We have the opportunity to make donations to our local food pantries and other organizations that are helping our most needy survive during this crisis.

We have the opportunity to fund LCIF and other Lion charities who need us now, more than ever.

We also have the opportunity to leverage the fact that we are not alone. Globally, Lions are finding creative ways to serve their communities and we can learn from them by connecting through social media. These two Facebook groups in particular offer great ideas on service and club operations:

- [Global Lions Forum](#)
- [Lions Clubs Help and Support Group](#)

Here in Wisconsin, a special COVID-19 web page has been created to capture resources for you to use.

We are also asking clubs to fill the [State Facebook page](#) with photos and stories of how your club is serving your community. To share your stories, first 'Like' [MD27 Lions of Wisconsin](#), then post your photos and stories.

A number of statewide service projects related to COVID-19 are in the works. Details will be shared by email as soon as they are available.

The opportunities to make a difference abound. Now is the time for us to prove, 'Where There's A Need, There's A Lion'.

State Leadership Responds

This message was emailed to every Wisconsin Lion with an email address in MyLCI on March 18th and updated March 20th

COVID-19 (aka the Coronavirus) has impacted all of our lives in ways many of us couldn't even have imagined just a week ago. LCI President Choi's March 17th message to every Lion outlines LCI's recommendations on how we conduct 'business' over the coming weeks.

So far in the Wisconsin Lions' world, we've seen the cancellation of club meetings, events, and fundraisers, summer Youth Exchange Program, along with the 27-C2, 27-D1, 27-E1, 27-E2 and State Conventions.

These cancellations greatly impact operations, not only today, but in the foreseeable future. While none of us know the full impact this will have, we do know that with no revenue coming in from fundraisers, our ability to support causes near and dear to our hearts will be impacted.

Then there are the questions as to how we organize community support, elect/train officers and other vital tasks if we have no face-to-face meetings.

All of these and many more questions will need to be answered in the coming days/weeks. This is uncharted territory for most of us, so I ask you to be patient as Club, District and State leadership assess the situation and work to implement plans.



Dan Eberhardt
MD27 Council Chair
2019-20

One thing for sure is that COVID-19 is causing us all to rethink how we operate and forcing us to consider ways we can use technology to fulfill our duties to our members and communities.

As a State, we will do our best to continue to update you as information becomes available. To that end, we will be using the following tools:

- **Email** will be used to communicate updates to all Lions, Club Officers or other groups as appropriate. Please do not opt out of these messages as they are the only means we have to reach every Wisconsin Lion.
- **Wisconsin Lions and COVID-19 web page** will capture information and resources in one location.
- **MD27 Facebook Page** - like the MD27 Lions of Wisconsin to share your questions, updates, ideas for serving, etc.
- **Wisconsin Lion** - this special edition is dedicated to providing you with additional tools/information.

Above all, please remember that 'Kindness Matters' and we, as Lions, have a the chance to make a difference in our communities during this time of crisis.



MD27 State Convention CANCELLED

The Committee's vision for the future did not include corona-virus, so in the best interest of members and with State and Federal regulations, the April 30th - May 2nd event has been cancelled.

- Room reservations that were made within the block of rooms with the hotel will be cancelled automatically with no action necessary on your part.
- Room reservations that were made OUTSIDE OF THE BLOCK AND BY A 3RD PARTY will need to be cancelled by you or you will be charged.
- Registration fees will be refunded by the Convention Host Committee Treasurer with no action necessary on your part.

Council of Governors Meeting

May 2nd

10 am - 12 pm

WebEx Conference Call

Email invitations will be sent in early April to all COG Members, VDGs & Committee Chairs

Other interested parties should email md27@wisconsinlions.org to receive an invite

COVID-19 Affects On Wisconsin Lions Projects & Programs



LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND

leaderdog.org

888-777-5332 / 248-651-9011

From Leader Dog President and CEO Sue Daniels:

As a member of our Leader Dog community, I wanted to reach out to you personally regarding the steps we are taking to keep our entire community healthy and safe.

We are grateful to everyone who has reached out to send warm wishes during this challenging time. Our thoughts are with those who have been affected by COVID-19. The health and safety of our team members, clients, volunteers, supporters and canines is, as always, our top priority as we join organizations around the nation in responding to the current global health challenge.

Please be assured that we have taken proactive steps to maintain the healthiest possible environment here at Leader Dogs for the Blind in accordance with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

We remain committed to providing world-class services and care to our clients and canines. Currently, we have postponed class dates for all international clients through April 30. Additionally, for the safety of our U.S. clients and team members, our March classes are postponed until April as we assess the changing situation.

You can find a comprehensive update on our current protocols and operations in regards to COVID-19 on the Leader Dog website at leaderdog.org/coronavirus. We will continue to provide regular updates as we navigate this rapidly evolving situation.

Thank you for being a part of the Leader Dog community and for your support. Together we truly do make people unstoppable.



LIONS PRIDE ENDOWMENT FUND (LPEF)

lionspride.org

715-677-7000

Lions Pride has cancelled their April 8th Board Meeting and will determine if they can meet in May based on whether the situation improves or if more restrictions are implemented.

They will also be watching closely as we approach June, to determine if the Pride Shoot that is scheduled for the 13th will be able to be held.

The Office is at this time open for business.



RESTORING HOPE TRANSPLANT HOUSE

restoringhope.org

608-831-1726

From Restoring Hope Transplant House Co-Founder & Executive Director, Lion Cindy Herbst:

During these uncertain times of living through a major pandemic, Restoring Hope Transplant House has never been so grateful for the compassion and generosity of so many Lions Clubs throughout Wisconsin. In a moment in history when many have retreated entirely from daily life, we have seen Lions sensibly and safely find ways to step up and make a difference not only for this House, but for families in need.

Imagine the emotion of running a non-profit during what history may

see 'PROJECTS & PROGRAMS' on p. 5



Business As Usual @ WLF

WISCONSIN LIONS FOUNDATION (WLF)

wlf.info

877-463-6953 / 715-677-4969

All WLF projects are 'business as usual' at this time according to WLF Executive Director Evett Hartvig. She adds that, as usual, information and materials are available for those who need them with a simple call or email to the Foundation Office.

Summer Camping Program Is On - Camp Director Andrea Yenter and her Staff continue preparations for Summer Camp 2020... camper and staff applications continue to be accepted and supplies are being ordered, sessions are being planned and campout menus are being prepared.

Said Yenter, "We will be looking at our camper pre-screening process, cleaning processes and ensuring that we're doing all we can to keep our campers and staff healthy. We are continuing to monitor the situation and will keep people posted on what's happening via our website and Facebook page."

Currently, restrictions on gatherings is affecting the Off Season Rental Program. Groups who were booked

in April and May are cancelling their reservations. However, it's anticipated that the Fall Season will go on as scheduled and the Staff is looking forward to those affected groups rebooking for 2021.

Hartvig also said, "With the cancellation of the State Convention, we will be emailing the Foundation's 2019-2020 Annual Report to all members by June 1st. Those wishing a paper copy must contact the Foundation Office by June 30th. Printed Annual Reports will be mailed mid-July."

At this time, the Birch-Sturm Memorial Golf Outing and Hustle S'More Run/Walk/Bike fundraisers will also be held as planned.

Hartvig and Yenter would like everyone to know how much they appreciate all the support for the Foundation and its projects from Lions throughout the State.

Adds Hartvig, "Thank you for sending in your annual donations, making donations to our wish list and selling our Kids for Camp raffle. We appreciate your dedication to ensuring we can continue to make a difference in the lives of Wisconsin youth and adults."

Projects & Programs cont. from p. 4

declare as the biggest health related disaster of my lifetime and going to the mailbox to find some truly incredible donation checks from Lions Clubs scattered about this great State. I can't tell you how much those moments touch my heart.

After coming off our busiest year ever in 2019, we could have never imagined the impact this out-of-nowhere health scare would have on this House and so many of our transplant families.

This will be a very lean time for guest stays, with everything being scaled back tremendously as the hospital and this House join forces to act in the best interests of the health and well-being of our families.

The shared areas of our House are oftentimes the most therapeutic part of this House for our guests. In the midst of something as serious as Coronavirus, however, it is in our collective best interest to eliminate that risk to this House and our guests. As such, our referrals for new families will undoubtedly take a major hit for the foreseeable future, in addition to the widespread cancellation or use of teleconference of checkups for returning families. It's yet another reminder of the importance of getting Restoring Hope to construction and using the lessons learned during this pandemic to make this House the safest place possible for families in need.

Shortly before the Coronavirus outbreak, we welcomed a Lions Club family from suburban Milwaukee as they received a much-needed double lung transplant. With Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee no longer performing certain transplants, Madison has seen a significant uptick in families from that area. Modest income generated from lengthy stays like theirs really helps to offset so many of our monthly operating expenses. That will be a significant loss. In these drastic days, we are so grateful for so many of you stepping up to fill that void in our time of greatest need.

The day after coronavirus began to bring our country to its knees, my husband, Brian, had one of his regular checkups at UW Hospital for leukemia. It is a very different hospital today than our family and our immune compromised patients have grown



WISCONSIN LIONS RAISE \$25,000 TO FUND BACKPACK WEEKEND FOOD PROGRAM @ PINE RIDGE RESERVATION - Families Working Together Foundation is administering the program and is so thankful for the donations, especially now when more students require more food due to schools being closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. ABOVE: A young man from the Lakota Tribe helping unload fresh produce from the Wisconsin Lions Mission trailer.

accustomed to. The sense of relief you feel when a doctor says everything is ok was quickly subdued with a giant caveat: "You should never leave home. Period."

It was sobering to hear, but something we truly needed to hear so that we can closely monitor our own interactions on a daily basis because of the implications it could have on our loved ones at home.

While heartbroken to have so many recent Lions Conventions canceled throughout Wisconsin, I applaud your efforts to aggressively make those difficult decisions which have undoubtedly helped to keep high risk people healthy. Those were life-changing calls on your part and while I hate to miss those wonderful opportunities to share this House and our many stories, it was the absolute

right decision.

There have been some exciting developments here at Restoring Hope recently as we build towards the future. In spite of COVID-19, we will be here working every day towards moving this House forward. We will take advantage of this time to narrow our focus on the remainder of our expansion and renovation efforts.

These are exciting times for our future, but we could use your help in expanding our circle of influence and support. People within the Lions community and some incredible people from outside of it are stepping up to bring these dreams closer to reality, but we could use your help in expanding that base to help us reach the finish line.

We understand fully that these are challenging days and that we must

limit our social interactions at this time, but I am always available at any hour at 608-831-1726 or restoringhope@tds.net if you have any connections, thoughts or ideas that would help move our efforts towards a successful completion and provide our State with one of the finest resources for diabetics and transplant recipients in the entire country. Please reach out at any time. Together, we will successfully emerge through all of this.

WISCONSIN LIONS MISSIONS

wisconsinlions.org/missions

Plans for the May eyeglass mission to the Pine Ridge Reservation have been cancelled as are all deliveries of donations until this situation clears. The Fall Mission is still planned.

All schools on the Reservation are closed at this time. This has resulted in an increase in food service to students because school lunches are not being provided. The recently completed drive for cash donations that resulted in clubs and individual Lions giving over \$25,000 which at the moment has them in good shape.

YOUTH EXCHANGE



wisconsinlionsyouthexchange.org

Due to the current situation regarding COVID-19, MD27 regretfully announces the cancellation of Wisconsin Lions Youth Exchange Camp Vista for 2020.

Our group cannot guarantee the safety of our international guests, nor our local youth traveling to our partner countries.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

We look forward to welcoming campers in 2021.

Committee members are contacting individuals within their own districts to manage the cancellation.

see 'LEBW & COVID-19' on p. 6

LEBW & COVID-19 cont. from p. 5

LIONS EYE BANK OF
WISCONSIN (LEBW)
lebw.org
877-233-2354

From LEBW CEO, Lion Stacey Troha:

As we continue to monitor the latest updates and information about the global COVID-19 outbreak, LEBW is taking additional measures to ensure business continuity and safeguard the health of our employees, volunteers and all those we serve. Additionally, we are committed to supporting public safety through following the guidance from the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization and local government.

LEBW has taken the following steps:

- Temporarily utilizing Recovery Teams for all local tissue transport
- Monitoring of all regulatory agency recommendations and Eye Bank of America guidelines and adjusting practices to ensure employee, volunteer and tissue are safe
- Limiting access to our facility



to only Lab and Recovery Teams and requiring all other employees to work from home

- Canceling all programs and events at LEBW through April 30, 2020
- Cancelling all employee business travel until further notice
- Implementing staff travel restrictions and rotating staff schedules

We truly appreciate the calls from our Lions Transporters, Lions partners and thank each and every Lion for your volunteerism and financial support.

We anticipate that there will be a backlog of surgeries after virus subsides. We will need extra help when

it is time to return to business as usual.

Please follow all of the hygiene and social distancing recommendations. Please stay home as much as possible.

- Wash your hands with soapy water for at least 20 seconds or use a gel hand sanitizer
- Cover your mouth, ideally with an elbow, when you cough or sneeze.
- Avoid touching your face
- Stay at least 6 feet apart from each other
- Do not attend any group gatherings
- If you are sick, stay home and isolate from family members

We need you. We depend on you. You are currently and will always be, an essential part of the LEBW team. We care deeply about your well-being and will need your participation and support again soon. Please take excellent care of yourself and your families. Please feel free to reach out to me or Stacey Mohr with any questions or concerns. 608-233-2354 extension 212.

We thank you for your continued partnership and support.



**Wash
your
hands
with
soapy
water
for 20
seconds!**

photo by Clay Banks on Unsplash

No Lion Left Behind

Make sure to keep every Lion connected during this crisis.

As Clubs consider implementing technology to communicate & continue operations & service, don't forget Lions that aren't able to participate due to a lack of technology or knowledge.



State Elections Update

The Council of Governors is working with the MD27 Elections Chair to determine how voting on these MD27 Resolutions and other ballot items will be conducted. Election information will be shared with Club Officers as soon as it becomes available.

RESOLUTION 1

PURPOSE: To clarify reimbursement of International Convention expenses for members of the Council of Governors and the Council Chair-Elect.

WHEREAS, MD27 Constitution Article VI, Section 8 states: "The expenses of the members of the State Council to attend the International Convention shall be paid out of the Multiple District Treasury. They shall be reimbursed on the same basis as the District Governor-Elect."; and

WHEREAS, the training sessions for District Governors-Elect (DGE) were revised in 2019 from multiple days before the International Convention to a separate multiple day training session near Chicago in February as well as arriving a day early at the International Convention.; and

WHEREAS, many expenses for the

DGE and their spouse/companion are covered by LCI at the International Convention, including registration, travel (DGE-100%, companion-\$500), lodging, and one day of meals; and

WHEREAS, reimbursing these same expenses for the members of the State Council of Governors could become very expensive if all eligible attended the outgoing International Convention, especially if it is held outside mainland North America; and

WHEREAS, the MD27 Constitution defined reimbursement procedure is not consistent with the current reimbursement practice;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that MD27 Constitution Article VI, Section 8, be replaced in with the following:

Section 8

- a. The stipend for the current Council of Governors and the Council Chair-Elect will be budgeted and approved at the first meeting of the Council of Governors year.
- b. The stipend amount will be per eligible person.
- c. If a Council of Governors

member or the Council Chair-Elect is not attending the International Convention, their budgeted stipend will not be divided among those who are attending.

- d. The stipend amount will be:
 - \$1,000 for International Conventions held in mainland North America.
 - \$1,500 for International Conventions held outside mainland North America.
- e. The Council of Governors may approve advances not to exceed 50% of the amount of the stipend.
- f. No stipend will be paid unless the Council of Governors member or the Council Chair-Elect meet the attendance/participation requirements set forth in the MD27 Policy and Procedure Manual.

Submitted by:

Past District Governor Jim Noll

Approval Recommendations:

- Resolutions, Constitution & Bylaws Committee

- Council of Governors

A two-thirds affirmative vote is required for adoption

RESOLUTION 2

PURPOSE: To update the duties of the Research and Long Range Planning Committee.

WHEREAS, MD27 Bylaws Article II, Section 6, item f states: "The duties shall be as directed by the Council."; and

WHEREAS, further definition of the duties of the Research and Long Range Planning Committee are or may be defined in the MD27 Policy and Procedure Manual;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that MD27 Bylaws Article II, Section 6, item f, be replaced in with the following:

f. The duties shall be as directed by the Council and/or defined in the MD27 Policy and Procedure Manual.

Submitted by:

Past District Governor Jim Noll

Approval Recommendations:

- Resolutions, Constitution &

see 'STATE ELECTIONS' on p. 8

LCI
CONVENTION
WILL NOT
BE HELD IN
SINGAPORE
LCI Board to decide in
early April if & where
LCI Con will be held



lionsaustralia
we serve



State Elections Update cont. from p. 7

- Bylaws Committee
- Council of Governors

A majority affirmative vote is required for adoption

RESOLUTION 3

PURPOSE: To clarify the recipient of committee reports and requests to address the Council of Governors.

WHEREAS, MD27 Bylaws, Article II, Section 7, item e states: “Any Committee Chairperson or any Lion intending to appear at a meeting of the Council of Governors for any purpose shall submit a written report or statement to the Council at least two weeks prior to such meeting.”; and

WHEREAS, the current recipient, “Council”, is vague; and

WHEREAS, the current practice has been to submit reports to the Council Chair and/or State Office personnel;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that MD27 Bylaws Article II, Section 6, item f, be replaced in with the following:

e. Any Committee Chairperson or any Lion intending to appear at a meeting of the Council of Governors for any purpose shall submit a written report or statement to the Council Chair or their designee at least two weeks prior to such meeting.

Submitted by:

Past District Governor Jim Noll

Approval Recommendations:

- Resolutions, Constitution & Bylaws Committee
- Council of Governors

A majority affirmative vote is required for adoption

RESOLUTION 4

PURPOSE: To update the role of person presiding at the close of the Business Session.

WHEREAS, MD27 Bylaws, Article IV, Section 2, item f states: “Balloting - - Voting for all International offices, District Governor, Vice District Governor and Director of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, if not previously elected at a District Convention, and for the selection of the next host cities for the State Convention and the State Bowling Tournament and for any other items that are properly placed on the ballot shall take place following the close of the Convention Business Session, and remain open 45 minutes. The Chairperson of the State Elections Committee shall be the official timekeeper taking note of the time the presiding Governor adjourns the Business Session. It shall be his/her duty to secure all ballot boxes 45 minutes later.”; and

WHEREAS, the person presiding at the Business Session is normally the Council Chair or another member of the Council of Governors;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that MD27 Bylaws, Article IV, Section 2, item f, be replaced in with the following:

f. Balloting - - Voting for all International offices, District Governor, Vice District Governor and Director of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, if not previously elected at a District Convention, and for the selection of the next host cities for the State Convention and the State Bowling Tournament and for any other items that are properly placed on the ballot shall take place at the later of the published time or the adjournment of the Business Session, and remain open 45 minutes. The Chairperson of the State Elections Committee shall be the official timekeeper taking note of the time the presiding Officer adjourns the Business Session. It shall be his/her duty to secure all ballot boxes 45 minutes later.

Submitted by:

Past District Governor Jim Noll

Approval Recommendations:

- Resolutions, Constitution & Bylaws Committee
- Council of Governors

A majority affirmative vote is required for adoption

RESOLUTION 5

PURPOSE: To update the titles for endorsements of International positions.

WHEREAS, MD27 Bylaws, Article V, refers to the position of International Second Vice President; and

WHEREAS, Lions Clubs International Constitution and Bylaws added the position of International Third Vice President“; therefore, be it

Resolved, that MD27 Bylaws, Article V, title, be replaced in with the following:

Multiple District Endorsement Of Candidates For International Director Or International Third Vice President;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that MD27 Bylaws, Article V, item 5, be replaced with the following:

5. The endorsement of the candidate, if any, for International Director or International Third Vice-President, shall be for the period prescribed by Lions Clubs International Constitution and By-Laws.

Submitted by:

Past District Governor Jim Noll

Approval Recommendations:

- Resolutions, Constitution & Bylaws Committee
- Council of Governors

A majority affirmative vote is required for adoption

Support restaurants & businesses that have supported you
Buy gift cards Order takeout



photo by Tim Mossholder on Unsplash

Online Meeting Resources

by MD27 Editor Jodi Burmester - wisconsinlion@gmail.com or 608-444-9123

The COVID-19 pandemic is forcing Lions to look at how we can use technology to conduct meetings and organize service. Unless you are already using technology, like online meetings or video calls, the thought of figuring this out can be daunting.

The [COVID-19 page](#) on [wisconsinlions.org](#) offers links to a number of online meeting resources. This article provides guidance on some of those tools. Please note that this is not intended to be an endorsement of any product or a directive that you must use any of them. Also note that the pros and cons are based on my personal experience.

All that being said, my first piece of advice is to keep it simple. The easier it is to organize and use, the more likely you are to be successful. Second, use the best tool for the job at hand. Third, you will likely need to use a combination of the tools available. Fourth, patience, patience, patience. Not everything will go smoothly and that's okay. Be kind to one another and work through the challenges.

Email - If you are already using email to communicate with your members, can you expand that to conduct business that must be done—approve donations, elect officers and organize service projects?

If you aren't currently using email to communicate, now might be the time to consider it. To get started, your club president or secretary can download your member contact information from MyLCI, then work to fill in any missing phone numbers and email



VIDEO CALLS are a great way to conduct a committee meeting or check in with your members.

addresses.

- Pros - free, easy to set up/operate; most Lions are familiar with email
- Cons - not every member has email or has shared it with Lions; emails in MyLCI are not necessarily current; difficult to conduct discussions

Conference Calls - A standing conference call can be set up in place of your regular club meeting.

Services like [freeconferencecall.com](#) are easy to use and free. One member can create a free account then use USPS mail or email or both to send out the call details.

For small groups, one Lion can place a call to another, then add others into the call. Details on how to do this and the number of people you can include on a call are based on your specific provider.

- Pros - free, easy to set up/operate; every active member has a phone
- Cons - discussions can be overwhelming with so many participants; call quality can be questionable; free services are being overwhelmed by increased use, so it may be hard to dial into or stay on calls

Video Calls - Many Lions are already using video calls through [Facebook](#), [Skype](#), [Facetime](#), [WhatsApp](#), etc. to keep in touch with their families and friends, so why not use a video call for a committee meeting or to check on members.

- Pros - easy to set up and use for those with smart phones; can see participants
- Cons - must have a smart phone and data plan or wifi; must be able to download

and install the app (including permissions)

Video Conference Calls - Whether you use a free service like [Zoom](#) or have access to [Go To Meeting](#) or [WebEx](#), video conferencing software is a great tool for online meetings. Video conference calls allow you to run a meeting and trade off who is presenting. They also keep participants more engaged because they can see each other and participate in discussions. These services also include options for online voting and other tools to help facilitate a meeting.

- Pros - as close to a face-to-face meeting as you can get; can share images, video, screens, etc; all can participate in discussions
- Cons - requires knowledge to set up and one or more members to host; members will need to be educated on how to log in and participate

Facebook Live / Watch Parties

- If you are looking to reach out to the general public, a Facebook Live session might be the answer. Things like raffle drawings, doing a blanket tying service project and other projects can be broadcast on Facebook Live. Your members and others can join the watch party to participate. Ideally, you should use your Club Facebook page to go live from.

- Pros - free, easy to initiate and participate in
- Cons - must have a Facebook account to participate; requires a member to have the technology/knowledge to broadcast; they are indeed live - no do-overs.

It's Vital To Stay Connected

Check with your Club Secretary to make sure your email address & phone # are up to date

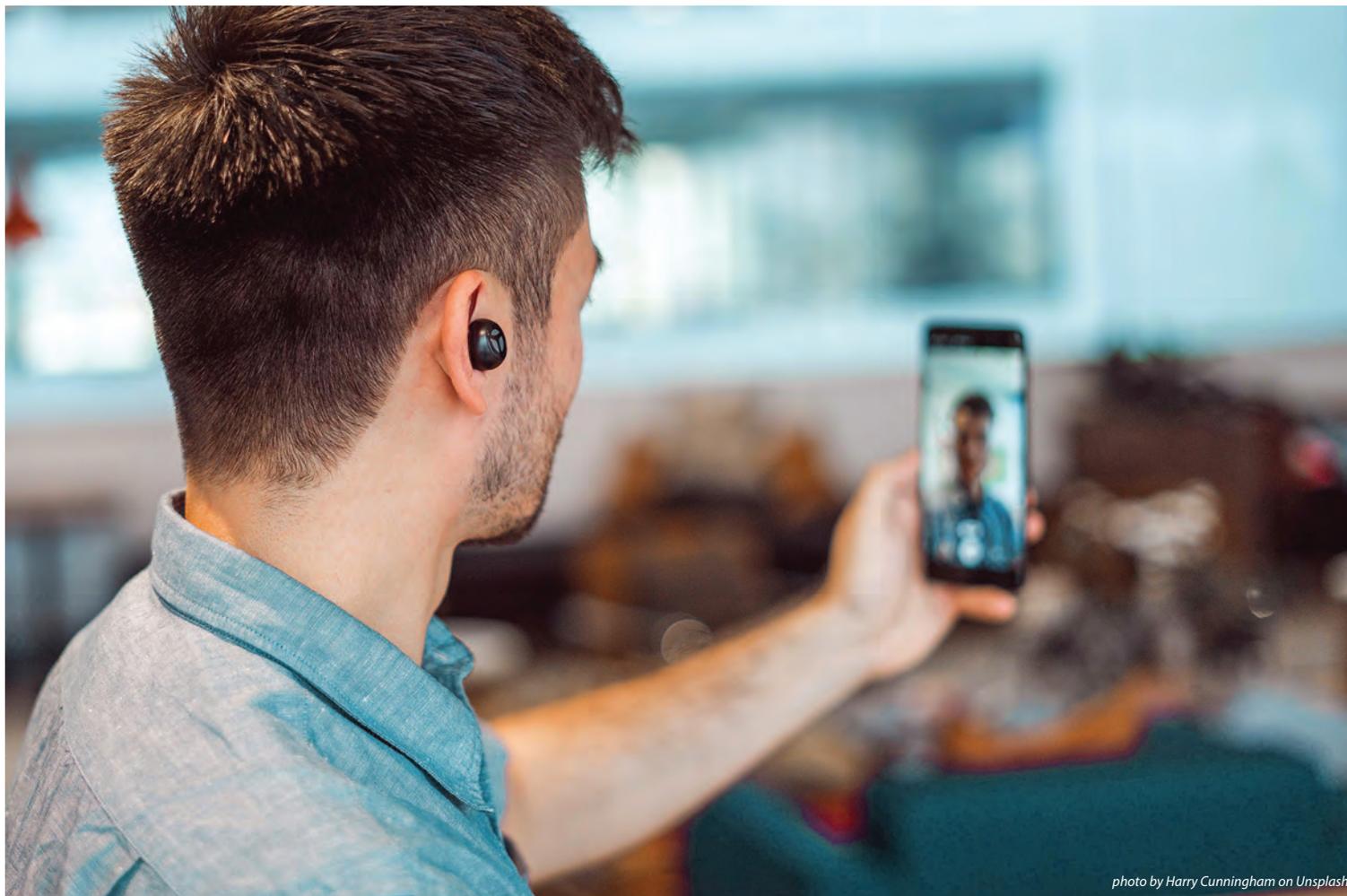


photo by Harry Cunningham on Unsplash

Teleconference Meeting Etiquette

from *dummies.com* a Wiley Brand - by Marty Brounstein, Susan Friedmann, Dirk Zeller

In order for a teleconference to run smoothly, participants must follow certain rules of etiquette while on the call. Follow these guidelines whenever you're involved in a teleconference, and consider distributing them to the participants of any teleconferences you plan (particularly if it's their first teleconference).

Be on time, and stress the importance of being on time to other participants. When someone does arrive late, don't immediately cut into the conversation to introduce the latecomer. Wait until there's a pause, and then simply say, "Sorry for the interruption, but it appears that John Duggan from New York has joined us."

However, you show respect to other participants by letting them know that the CEO of your company has stopped by and is eavesdropping on the conversation, using your speakerphone. You can handle this tactfully with a simple, "It appears that Jim Brown has joined us. Please continue."

Choose a location with little background noise. If some background noise is unavoidable, use the mute button on your phone when you're not speaking. Simply turn off the mute feature when you want to contribute to the conversation.

Select a phone with the handset attached. Cellular and cordless phones often add annoying static to the call. Speakerphones are a pitfall because they pick up a lot of background noise. In addition, when using some speakerphones, you sound as if you're speaking in a tunnel, adding to the remoteness of this communication medium.

Turn off your call waiting. Everyone on the teleconference can hear the beep as someone tries to reach you on another line, which is distracting and annoying.

Identify yourself before speaking. The lack of visual cues makes this practice essential.

Address people by name when you speak to them. Again, because you have no visual cues, if you simply ask a question or make a remark without indicating to whom you're speaking, other participants may have trouble determining who's being addressed.

Direct questions to a specific person instead of posing them to the audience at large. Doing so helps prevent confusion and helps ensure that your question is met with an answer rather than just silence as everyone tries to figure out who is going to respond.

Never, ever put your phone on hold during a teleconference. Doing so forces the participants left on the call to listen to the music your telephone

system plays to those on hold, effectively ruining the discussion. If you absolutely must step away from the call, put the phone on mute and set it on your desk instead.

Do your best to avoid stepping away from the call, because it creates a problem when people try to address you without realizing that you're not there. The most polite thing to do is to let the other participants know that you need to leave the call momentarily. However, you should leave only in an absolute emergency.

About the Book Author

*Marty Brounstein is a consultant and trainer specializing in management, career development, and customer service. He is the author of *Communicating Effectively For Dummies*, among other titles.*

Susan Friedmann (Lake Placid, NY) is President of The Tradeshow Coach, an organization that works with national and international exhibitors planning trade shows and special events.

Dirk Zeller (Bend, OR) is CEO of two nationally known companies, Real Estate Champions and Sales Champions, which specialize in training and coaching sales people in the direct selling industry. He is one of the most published authors in areas of success, life balance, sales training, and business development.



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Our Story

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HOME / LIONS INTERNATIONAL RESPONDING TO THE CORONAVIRUS

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

Responding to the Coronavirus

Lions Clubs International is actively working with our clubs around the world and monitoring the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, which is changing the way we live, work and serve. This Response Center is your central source for news and resources impacting Lions and our efforts to serve the world during this challenging time. Check back frequently for updates since this is a rapidly evolving situation. Let's continue to put our kindness in action by putting the health and safety of our communities first.

Letter from PIP Frank Moore, Executive Administrator & Secretary

emailed to every Lion & Leo March 21, 2020

Dear Lions,

The Illinois State government in USA on Friday announced a stay-at-home order starting at 5 p.m. Saturday through at least April 7, marking Illinois' most aggressive step yet to try to slow the spread of the coronavirus. The measures included the requirement to cease all non-essential services in the state. Lions Clubs International is identified as non-essential. To comply with the state mandate, the Lions Clubs International Headquarters in Oak Brook will be closed at least until April 7, 2020.

While staff will not physically be in the building, staff teams will be working remotely and available during business hours to respond to the needs of Lions. You may [contact LCI staff](#) or [LCIF staff](#) as needed.

Performance of systems may be impacted due to the increased number of people working remotely, and response time may be affected. Some of our business operations that require physical interaction will likely be limited.

More details will be provided early next week, but here is some preliminary guidance:

- For information on district and multiple district conventions, please check our [coronavirus updates webpage](#) after March 24, 2020.
- Regarding payment of outstanding dues, we recommend that districts allow clubs that are able to demonstrate they have sent or submitted payment to participate in voting. This could be via a bank statement, copy of demand draft, etc. Clubs will not be cancelled during this time, based on the challenges related to receiving and processing physical cheques and electronic payments.
- For LCI payments, please utilize online payment options via MyLCI or any other electronic payment method (ACH, SEPA, Boletto, NEFT, etc.) instead of sending checks to the office.
- Please submit [LCIF donations](#) via the website instead of sending checks to the office. Please also note that grant disbursements and recognition will be delayed while the office is closed.
- There will be delays in shipping LCI awards and recognitions, club supplies orders, as well as delays in processing reimbursements.

We appreciate your patience during these extraordinary times and wish for the health and safety of all our Lions and staff around the world.



COVID-19: Protecting Yourself & Others

KNOW HOW IT SPREADS

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).
- The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.
 - Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
 - Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Clean your hands often

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for [people who are at higher risk of getting very sick](#).

TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT OTHERS

Stay home if you're sick

- Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care. [Learn what to do if you are sick](#).

Cover coughs & sneezes

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Wear a facemask if you are sick

- If you are sick: You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then you should do your best to cover your coughs and sneezes, and people who are caring for you should wear a facemask if they enter your room. [Learn what to do if you are sick](#).
- If you are NOT sick: You do not need to wear a facemask unless you are caring for someone who is sick (and they are not able to wear a facemask). Facemasks may be in short supply and they should be saved for caregivers.

Clean & disinfect

- Clean AND disinfect [frequently touched surfaces](#) daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- If surfaces are dirty, clean them: Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

To disinfect:

Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants will work. Use disinfectants appropriate for the surface.

- **Diluted household bleach** - Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser. Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.
 - 1/3rd cup bleach per gallon of water
OR
 - 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water
- **Alcohol solutions** - Ensure solution has at least 70% alcohol.
- **Other common EPA-registered household disinfectants** - Products with [EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens](#) claims are expected to be effective against COVID-19 based on data for harder to kill viruses. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method and contact time, etc.).

SOURCE: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/prepare/prevention.html>



photo by Chinese Explained on Unplash

Are You Okay?

source: [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)

Stress & Coping - The outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) may be stressful for people. Fear and anxiety about a disease can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions in adults and children. Coping with stress will make you, the people you care about, and your community stronger.

Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations. How you respond to the outbreak can depend on your background, the things that make you different from other people, and the community you live in.

People who may respond more strongly to the stress of a crisis include

- Older people and people with chronic diseases who are at higher risk for COVID-19
- Children and teens
- People who are helping with the response to COVID-19, like doctors and other health care providers, or first responders
- People who have mental health conditions including problems with substance use

Feeling overwhelmed with emotions like sadness, depression, or anxiety, or feel like you want to harm yourself or others

— Call 911

— Call 1-800-985-5990 - Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration's Disaster Distress Helpline

— Text TalkWithUs to 66746

— TTY 1-800-846-8517

Stress during an infectious disease outbreak can include

- Fear and worry about your own health and the health of your loved ones
- Changes in sleep or eating patterns
- Difficulty sleeping or concentrating
- Worsening of chronic health problems
- Increased use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs

People with preexisting mental health conditions should continue with their treatment and be aware of new or worsening symptoms. Additional

information can be found at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHS) [website](https://www.samhsa.gov).

Taking care of yourself, your friends, and your family can help you cope with stress. Helping others cope with their stress can also make your community stronger.

Things you can do to support yourself

- Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including social media. Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be upsetting.
- Take care of your body. Take

deep breaths, stretch, or meditate. Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals, exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep, and avoid alcohol and drugs.

- Make time to unwind. Try to do some other activities you enjoy.
- Connect with others. Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling.

Call your healthcare provider if stress gets in the way of your daily activities for several days in a row.

Reduce stress in yourself and others - [Sharing the facts](#) about COVID-19 and understanding the actual risk to yourself and people you care about can make an outbreak less stressful..

When you share accurate information about COVID-19 you can help make people feel less stressed and allow you to connect with them.

More about [taking care of your emotional health](#).

For parents - Children and teens react, in part, on what they see

see 'ARE YOU OKAY' on p. 14

Are You Okay?

cont. from
p. 13

from the adults around them. When parents and caregivers deal with the COVID-19 calmly and confidently, they can provide the best support for their children. Parents can be more reassuring to others around them, especially children, if they are better prepared.

Not all children and teens respond to stress in the same way. Some common changes to watch for include

- Excessive crying or irritation in younger children
- Returning to behaviors they have outgrown (for example, toileting accidents or bedwetting)
- Excessive worry or sadness
- Unhealthy eating or sleeping habits
- Irritability and “acting out” behaviors in teens
- Poor school performance or avoiding school
- Difficulty with attention and concentration
- Avoidance of activities enjoyed in the past
- Unexplained headaches or body pain
- Use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs

There are many things you can do to support your child

Take time to talk with your child or teen about the COVID-19 outbreak. Answer questions and [share facts](#) about COVID-19 in a way that your child or teen can understand.

- Reassure your child or teen that they are safe. Let them know it is ok if they feel upset. Share with them how you deal with your own stress so that they can learn how to cope from you.
- Limit your family’s exposure to news coverage of the event, including social media. Children may misinterpret what they hear and can be frightened about something they do not understand.
- Try to keep up with regular routines. If schools are closed, create a schedule for learning activities and relaxing or fun activities.
- Be a role model. Take breaks,



photo by Dustin Belt on Unsplash

get plenty of sleep, exercise, and eat well. Connect with your friends and family members.

More about [helping children cope](#).

For responders - Responding to COVID-19 can take an emotional toll on you. There are things you can do to reduce secondary traumatic stress (STS) reactions:

- Acknowledge that STS can impact anyone helping families after a traumatic event.
- Learn the symptoms including physical (fatigue, illness) and mental (fear, withdrawal, guilt).
- Allow time for you and your family to recover from responding to the pandemic.
- Create a menu of personal self-care activities that you enjoy,

such as spending time with friends and family, exercising, or reading a book.

- Take a break from media coverage of COVID-19.
- Ask for help if you feel overwhelmed or concerned that COVID-19 is affecting your ability to care for your family and patients as you did before the outbreak.

More [tips for taking care of yourself](#) during emergency response.

For people who have been released from quarantine - Being separated from others if a healthcare provider thinks you may have been exposed to COVID-19 can be stressful, even if you do not get sick. Everyone feels differently after coming out of quarantine. Some feelings include:

- Mixed emotions, including relief after quarantine
- Fear and worry about your own health and the health of your loved ones
- Stress from the experience of monitoring yourself or being monitored by others for signs and symptoms of COVID-19
- Sadness, anger, or frustration because friends or loved ones have unfounded fears of contracting the disease from contact with you, even though you have been determined not to be contagious
- Guilt about not being able to perform normal work or parenting duties during quarantine
- Other emotional or mental health changes

Children may also feel upset or have other strong emotions if they, or someone they know, has been released from quarantine. [You can help your child cope](#).

Resources

For Everyone

- [Coping with a Disaster or Traumatic Event](#)

For Communities

- [Coping with stress during an infectious disease](#)
- [Taking Care of Your Behavioral Health during an Infectious Disease](#)

For Families and Children

- [Helping Children Cope with Emergencies](#)
- [Coping After a Disaster – A Ready Wrigley activity book for children age 3-10](#)

For First Responders

- [Emergency Responders: Tips for taking care of yourself](#)
- [Disaster Technical Assistance Centerexternal icon \(SAMHSA\)](#)

Page last reviewed: March 14, 2020

Source: National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Division of Viral Diseases

WebEx: Alternative To Face-To-Face Meetings

by Wisconsin Lions Public Relation & Lions Information Chair David Stedman - webexwi@gmail.com & IPCC Jodi Burmester

As Lions searching for ways to conduct business and serve their communities without face-to-face meetings, many are turning to conference calls and other online meeting options.

Here in Wisconsin, our State organization has been providing the WebEx teleconferencing for a number of years and is now opening it up to Districts and Clubs to use, too.

To schedule a WebEx...

- Email webexwi@gmail.com the following:
 - Organizer name & contact information
 - Meeting Title
 - Meeting date
 - Meeting time
 - Meeting duration
 - Attendee Email addresses (used to invite attendees)

For Lions without email, the organizer will need to provide the 'Join by Phone' call in information to them.

In the event we have multiple groups trying to schedule WebEx meetings on the same date and time, the following priorities will need to be in place:

1. State Meetings
2. District Meetings
3. Club Meetings

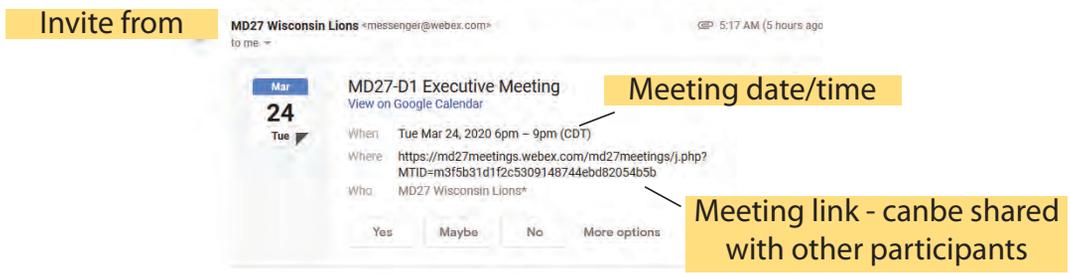
The rest of this page provides additional information that will help attendees log in and participate in your meeting. Keep in mind, that while this information is specific to WebEx, all other online conference calling software has similar features.

Don't forget that teleconferencing will be new to many Lions and may take some extra effort to get everyone connected, so planning a test call may be necessary. The State WebEx Team will do what they can to assist.

Last, and certainly not least, patience from all participants will be required. Even with the proper planning, things may not go as planned. When this happens, take a deep breath and carry on.

Sample WebEx Meeting Invite Email

Webex meeting invitation: MD27-D1 Executive Meeting **Invite email subject**



MD27 Wisconsin Lions invites you to join this Webex meeting.

Meeting number (access code): 965 221 181 **Login info**
Meeting password: pAu8RbJaq82

Tuesday, March 24, 2020
6:00 pm | (UTC-05:00) Central Time (US & Canada) | 3 hrs **Meeting date/time**

[Join meeting](#) **Click Here when it's time to join the meeting**

Join by phone
Tap to call in from a mobile device (attendees only)
+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll
Global call-in numbers
Call in # - will need login info from above to participate

Join from a video system or application
Dial 965221181@md27meetings.webex.com
You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.
Alternative ways to join the conference call

Join using Microsoft Lync or Microsoft Skype for Business
Dial 965221181.md27meetings@lync.webex.com

Sample WebEx Call Screen

