



USA Canada Lions Virtual Leadership Experience

August 15, 2020 Newsletter

Registration is OPEN for the USA Canada Lions Virtual Leadership Experience

Just click [here](#) to register

Racing into the Future with Kindness and Diversity

From Our General Chair, PID Harvey Whitley

The response to our Lions Virtual Leadership Experience has been tremendous. Early registration has been strong and as word spreads, we expect even more will jump onboard to enjoy the leadership learning opportunities that we are offering.

We are all disappointed that we could not bring you a live and in-person experience in Louisville this year. Life teaches us, though, that anytime we suffer a setback or disappointment we should put our heads down and plow ahead. That is what your Forum Planning Committee has done as we have put together this virtual leadership experience for you.

This virtual experience is for everyone at all levels. It is not just for current or past leaders, but for every Lion regardless of experience. Some have told me on Facebook that they are not comfortable attending a conference on the computer. I tell them that if you can do Facebook, you can do the virtual experience. Please encourage all of your club Lions to participate.

A recent informal survey within the zone where my Lions club is located showed that over 80% of the clubs were still able to perform service activities in their communities even during this pandemic time. In many cases, clubs have had to adapt to different circumstances to deliver, but they have been successful in continuing to meet the needs of those we serve. We are continuing to serve which is what we are all about; but there is one more thing that many of us miss the most from our Lions experiences. Many of us miss not being able to fully meet together as a large group and enjoy the social aspect of being a Lion. When you speak to those who have attended previous Forums, most will tell you of the fun times they had in addition to the great learning experience.

Virtual learning is a good thing, but being together to learn not only from the seminars but from each other is even better. We look forward to the time when we can once again meet together at our next Forum in Des Moines in September 2021.

PID Harvey Whitley

General Chairperson





Anticipating the Virtual Experience

The anticipation is building as we prepare for the **"USA Canada Lions Virtual Leadership Experience: Racing into the Future with Kindness and Diversity."** For a mere \$20, you have the opportunity to select from 19 educational seminars, be inspired and motivated by our keynote speakers and get a sneak peek at next year's venue!

Certainly, the buzz this year centers around the North American Membership Initiative, NAMI. So, VPs Doug Alexander, Brian Sheehan and Dr. Patti Hill with PID Jerome Thompson and PCC Ron Seybold will encourage us with success stories from the nine NAMI pilot districts. Learn the keys to build success!

In addition, we will highlight our two new global causes: childhood cancer and diabetes as Four Diamonds and City of Hope share promising research information, provide educational materials to share with our communities and recommend ways to form partnerships within our communities and districts.

Is your community interested in chartering a Leo Club? If so, tune in as PCC Mahesh Chitnis and his son LEO Ojas relate their success in chartering Leo Clubs in various communities with diverse cultures. Although clubs on the college campus can be extremely challenging, Lions Paul Baker and Brett Rosenblum have tips on how to avoid the major obstacles.

Are your Zone Meetings exhilarating? If not, Lion Barbara Thompson has the perfect make-over solution for you. How about that member who just "rubs you (and the other club members) the wrong way?" Well, PID Ed Farrington will offer some diverse, but kind, ways to deal with these contentious members.

Have you heard of the Young Lions Task Force? If not, you will want to hear Lion Jordan Glass Williams share how this diverse group of young Lions can help increase membership within this age group. Furthermore, if you've never attended a seminar led by Daniel Marney Elkins, you will definitely want to catch the excitement as he discusses ways to bridge the generation gap.

While you may be familiar with the names of PIPs Joe Wroblewski, Judge Brian Stevenson and PID Lacy Presnell, you may not realize that they each have a wonderful sense of humor that VP Brian will elicit as these leaders reminisce on how the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum began.

Of course, our general sessions will include messages from our International President Dr. Jung Yul Choi and LCIF Chairperson PIP Gudrun Yngvadottir, and our two keynote speakers, Katherine Greenland and Striker Corbin. Be prepared to be inspired, motivated, and empowered to serve our communities in more diverse ways.

There is so much more, including updates on Campaign 100, LCIF Grants, how to avoid legal problems and MyLion improvements. Register today so you won't miss out on this sensational virtual experience to **"Race into the Future with Kindness and Diversity."**

Thank You, Presenters

The USA Canada Lions Virtual Leadership Experience would not be a reality without the efforts of our presenters. Please join the Forum Planning Committee in extending a huge LIONS' THANK YOU to these leaders who are willing to share their time, knowledge and expertise.

PID Jerome Thompson

PID Sangeeta Jatia

PIP Joe Preston

PID Ed Farrington

Lion Ron Seybold

Lion Barbara Thompson

City of Hope

PID A.P. Singh

LCI Staff Sarah Levy

LCI Staff Jayaram Balachander

Lions Paul Baker and Brett Rosenblum

PIP Judge Brian Stevenson

PCC Mahesh Chitnis and Leo Ojas Chitnis

PID Lacy Presnell

VDG Daniel Marney Elkins

Lion Jordan Glass Williams

Lion Malcolm Kirwin

VPs Doug Alexander, Brian Sheehan and Dr. Patti Hill



Event Schedule



FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2020

8:00-9:10 PM Eastern Time GENERAL SESSION

Welcome/Intros General Chair Harvey Whitley
Tribute to VP Haynes Townsend
Katherine Greenland: KEYNOTE

9:10-9:15 PM Eastern Time BREAK

9:15-10:00 PM Eastern time PLEASE CHOOSE ONE

NAMI-What's All the Buzz about Kindness and Diversity?

LCI Digital Programs

Diverse Projects and Activities to Engage Women and Families

How to Successfully Sponsor Clubs on Campus

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

11:00-Noon Eastern Time GENERAL SESSION

International President Dr. Chung-Yul Choi
International Director Justin Faber
LCIF Chairperson Gudrun Yngvadottir and KaSondra Byrd

Noon-12:15 PM Eastern time BREAK

12:15-2:00 PM Childhood Cancer Symposium

For those not participating in the Symposium, please choose one.

12:15-1:00 PM Eastern Time PLEASE CHOOSE ONE

NAMI-Individual District Enhancement Plans

Dealing Kindly with Contentious Member

Campaign 100

How to Start a Leo Club Where Diversity and Kindness Matter

1:00-1:15 PM Eastern time BREAK

1:15-2:00 PM Eastern Time PLEASE CHOOSE ONE

NAMI-Building Success through Kindness

Reflections from Our Founding Fathers

Zone Meetings: Secrets of Success

How Do We Approach the Younger Generation?

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

2:30-3:00 PM Eastern Time GENERAL SESSION
Sponsors and Recognition of NAMI Pilot Districts

3:00-3:45 PM Eastern Time PLEASE CHOOSE ONE

Faces of Diabetes Innovation: Racing Toward a Cure

Young Lions Diverse Leadership Skills Contribute to a Successful Future

Attracting and Retaining Great Lions through Diversity

Debunking the Membership Myth

Legal Issues

3:45-4:00 PM Eastern time BREAK

4:00-5:30 PM Eastern Time CLOSING SESSION

Striker Corbin: KEYNOTE
Thank you General Chairperson Harvey Whitley
Racing Ahead to Des Moines PDG Wendy Cain, PCC Jerry Inman,
and the Catch Des Moines Team

It's so easy to register. Just click [here](#).

Follow us on . . .





Lions University

Year-Round Training Provided by the
USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum



LIONS UNIVERSITY—RACING INTO THE FUTURE

There have been many questions about Lions University Graduation due to the cancellation of the Louisville Forum. The Lions University Team has been working diligently to come up with a plan that would allow participants the opportunity to graduate.

Any participant who has completed a program and has attended the required Forums before Louisville will be listed on a rotating slide show during the Virtual Forum. We are hoping to have a Lions University Room that will run this graduation list during the weekend event.

Participants who needed the Louisville Forum to graduate from any of the programs must make sure they sign up and participate in the 2020 Virtual Leadership Experience. Our team is currently working on a plan that will allow participants to take a test, on the Lion University website, after the close of the Virtual Forum. This test will be comprised of questions developed from the different sessions of the Virtual Forum and will be available after the close of the Forum and only be available for two weeks. There will also be a required number of points generated from attending the session, too. We are still working on this and will provide more information as we finalize the requirements.

All graduates will have their certificates, in .PDF format, emailed to them by the end of October. Due to the cost involved we will not be able to mail certificates and pins but will make them available at the Des Moines Forum. Participants can pick them up there or have someone from their multiple districts pick them up. We look forward to more learning.

Gary Steele, Past Council Chair, MD31

Lions University Graduation Highlights—2019



It's easy to register.

Just click [here](#) and
you're there. . . .

