

Families come in all shapes and sizes. Volunteering and serving helps build confidence and a sense of self-satisfaction in people of all ages, instilling key values such as the importance of giving back, compassion and kindness. Lions Clubs International has a family membership type that applies to family members who are:

- Eligible for Lions membership
- · Currently in or joining the same club
- Living in the same household and related by birth, marriage or other legal relationship

## Why include families in a Lions club?

- Your club benefits by increasing its membership and attracting younger members.
- Your members benefit by the infusion of new, enthusiastic members, different service activities and a fresh direction for your club.
- Adult family members benefit by having a volunteer activity that fits their lifestyles and needs for flexibility and offers them more opportunities to spend time with their families.
- Younger family members benefit by being exposed to the joy of volunteering at a young age and can begin to learn the importance of helping those in need.

- The family benefits by spending more time together and sharing the volunteer experience.
- Your community benefits by having more members involved in activities that help meet community needs.
- Lions Clubs International benefits by the legacy of volunteerism being creating through family-centered Lions clubs, which can help grow Leo clubs well into the future.
- Family Cub program and Leo club program benefits by gaining more exposure to these younger audiences through the family program.

## First steps in implementing family membership

To successfully implement the family-friendly club concept, you need the acceptance and enthusiasm of your entire club's membership. Before proceeding, make sure you thoroughly understand and are prepared to make the changes necessary to welcome families into your Lions club. If you are prepared to include families in your club, you may want to explore the <u>Just Ask Guide</u> to help with membership recruitment.

## **Bring the kids**

The Cub Program promoted clubs to be more family friendly. Created for children under 12 to teach children the importance of volunteering. The program is marketed to clubs with the following incentives: A Cub program can help your club grow by encouraging members to get their kids involved, opening the door for people who might not otherwise join because of family obligations. Bring families closer by giving an opportunity for families to spend time together while doing good for the community. Teach children the value of helping others by introducing children to the joys of volunteering and lead them toward a future of helping people in need. You can find more information on the Cub program, as well as the *Lions Family Cub Program Activity Guide*, at **lionsclubs.org/en/family-membership.** 

For more information on the Family Membership program, contact membership@lionsclubs.org