

# Lions International Youth Exchange Report

## Distinct 27-D1 Cabinet Meeting – January 30th, 2022

As we mentioned in our October committee report with the slowdown of Covid-19 at that time, we anticipated and began planning for a relatively typical Wisconsin Lions Youth Camp & Exchange program for the upcoming year. Now, with the addition of a new Covid Variant that the world is reacting to, we are altering our plans but **ARE STILL MOVING FORWARD WITH A MODIFIED PROGRAM.**

### Our plans may continue to be adjusted as needed, but currently this is a brief summary of our 2022 program.

- We are accepting youth from any countries still wishing to participate.
- We are offering a host family experience and encouraging “group hosting”, where pairs of youth will rotate through two or three host families during their visit, so youth visiting Wisconsin for a month might stay with each family for up to 10-15 days.
- The State Youth Committee and individual districts will plan activities where host families and visiting youth can all participate together, for example, a day at Dells Water Park or a canoe trip down the Wisconsin River. The State Committee will finance those activities.
- A Mini camp experience where we will rent a large cabin at Camp Vista and hold a shortened (long weekend) versions of our typical youth camp.
- All participants, including host families, must be fully vaccinated.

We currently have 11 international youth applications from 8 countries.

### Outgoing Wisconsin Youth

We currently have TWO Wisconsin Youth that have applied to participate in an International Youth Exchange Program.

Dylan Thomas – Poland – Sponsored by the Token Creek Lions Club (district D2)  
Youth #2 – Poland – Sponsored by the West Allis Lions Club (district A1)

### Family Hosting

As mentioned above, we are offering our visiting youth a family hosting experience and are currently seeking families interested in hosting one or two (preferred) youth for 10 to 15 days during a time frame yet to be established, but the estimated dates are ~July 9 – August 9.

**Fundraising** We are currently soliciting funds from our district Lions and Lioness clubs to finance this year’s program. Funds collected are used to pay our districts’ share of the Youth Exchange camp-related fees; youth exchange scholarships, host family stipends & other direct expenses. All the funds collected are used only for direct youth exchange related costs. There are no indirect fees; all individuals involved in this program are volunteers including camp counselor & all support staff.

### Finances/Budget

Due to covid related camp cancelations we have a significant carryover from previous years  
2021-22 Donations - \$1096

**TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCE – \$8718.26** (includes already paid \$1700\* State Committee Donation)

### **Projected Expenses: ~\$3050**

- \*Camp fee - \$1700 (paid by each of the 10 state Lions Districts) **NO INCREASE!**
- Scholarships - \$500 x 1 = \$500 (the scholarship amount is determined by # of applications & available funds)
- Host family support \$800
- Table at International Festival \$50.00

There are currently 2 volunteers on the district 27-D1 youth exchange committee: Crystal Riniker – Hazel Green and **Ben August** – Token Creek.

**We are looking for another volunteer for our committee.** If you enjoy working with youth and would like to learn about this awesome program that satisfies the **third objective** of the Lions **“To create and foster a spirit of understanding among peoples of the world”** **Please contact me ASAP**

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