

## **TEXAS LIONS FOUNDATION PROVIDES HELP TO THE NEEDY**

The Texas Lions Foundation (TLF) is an organization owned and operated by all of the Lions of Texas through a Board of Trustees representing the sixteen Lions Districts in Texas. The Foundation was established in 1984 as a public; non-profit, tax-exempt corporation, and its purpose is to promote human welfare by careful application of contributed funds.

The Texas Lions Foundation concentrates its efforts in two areas; humanitarian services and disaster relief. The Foundation strives to support projects that, while falling into one of these two categories, also have long-term and far reaching effects, and to promote the objectives of Lionism. Projects are favored that provide benefits to as many people as possible.

Emergency grants are limited to \$2000 and can be issued immediately upon receipt of a Grant Application Form from the District Governor or Trustee to Executive Director PID Edwin H. Flood. Humanitarian service grants can be issued in support of a broad range of projects designed to fill diverse needs. There is no limit on the amount, but the grant must be approved by the trustees at one of their scheduled meetings. Grant Application forms are available and can be forwarded by the District Governor or Trustee to the Executive Director for consideration by the Board of Trustees.

During the 15 years of operation over 50 grants totaling in excess of \$100,000 have been issued by the Foundation. Some example of Emergency Grants include tornado relief in the De Kalb area; Beaumont area; Caldwell and Midland, plus flood relief in several cities in South Texas following the floods in 1998. Humanitarian grants have been awarded for a Diabetic Research program involving the youths attending Texas Lions Camp; a Clinical Symposium to help Diabetic Renal patients; and the Texas Eyeglass Recycling Center. All grants are issued for activities in Texas only, with no funds disbursed for any cause outside of Texas.

At the present time, the corpus fund has exceeded one million dollars, which includes monies from 100% Lions Club contributions, Texas Lion Fellow awards, Sustaining Member Awards and memorials. Only the income from these investments is used for humanitarian grants and disaster relief.

A program regarding the Texas Lions Foundation is available for presentation to a Lions Club, Zone or District meeting. Arrangements may be made by contacting your District Trustee whose name is listed in your District Directory of which each Club President has a copy