

District 33K Mid-Winter Conference

February 13 – 15, 2026



Business Reports

District Governor's Mid-Winter Report

District 33-K – Mid-Winter Conference

DG Anthony Baliola

Lions Year 2025–2026

Fellow Lions, Leos, distinguished guests, and friends,

Good morning, and thank you for being here for our 2026 District 33-K Mid-Winter Conference.

As your District Governor, it is truly an honor to stand before you and share an update on our district's progress so far this Lions year.

My theme this year is "Keys to Service."

Each of you holds a key — a key to leadership, a key to compassion, a key to service, and a key to inspiring others. Together, those keys open doors for our communities and for the future of Lionism in District 33-K.

This year, our work is also guided by the message of our International President, A. P. Singh, whose theme is "Lead to Serve and Serve to Lead."

That message truly reflects who we are as Lions. Leadership is not about position or title — it is about service. And through service, we grow as leaders. In District 33-K, we live this every day as we open doors to new opportunities, new leaders, and new ways to serve — guided by our shared commitment to Lead to Serve and Serve to Lead.

District 33-K continues to demonstrate that service is our greatest strength.

Our clubs remain highly active across all our global causes, with a strong focus on:

- Hunger and food insecurity
- Childhood Cancer
- Mental health and well-being
- Vision and blindness prevention
- Youth and community engagement
- Environmental initiatives

I am also very proud of the strong participation of our clubs in the Lions International Weeks of Service.

In November, clubs across District 33-K came together to support the International Week of Service for Mental Health and Well-Being. Just last month, our clubs once again showed their commitment during the International Week of Service for Hunger, addressing food insecurity in our communities through meaningful projects and partnerships.

Looking ahead, I am excited that our district is already preparing to take part in the International Week of Service for the Environment this coming April, continuing our commitment to serve through action and impact across all of Lions' global causes.

These collective efforts truly reflect the power of unity in service and the spirit of our theme, Keys to Service.

As of this Mid-Winter reporting period, District 33-K has recorded:

- 1,119 service activities
- 560,723 people served
- 23,514 volunteer hours
- 53% of our clubs reporting service activities

These numbers clearly reflect the incredible commitment of our Lions to serving their communities.

At the same time, only 53% of our clubs are currently reporting, which tells us that our true impact is even greater than what is shown. I strongly encourage every club to report your service projects regularly. Reporting allows us to tell our story, demonstrate our impact, strengthen our district, and show the true power of our collective Keys to Service.

Every project matters, Every hour matters, Every person served matters.

Reporting our service activities remains essential.

When clubs report their activities:

- Our impact is visible
- Our district gains recognition
- Our global service story is strengthened

I encourage every club to continue submitting timely service and membership reports.

Your stories deserve to be told.

Membership growth remains a key priority for our district and directly supports our commitment to Mission 1.5.

As of February 2026, District 33-K has a total membership of 1,416 Lions.

During this fiscal year, we have welcomed 74 new members and experienced 80 member drops, resulting in a net change of -6 members, or -0.42%.

Compared to the same time last year, our membership now stands at 1,416, compared to 1,454 at this point last year.

We continue to:

- Focus on new member recruitment
- Support club revitalization efforts
- Encourage meaningful engagement and retention

I am very encouraged by the energy around new club development and by clubs that are actively opening their doors to new members and new ideas.

While these numbers remind us that retention and leadership recruitment remain real challenges, they also highlight an important opportunity. We continue to see new members joining our clubs, and we are actively supporting club revitalization and new club development across the district.

Membership is not just about numbers — it is about people, leadership development, and ensuring our ability to serve for generations to come.

Leadership development remains a critical part of our success.

Through our Global Action Team and our dedicated Zone and Region Chairs, we continue to:

- Encourage leadership at the club level
- Support new and emerging leaders
- Promote training and mentorship opportunities

Strong clubs are built on confident and supported leaders.

Thank you to everyone who has stepped forward to serve in leadership roles this year.

Our district continues to support Lions Clubs International Foundation and its mission to serve communities locally and globally.

Your generosity through individual and club donations allows us to:

- Support disaster relief
- Fund humanitarian projects
- Strengthen service programs worldwide

LCIF truly extends our reach beyond District 33-K, and I sincerely thank every Lion and every club for their continued support.

In addition to our strong support of LCIF, our district remains committed to the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, MLERF.

MLERF plays a vital role in supporting vision research, advancing treatment, and strengthening partnerships with leading medical and research institutions right here in Massachusetts.

Through your continued generosity and support, District 33-K is helping invest in innovation, education, and discovery that directly benefit our communities and strengthen Lions' historic commitment to vision.

Thank you to our clubs and members who continue to make MLERF a priority and who proudly support this important part of our Lions legacy.

Like many districts, we continue to face challenges, particularly in:

- Leadership recruitment
- Volunteer capacity
- Encouraging more members to step into district and club leadership roles

However, I strongly believe these challenges represent opportunity.

There are many talented Lions in our district who simply need encouragement, mentorship, and a welcoming invitation to lead.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to:

- Our Zone and Region Chairs
- The Global Action Team
- Our cabinet officers
- Our committee chairs
- Our past district governors
- And most importantly, our club presidents and club officers

Your commitment, flexibility, and teamwork make everything we accomplish possible.

Fellow Lions, District 33-K is a strong district because of you.

As we continue through the second half of this Lions year, I ask each of you to keep using your Keys to Service — to open new doors for leadership, for membership growth, and for greater service in your communities.

Together, let us continue to lead with compassion, serve with purpose, and build a future that we can all be proud of.

Thank you for your service, your dedication, and your belief in Lionism.

As your Second Vice District Governor this year, I engaged with many clubs, seeing dedication and creativity everywhere. I was consistently inspired by the innovative approaches each club demonstrated in addressing community needs. By connecting with these clubs, I gained valuable insights and the importance of fostering a collaborative spirit across our district.

In addition to connecting with clubs and encouraging collaboration, I actively participated in various district events and projects throughout the year. I attended leadership training sessions, contributed to planning community service projects, and supported fundraising activities that benefited both local causes and our broader mission. My involvement also included mentoring new club officers, helping develop service strategies, and representing our district at advisories and cabinet meetings. These experiences gave me a deeper understanding of our organization and enabled me to make a meaningful contribution to the Lions' goals.

I am excited to continue this journey by visiting even more club meetings and joining you at your social events and service projects. My commitment to supporting you remains strong—please feel free to reach out if you need assistance or would like to discuss a new idea. I am here to help and collaborate with you!

Yours in Service,
Christine M. Cedrone
2nd Vice District Governor

2026

33K GMT Report

Mid Winter February

Your GMT Committee continues to work alongside our Lions leaders, clubs and all members, to promote Lionism in our corner of the world.

Membership growth requires a multiprong approach, including retention, education, and recruitment. Recognizing the hard work in recruiting new members, we try to engage our existing membership through engagement, working with our GLT and GST, utilizing service projects and leadership opportunities, to keep our Lions motivated. The ongoing Eyeglass Recycling events combine recruitment, engagement, service and fun. Besides aligning with one of our signature missions, they encourage camaraderie and are an informal setting for the exchange of ideas.

The GMT provides guidance and support to each club, helping them to maintain and grow their membership. We have District Trifolds, LCI handout materials, and as many membership applications as you may need. We encourage clubs to reach out to us, and we will do our best to assist. This includes requests for Guiding Lions, which are ultimately assigned to you by the District Governor. We are also able to apply for funding to reimburse you for some membership spending from grant monies held by our multiple district GMT.

The GET and GMT committees continue to work together to initiate club branches and new clubs. Thanks to the dedication of a small group of Lions, we are close to launching a new club with the Perkins School for the Blind. This is the fruition of a long-term dream for some and an organized effort over a year by a small group of Lions. Other dedicated Lions are working on club branches and rebuilds. Club branches enable small new groups to enter the world of Lions, while connected to existing clubs. All of this takes time and

effort. Please contact us if you would like to get involved, as we need teams for each branch, rebuild and new club.

Let's remember that membership is not about a few people or a committee; rather, it is the job of each and every Lion to grow our numbers. Now, more than ever, our communities and nations worldwide need our support, to help the underserved and disadvantaged; to reach those who need our help.

Thank you all for what you give of yourself as Lions.

Respectfully submitted,

PRC Holly Dono

GMT Chair Districtr 33K

2025-2026 Youth Speech Committee Report

Mid-Winter Convention

February 14, 2026

To: DG Anthony Baliola, 33K Cabinet Officers, and other interested parties

It is an honor to be able to submit this report in my fifth year as District 33K Youth Speech Chair. It is also an honor to serve on the state Youth Speech Chair during this 43nd consecutive year of Massachusetts Lions sponsorship of this program.

This year's topic is ***What Can Past America teach Future America?*** Fifteen (15) clubs tried to recruit a student, but only 11 were successful in selecting a student beyond the Club level. The fifteen clubs represent an increase of one club over last year, while the 11 clubs actually sponsoring a student fell by 3. The Stow Lions held their first Club level competition since I became District Chair. This year's clubs that sponsored a student at the Zone level are:

- **Zone 3** – Boston Chinatown
- **Zone 4** – Quincy, Weymouth
- **Zone 5** - Blackstone, Walpole
- **Zone 7** – Ashland
- **Zone 8** – Hopkinton, Stow
- **Zone 9** – Holliston, Medfield, Millis

In addition, the clubs listed below tried to participate but were unable to find an interested student to sponsor for various reasons: Waltham, Framingham, Marlboro, and Medford. I hope to work with these clubs next year to start recruiting students earlier and increase their chances of success.

I have been collecting participation statistics across District 33K to track the growth of the program. In addition to Club level participation discussed above:

- Twelve (12) schools had at least one student write a speech and participate in the competition. The schools are a mixture of public and private high schools. This is the same as last year.
- One hundred forty-four (144) students wrote a speech and delivered it during a competition at some level. This is a decrease of 19 students (12%) compared to last year. In general, it seems that this year's topic was less popular with students across the district, although my colleagues on the State Committee did not see the same issue.

As reported earlier, 6 of our 9 Zones had Clubs sponsor a student to the Zone level. Rather than have additional competitions to reduce the number of students to 5, DG Anthony and I decided to have 1 student from each participating Zone compete this afternoon at this convention. Thank you to Zone Chairs Dan Johnson, Steve Levy, Betty Harris, and CST Jennifer Menelly for organizing those competitions.

Thank you to all the Club Speech Chairs and Zone chairs who helped me keep track of which clubs were in, out, or trying to get in. Thank you to all the Speech Sponsors who donated to the program to provide prize money at the Zone, District, and State levels.

Please join me in the Grace Ballroom to hear the 6 students vying to be the District 33K champion and represent us at the State competition in April.

Finally, the topic for the 2026-2027 competition will be ***The Book That Most Affected Me Was...***

Oratorically Yours,

Steve Small
District 33K Chair
Massachusetts Lions Youth Speech Competition

DISTRICT 33K COATS FOR KIDS CAMPAIGN 2025-26 Mid-Winter Report

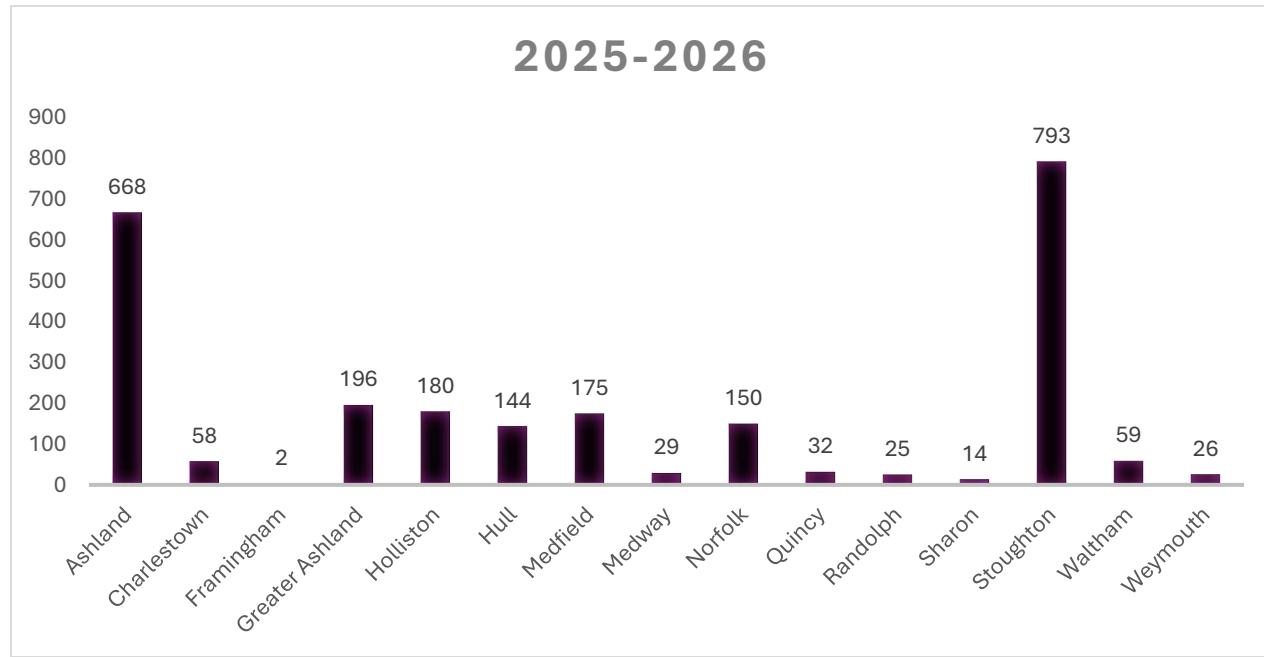
District 33K had another successful Coats for Kids campaign that started October 7, 2025, and officially end on January 10, 2026.

There were fifteen (15) clubs that participated in this year's campaign drive. The clubs were: Ashland, Charlestown, Framingham, Greater Ashland, Holliston, Hull, Medfield, Medway, Norfolk, Quincy, Randolph, Sharon, Stoughton, Waltham, and Weymouth. These clubs collected for a total of 2,551 coats.

Here are just a few of the local organizations that some of the coats were dropped off at besides Anton Cleaners: Project Just Because, Turning Point, St. Vincent de Paul Society, and Home 2 Home.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Wales
Coats for Kids and Families Chair
District 33K





**MASSACHUSETTS LIONS DISTRICT 33K
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE
2025-2026**

MD33 LIONS of MASSACHUSETTS in HONG KONG

The 108th Lions Clubs International Convention will be held in Hong Kong China from Friday July 3 through Tuesday July 7, 2026. Register at: <https://lionscon.lionsclubs.org>

Note: There have been changes to the usual convention schedule:

- Registration Opens: Friday, July 3
- Opening Plenary Session: Saturday, July 4
- Elections: Saturday, July 4 – Monday, July 6
- Second Plenary Session: Sunday, July 5
- Closing Plenary Session: Monday, July 6
- Parade of Nations: Tuesday, July 7 (pending finalization of plans)

The Parade of Nations is scheduled, at this time, to occur on the last day of the convention, Tuesday July 7. The parade usually is held on the first full day of the convention.

The Venue

The convention will be hosted at the Asia-World Expo Center on Lantau Island, Hong Kong. The expo center is next to the international airport and is serviced by the MTR train that runs between the expo center and Central Hong Kong on a frequent schedule. The international airport is served by the same train line.

Accommodations in Hong Kong

Lions International has not assigned specific hotels for delegations but has engaged a list of convention related hotels in Hong Kong. These hotels and the link for reservations can be found here:

<https://lionscon.lionsclubs.org/registration-hotels/hotels/>. The District Governors-elect will be accommodated at a hotel near to the expo center. The official headquarters hotel is in Hong Kong Central.

The MD33 ICC is not making a hotel reservation recommendation.

Attendees may choose to make their own reservations at non-convention accommodations. The committee suggests that attendees pay attention to the proximity to Hong Kong transit, especially the MTR train that links

directly to the expo center. The MTR is an easy transfer from the Hong Kong subway at Hong Kong Central.

WhatsApp Group

The MD33 Convention Committee will be creating a WhatsApp group [MA Lions in Hong Kong] for attending Massachusetts Lions to join. The WhatsApp group has been valuable for coordinating the Massachusetts delegation and distributing information and updates. Registered Lions will be invited to join the official group.

Note that most available hotels are a distance from the expo center. However, the Hong Kong rail transit is frequent and quick, so proximity to a subway or MRT station may be important.

MD 33 Caucus & Reception

The MD33 ICC will be formalizing the details of the MD33 Caucus in Hong Kong for the Lions of Massachusetts and their guests. The final arrangements were pending the changes to the official schedule of events. The final details and invitations will be distributed as soon as they are finalized.

MD 33 Lions Support

Two means to support the International Convention Committee's work are:

Purchase an MD33 2026 State Pin for Hong Kong for \$5.00 each, available from your district representatives. [Pins are in transit.]

Purchase tickets for the Scratch & Benjamin Drawing For a chance to win \$100 in MA Lottery scratch tickets & A \$100 Bill



Parade Uniform

The MD 33 Parade Uniform is the MD 33 Burgundy Polo, white pants or skirt, white shoes, and the black tricorn hat with yellow trim. Show your pride and join the parade!



All State Band Mid-Year Report

The Lions All State Band Committee is pleased to provide this mid-year update on planning, participation, and financial progress for the upcoming All State Band program.

Program Overview

This year, the Lions All State Band aims to host **50 student musicians from across the state**, bringing together talented young performers for an immersive musical and leadership experience. The program is designed to serve **approximately 60 participants total**, including **50 students and 10 chaperones**.

Student Participation

At this point in the year, **5 students have successfully registered and paid**. Recruitment and outreach efforts will continue in the coming months to increase participation and work toward our goal of 50 students.

Budget Summary

The total projected budget for the 2025 Lions All State Band is **just over \$42,000**. This budget covers all essential program expenses, including:

- Transportation
- Lodging for **three nights**
- Meals for **four days**
- Instrument rentals
- Concert hall rental
- Compensation for **two band directors**
- Activities and programming for students and chaperones

Of the total budget, **\$30,000 is expected to come from student sponsorships and direct student contributions**. This leaves a current funding gap of approximately **\$12,000**.

Fundraising Efforts

The committee has been actively working to close this funding gap through multiple fundraising initiatives:

- **Midwinter Conferences:** Committee members have attended all Midwinter events, selling Lions All State Band merchandise.
- **Multi-District Fundraising Competition:** A friendly, multi-district fundraising competition is currently underway, with an expected return of **\$1,000**.
- **Concert Ticket Sales:** Ticket sales for the All State Band concert are planned again this year. Last year, this effort generated **\$1,000**, and we anticipate similar results.

Following these efforts, approximately **\$10,000 will still be needed** to fully fund the program.

Next Steps

To address the remaining funding need, the committee is **actively seeking donations from local businesses and Lions clubs** across the state. Outreach efforts are ongoing, and additional sponsorship opportunities are being explored to ensure the continued success of the Lions All State Band.

Closing

The Lions All State Band is a valuable program that supports youth, music education, and Lions service while providing a life-changing experience for young musicians across our state. With approximately **\$10,000 still needed**, we invite Lions clubs, districts, and community partners to help remove financial barriers so this program can continue to thrive. The committee deeply appreciates the continued support of Lions clubs and districts, and your generosity leaves a lasting impact on our students.

FVDG Kristine Shanahan Mid-Year Report

The first half of the Lions year is always a busy and energizing time, as many clubs awaken from their summer slumber and quickly return to meaningful service and fellowship. I have truly enjoyed this active season and the opportunity it has given me to connect with clubs and Lions across our district.

During the first half of the year, I have spent much of my time visiting clubs and listening to their members and leaders. I have shared in the joy of **Mission 1.5** by inducting new members in **Ashland, Marlboro, and Holliston**, celebrating the growth and vitality of our organization. These visits have given me a clearer understanding of our clubs' strengths and the areas where additional support and resources may be helpful.

I have been working closely with the **Global Membership Team** to create a plan to support clubs as they work to grow, strengthen membership, and thrive. In addition, I have been assigned to my **District Governor training group**, participating in monthly meetings and online training sessions. I will begin **virtual District Governor training in February**, continuing my preparation for future leadership.

I have also participated in our **Area Global Action Team (GAT) meeting**, which provided valuable insights into growth strategies, technology, and service opportunities that can benefit our district moving forward.

Behind the scenes, I have begun reaching out to fill leadership positions for the coming year, seeking **new faces and new voices** to bring fresh ideas and energy to our district. In my candidate speech for **Second Vice District Governor**, I promised to listen to clubs, seek out new leaders, and help grow the district. I have been keeping that promise and will continue using what I've learned to develop district goals focused on leadership, membership growth, and long-term sustainability.

As part of this commitment, I have begun **new club development**, including a **motorcycle Lions club** focused on motorcycle safety and charitable rides. This club offers an exciting opportunity to engage new members and expand our reach. I will be assembling a team to assist with club formation, mentoring, and ensuring its long-term success.

I look forward to the second half of the year as we continue to strengthen clubs, develop new leaders, and grow our district together.

Kristine Shanahan, FVDG
kristine.j.shanahan@gmail.com

District 33K K-Crew report for Mid Winter 2026

International Director David, Lion Lindy, District Governor Anthony, Lions and guests,

K-Crew is here for you! K-Crew is a group of 33K Lions who volunteer to help out clubs in need at their events. So far this Lionistic year there have been 7 clubs requesting help at 9 different events ranging from marching in a parade, a service carnival and an eyeglass washing event. A special shout out to the Sherborn Lions, who really know how to put the K-Crew to work with three separate requests.

Unfortunately the K-Crew email account was down from January 6 to about January 16, 2026. As far as I know there was only one request, from District 33K GST, which did not go out. I apologize to the GST and any other club who may have sent in a request during that timeframe.

Requesting help is simple. Just email kcrew@33k.org details of the event along with a contact person for the event. Your request will then be sent out to the Lions of K-Crew, and if that Lions is able to help, they will let the club event contact know.

If you want to join K-Crew and help other clubs, send me an email at kcrew@33k.org.

K-Crew is here for you!

Respectfully submitted
Chris Gaboriault
Community Activities and Involvement Chair



Youth Camps and Exchange Report

This summer's YCE program will begin with the arrival of 12 students from their home countries to Boston on July 16, 2026. The host family experience will run from July 16–25. The Camp Experience will follow from July 25–August 1, after which the students will return home. All participating students will be between 16 and 19 years old.

The YCE committee consists of: District Y: PDG Pam Krynicki, District K: PCC Bill Donnellan, 1VDG Kristine Shanahan, Sharon Levy, District N: Paul Straunch, Katie Sirois, District S: 1VDG Jesse Armell.

We are still seeking host families who are willing to open their homes and share a glimpse of everyday American life with our visiting students. The campers are eager and deeply appreciative of the opportunity to experience how people in this country live day to day. Hosting is simpler than many expect—students become part of the family for 10 days, joining in regular routines and activities. We also encourage families to show students local sights and experiences that reflect American culture. This year's group includes students from England, France, Brazil, Mongolia, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, Finland, Bulgaria, and Slovakia.

While the camp location is still being finalized, it will most likely be held at the Boston Crowne Plaza in Woburn. This venue offers excellent resources for a high-quality camp filled with fun and educational opportunities. The hotel provides comfortable rooms, meals, a pool, a gym, and convenient access to entertainment both onsite and nearby. Planned activities include a trip to an amusement park, a tour of Boston, and a service project at the National Braille Press.

Yours in Lionism,

Sharon Levy -
2026 YCE Co-Chair