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My Fellow Lions/Leos:

We need your financial support! According to the Mental Health Commission of Canada and the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction, the pandemic has had a greater impact on young people living in Canada than other age group. Only 1 in 4 youth report excellent or very good mental health, with 42% reporting moderate to severe anxiety and 17% contemplating suicide. Substance use has increased with 37% reporting increased alcohol use and 45% reporting increased cannabis use. The need for Lions Quest programs has never been greater.

So far this Lions year, we have delivered training to 66 educators meaning that over 2,000 more students will participate in Lions Quest social emotional learning programs, with many more workshops scheduled for this spring. We continue to follow up with the educators who were previously trained and have been delivering the program in their classroom or virtually. We are about to release a new training session to reach those working with children and youth outside of a school setting. This would not happen without your investment.

Thanks very much for this opportunity. I am very excited to begin this program with the schools. I love the content and ease with which everything is outlined. I know that the impact for students/teachers will be great!

Workshop Participant, Fall 2022

To learn more about our work, we invite all Lions and Leos to join us at the “Lions Quest 101” webinar on Tuesday February 9 at 2 pm EST. To register, check the “Latest News” section on the front page of our website at www.lionsquest.ca or [click here \(gotowebinar.com\)](http://click.here.gotowebinar.com).

We recognize last year was difficult, and our donations were less than 50% of our goal – with just over 100 clubs contributing. To date this year, just 80 clubs have donated to Lions Quest Canada and as a result we are just over 20% of our goal at the halfway point. We can do better, we need to do better, our young people deserve better.

Every donation from \$25 to \$5,000 is appreciated and makes a difference. The power of the Lions family joining together to invest in our young people is what counts and we are confident we will reach our \$145,000 goal this year. In most municipalities, funds raised from gaming/lotteries/bingo can be donated to Lions Quest Canada as we are a charitable organization.

It's often said that "it takes a village to raise a child" – our role at Lions Quest Canada is to help raise the "village". Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of our request to support this award-winning initiative, one of Lions Clubs International's signature youth programs.

Yours in Lionism,

PID Jack Isaman
Chair, Board of Directors

Proudly supported by the Lions of Canada

