



## Message from District Governor Dan Shepherd

Dear Lion,

Best wishes and Happy New Year to you and your Lions club!

International President Wing Kun-Tam has sent this special message for the New Year. As we begin 2012 we are also beginning the second half of our year together as Lion leaders. What we have accomplished together thus far is remarkable. I commend you on your accomplishments these past six months - meeting the tree planting goal in just three months, volunteering countless hours towards Global Service Action Campaigns and bringing new faces into your Lions family. As I look to the future "I Believe" we can accomplish even more.

The beginning of a new calendar year is a good time to evaluate our clubs, to reflect on the previous year's accomplishments and look ahead to your club's future opportunities. Have you ever thought about what your club or district will look like 10, 20, even 30 years from now? Who will be there to provide the vital services your club offers to the community today?

I spend a good deal of time thinking about the future of Lions Clubs International and I can tell you that the answer is people who are now in their late teens to late twenties.

Recruiting young people is not only vital for the future but provides concrete benefits to our clubs today. Bringing young people into a Lions club can renew its spirit with fresh ideas, create a club that more closely mirrors the community and help it precisely assess today's community needs.

It can be challenging to reach young people who are typically busy and have many options for using what free time they do have. But it might be easier than you think. Today's generation of young people is more committed to volunteer service than any that came before it. If we Lions are to be true to our own commitment to service we cannot let any of that youthful energy go unused or allow their desire to serve go unfulfilled.

LCI is providing your club and district with the tools it needs to [recruit young adults](#) into your Lions family. Download [My Club, My Family](#) for a checklist on welcoming new members. I hope that you take advantage of these tools and do all that is necessary to revitalize your club and ensure its future.

Sincerely,

Wing-Kun Tam

International President