

RINGING IN THE YEAR

The upcoming 2007-2008 Lions year may be best remembered by one crowning achievement: the year Lions continued their fight against preventable blindness by surpassing their US\$150 million Campaign SightFirst II (CSFII) minimum goal.

However, with just more than US\$88 million raised, there is much work ahead to reach the goal and make a difference in the lives of millions.

Now, with just a few weeks until the 2007 International Convention in Chicago and the launch of the Year of Campaign SightFirst II, all Lions should answer one question: **How will you be a part of our CSFII success?**

Where we've been

The 2006-2007 Lions year was the first year of intensive CSFII fund raising around the world. Lions showed they were ready to continue the fight against preventable blindness by becoming Model Clubs, designating Melvin Jones Fellowships, making personal gifts and conducting fund-raising events that both entertained and inspired.

Likewise, these efforts demonstrated Lions' growing enthusiasm and dedication to continue the extraordinary work of SightFirst, a program that has saved or returned sight to 27 million people.

The launch of the Year of CSFII

CSFII events at the 2007 International Convention will honor Lions' 2006-2007 efforts and help prepare all Lions for the final year of the campaign. CSFII supporter and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter will deliver a special address at the 2007 International Convention, the 90th anniversary of Lionism.

CSFII will take the stage during the convention's second plenary session. In addition to donor recognition ceremonies during this session, musician Ronnie Milsap will perform. Milsap has performed with music legends including Dolly Parton, Johnny Cash, Patti LaBelle, Ray Charles and Gladys Knight. He is one of country music's most celebrated artists with more than 40 No. 1 hits. The soulful singer and pianist draws from a deep well of life experience. Blind from birth, Milsap knows personally the importance of



honor Lions' 2006-2007 efforts and help prepare all Lions for the final year of the campaign. CSFII supporter and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter will deliver a special address at the 2007 International Convention, the 90th anniversary of Lionism.

CSFII will take the stage during the convention's second plenary session. In addition to donor recognition ceremonies during this



Lions' fight against preventable blindness and their efforts for CSFII.

All Lions attending the second plenary session will receive a limited edition commemorative pin, but according to International President Jimmy M. Ross, Lions will take away much more than this small token.



"I know the Lions at this year's international convention will take the message of CSFII to Lions in their home districts and clubs. CSFII is a message of service, of hope, of pride, and of dedication to the cause closest to Lions—protecting sight."

Looking ahead

After the last slice of 90th anniversary cake is cut and all the confetti is swept away, Lions around the world will begin their enthusiastic final efforts for CSFII. Thousands of Lions clubs will spend the 2007-2008 Lions year raising funds to ensure the goal is surpassed and the work of the SightFirst program continues.

First Vice President Mahendra Amarasuriya is confident Lions will do their best for CSFII. "I know Lions will not disappoint a world that depends on SightFirst services," says Vice President Mahendra. "Lions have never failed to deliver when it comes to SightFirst. I am honored to be serving as international president during the year that we will surpass our CSFII goal." With one year remaining, the finish line is within reach.

"Together, we have come so far, but we have many more millions of dollars to raise if we are to continue to save the sight of millions in the years to come," says Past International President and CSFII Chairperson Dr. Tae-Sup Lee. "Our final success will be determined by the hearts of Lions and what they do each day for Campaign SightFirst II."



Musician Ronnie Milsap

"I know the Lions at this year's international convention will take the message of CSFII to Lions in their home districts and clubs. CSFII is a message of service, of hope, of pride, and of dedication to the cause closest to Lions—protecting sight." —International President Jimmy M. Ross

OF CAMPAIGN SIGHTFIRST II

CSFII Convention Events at the 90th International Convention in Chicago

CSFII Booth (July 2 - July 5, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and July 6, 7 - 10 a.m.)

Campaign leaders and CSFII staff will be available to answer questions and share new CSFII materials.

CSFII Leadership Meeting (Tuesday, July 3, 2 - 3:30 p.m.)

CSFII leaders at all levels are invited to visit with PIP Dr. Tae-Sup Lee and PIP J. Frank Moore III as they discuss how to make 2007-2008 the Year of CSFII.

CSFII Seminar (Wednesday, July 4, 2 - 3:30 p.m.)

As the 2007-2008 Lions year and Year of CSFII begins, this seminar is a guide to get involved in CSFII in its final and most momentous year.

Second Plenary Session (Thursday, July 5, 10 a.m. - Noon.)

CSFII will honor the outstanding Lions who made the previous year a success. Musician and special guest Ronnie Milsap will perform for Lions and help ring in 2007-2008, the Year of CSFII, as Lions set out in their final year of fund raising. All attendees will receive a CSFII commemorative pin.

Cycling for Sight:

Lions peddling to convention for CSFII pledges

While many Lions will travel to the international convention in Chicago to celebrate CSFII fund raising, one group of Lions will travel to the convention raising funds for CSFII along the way.

Approximately 100 Lions from northern Ohio will meet on the shores of Lake Erie to begin the more than 300-mile trip by bicycle. During the five-day trek, the cyclists will present CSFII to various organizations and Lions clubs.

Each of the 100 cyclists is paired with a mentor club that will coach and assist the rider in raising a minimum of US\$500 toward CSFII in addition to each cyclist's US\$100 personal contribution. Lion Dan Bihary, the event chairperson, estimates the Lions will ride into Chicago with more than US\$50,000 raised for CSFII.

