

17 July 2017

Dear Lions Club

I am writing in reaction to news from Chicago that diabetes is the new signature cause chosen by Lions Clubs International to mark your second century.

Diabetes Queensland is an independent, representative charitable organisation formed by volunteers around a kitchen table in 1968 to support and speak up for the diabetes community in Queensland. We work with clinicians and governments at all levels, support those living with diabetes, advance diabetes research and warn Queenslanders about the dangers of all types of diabetes.

Already Lions contribute so much to Queensland society and to worthy causes across the world, it is an honour to welcome your renewed focus on the growing threat of diabetes. On behalf of Queenslanders living with diabetes, I want to thank Lions across our state for supporting our cause and to offer our support in return.

Diabetes Queensland is keen to make contact with your club and to learn how we can help with this challenging new endeavor. For your convenience, we have created a single email point of contact: [lions@diabetesqld.org.au](mailto:lions@diabetesqld.org.au). To meet your needs and help co-ordinate the flow of information, we ask that you appoint a liaison officer, with whom we can exchange ideas and coordinate planning and activity.

All types of diabetes are on the rise across the world and Queensland is no exception. Every day, about 60 more Queenslanders are diagnosed with diabetes.

According to June 12 figures from the National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS):

- 235,870 Queenslanders were known to be living with diabetes mellitus of one type or another
- 22,434 were living with type 1 diabetes
- 204,537 were living with type 2 diabetes
- 7,581 Queenslanders were living with Gestational Diabetes Mellitus
- 1,318 were affected by another diabetes type.

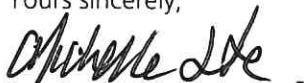
In addition, about 100,000 Queenslanders are known to be living with undiagnosed type 2 diabetes, of which they have no knowledge.

Recently the independent board of Diabetes Queensland adopted a new strategic plan to guide our organization and its activities in the three years from FY2018 to FY2020 inclusive.

The plan describes our vision and mission and the three areas in which we will focus our attention over this period. A copy is attached for your members' attention.

Thank you for your interest and the tremendous drive and enthusiasm Lions will bring to our shared endeavor. I look forward to any further discussions that may help maximize the benefit to those we represent and to the Queensland community as a whole.

Yours sincerely,



Michelle Trute  
Chief Executive Officer  
Diabetes Queensland

Diabetes Queensland

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*Type 1 and type 2 diabetes are lifelong conditions that can affect every part of an individual's life. Both need daily management to reduce the risk of diabetes-related complications and improve quality of life and life expectancy. While type 2 diabetes is largely preventable and can often be managed by healthy eating and exercise alone, type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune condition that attacks the cells in the pancreas that produce insulin. Type 1 diabetes can occur at any age but it generally occurs in children and young adults. Type 1 diabetes cannot be prevented.*

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Follow Diabetes Queensland CEO Michelle Trute on Twitter: [@MichelleTrute](https://twitter.com/MichelleTrute)

Like Diabetes Queensland on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DiabetesQueensland>

<b>OUR VISION</b>	Queenslanders will share a common determination to fight diabetes, to provide the best support and care for people living with diabetes and to work hard for a cure to diabetes.		
<b>OUR MISSION</b>	We will improve the lives of people affected by all types of diabetes and those at risk, through advocacy, support and education in partnership with the Queensland community.		
<b>OUR GOALS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To improve the health and wellness of people living with all types of diabetes.</li> <li>2. To reduce the incidence of preventable diabetes in the community.</li> </ol>		
<b>FOCUS AREAS</b>	To achieve success over the next three years, Diabetes Queensland will focus its work across three key areas:		
	<b>Advocacy</b>	<b>Support &amp; Information</b>	<b>Sustainability</b>
<b>GOAL ONE : MANAGEMENT</b>	<p><b>Efforts</b> Driving awareness and effective policy-making, we will connect with all of Queensland and our leaders at all levels and in all communities.</p> <p>A charity, we are defined by our capacity to unite and represent the diverse needs and interests of members and the diabetes community.</p>	<p><b>Efforts</b> Our best practice principles and research will deliver integrated, evidence-based and cost-effective programs and initiatives to support and improve the lives of people living with diabetes.</p>	<p><b>Efforts</b> Diversified sources of income, fund raising opportunities and partnerships will sustain our delivery of services, support and representation.</p> <p>Through collaboration with other parties, we will sustain our mission in support of people living with or at risk of diabetes.</p> <p>Valued members and engaged supporters demonstrate our community mandate, the foundation for all our programs and activity.</p>
<b>GOAL TWO : PREVENTION</b>	<p><b>Efforts</b> In Queensland, millions are at high risk of type 2 diabetes or are unaware they already have it.</p> <p>Huge personal and state-wide economic and systemic costs require we sound the warning, fight for understanding and lead advances in the public response.</p>	<p><b>Efforts</b> With quality programs and robust data, we will reach out to individuals and society offering means to prevent or slow the advance of type 2 diabetes.</p> <p>State-wide we will encourage the complementary activity of governments, the private sector and diverse communities.</p>	<p>Our reputation and expertise will be valued, enhancing respect for our role and leadership.</p>
	<b>Capacity &amp; Capability</b>		
<b>ENABLER</b>	<p><b>Efforts</b> Grow our financial base and ensure a performance focussed and sustainable workforce and drive an organisation culture that is engaged, agile, capable and delivering quality performance.</p>		