



CARE & SHARE GUIDELINES

Iowa Lions District 9SW Care & Share

PURPOSE:

To give aid and comfort to persons within the Iowa Lions District 9SW in need of financial assistance for sight, hearing, hunger through 9SW District Food Pantries, or other emergencies which are above the capabilities of an individual Lions Club to meet.

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE:

1. Medical or educational material assistance for persons that are sight or hearing impaired or in need of diabetes testing based on symptoms or other criteria.
2. Assistance with costs not covered by personal health insurance such as travel, meals for family members in support of ill person, handicap ramps and etc.
3. Disaster assistance of personal belongings or property damages by natural causes
4. Assistance for other emergencies not specifically covered above where financial help is needed.
5. Assistance to food pantries in 9SW District that are in need of supplies.

CARE & SHARE CHAIRPERSON:

The Care & Share Chairperson shall be the Immediate Past District Governor. Duties of the Care & Share Chairperson shall be to educate the Lions Clubs about Care & Share in District 9SW, as well as raising money for the fund.

APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE:

The Care & Share Application Review Committee shall consist of three persons:

1. Immediate Past District Governor, as Chairperson
2. Current 1st Vice District Governor
3. Lion not on District 9SW current cabinet

*The current 1st Vice District Governor shall make committee appointments.

DUTIES OF THE APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE:

1. Review requests from within District for Care & Share assistance
2. Assess financial need
3. Investigate recipients need of grant through local Lions
4. Determine area club support, including local fund-raising efforts and dollar amount they are contributing.
5. On awarding a grant, consideration should be given regardless of club's contributed funds to Care and Share.



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6. Recommendations shall be reported to District 9SW Cabinet
7. Food Pantry Requirements:

COMMUNITY Food Pantries:

- a. Up to \$200 per request.
- b. Request must be by application only.
- c. Can only request once in a three-month period before requesting another time.
- d. Due to the fact this is a service provided during the month and to ensure no loss of the service to the citizens by the food pantry to those in need, the committee will give approval for the dollars without cabinet motion and approval and send it directly to the 9SW Cabinet Treasurer for disbursement of funds.
- e. The budget for the Care & Share food pantry will be set at \$1700 per fiscal year with no carry-over. Any request during a fiscal year above \$1700 will need cabinet approval before disbursement of funds.

SCHOOL PANTRIES/FOOD/WEEKEND CLOSETS or Other Food Distributions in a School for Students only:

- a. Up to \$150 per request.
 - b. Request must be by application only.
 - c. Can only request once a semester.
 - d. Lions recommend that the dollars be used for nutritional foods, such as fruit cups, dried fruit, nuts, high protein bars, quality food with low sugar content, etc.
 - e. Due to the fact this is a service provided during the month and to ensure no loss of the service to the citizens by the food pantry to those in need, the committee will give approval for the dollars without cabinet motion and approval and send it directly to the 9SW Cabinet Treasurer for disbursement of funds.
 - f. The budget for the Care & Share food pantry will be set at \$1700 per fiscal year with no carry-over. Any request during a fiscal year above \$1700 will need cabinet approval before disbursement of funds.
8. Hearing Aid Requirements:
 - a. A client pays a \$50 minimum application fee if Care & Share funds are used for the purchase of hearing aids; this fee could be waived depending on the financial circumstances of the client. (05/27/2026)
 - b. Additionally, a client will fill out the Iowa Hearing Aid Bank Form for reconditioned hearing aids (06/18/2026)



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DISTRICT 9SW FINAL APPROVAL FOR ALL OTHER APPLICATIONS:

1. The Care and Share Chairperson will report the Application Review Committee recommendations to the District 9SW Cabinet for their approval.
2. A simple majority vote of the cabinet members would be needed for approval.
3. If a formal cabinet meeting is not to be called before assistance would be needed, cell phone or e-mail vote of the district cabinet would be needed for approval.

FUNDING:

1. Grants shall be limited to available funds.
2. Donations made payable to 9SW Care and Share and sent to District Treasurer.
3. District Treasurer will keep-a) a record of donations received by club (or individuals) name, amount, and date received; and b) records of Grants made, submitting club, to whom, amount, need met, date.

PRESENTATION OF FUNDS:

Presentation of the funds awarded shall be made in such a manner as to gain publicity for the district, Care & Share Fund, and the submitting club, and to promote Lions to the public. Recipient may request that their names be withheld from publication. For other concerns, contact the Care & Share Chairperson, who is the Immediate Past District Governor (PDG).