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For Immediate Release

Vermont Lions Club and Third Grade Class Named Winner of Lions Quest Service Contest

Joint Service Project Aids Hungry in Local Communities

Oak Brook, Illinois, April 26, 2010 – The Pittsford Lions Club and a third grade classroom from Rutland Town School, Vermont, have been awarded first prize in the Heroes in the Community contest for their joint community service project, Food from the Heart.

In conjunction with the 25th anniversary of Lions Quest, the Pittsford Lions Club and third grade class at Rutland Town School partnered together in service. Lions Quest, a positive youth development program of Lions Clubs International Foundation, sponsored the contest. Students regularly participate in service-learning through the program, completing service projects in the community that reinforce classroom learning.

“Youth are extremely capable of serving people in need in their communities,” said Chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation, Al Brandel. “The Food from the Heart project shows the impact that can be made when youth and Lions clubs work together.”

Through Food from the Heart, Lions collected 440 pounds of food and the third grade classroom collected more than 800 food items through a “100 Day” food drive they coordinated at their school. All collected food was donated to local food pantries for distribution to people in need.

In honor of winning the contest, Brandel, will visit both the Lions club and third grade classroom later this month to recognize their commitment to service. Additionally, the students will receive prize packages, a classroom credit towards Lions Quest materials and a club a plaque to commemorate their project.

The Lions Quest program teaches skills to resist drugs, peer pressure and violence while building self-esteem, peer relations, decision-making and problem solving. Students learn valuable skills for emotional and social development.

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Lions Quest is a worldwide initiative of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), the official charitable organization of Lions Clubs International. LCIF has been committed to community service and serving youth since it was established in 1968. Lions Quest is in nearly 60 countries around the world. More than 11 million youth have taken part in a Lions Quest classroom, and more than 500,000 educators and other adults have been trained to implement the program. For more information, visit the Web site at www.lions-quest.org or www.lcif.org.