

**AMENDED REPORT**  
**2019 Winter Council of Governors' Committee Report**  
**SUMMARY Form**  
**(To be printed for the Council Minutes)**

Youth Exchange Committee & Foundation Report by: George Robison Chairperson & President

Date Amended Report Sent: January 16, 2019

This is my third year filling these positions, for the second time around. The first year I asked the Council to request that every Club, Zone and District that had a separately operated Youth Exchange Program report that program to me so that an MD19 list of all the activities could be prepared and distributed. Four Clubs, one Zone and One District made reports. Since then I have found other districts with some type of program and two districts that have funds but few applicants to use the funds. It would be nice if a single Youth Exchange Program fund could be had in MD19. Entities that have sister-city exchanges or similar exclusive exchanges would not be included.

This winter there have been four youth from Australia and one from New Zealand hosted in MD19. It was not easy lining up homes for these youth, unlike last year. The five youth are being hosted in three homes, two in 19C and one in 19F.

We received three applications to the Foundation for Youth Exchange scholarships, all from young ladies. One application is from 19F and two are from 19C. There may be others from districts that don't go through the MD19 YE Program. One young lady wants to travel to Switzerland, one to Spain and one to Italy. They will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship to assist in travel expenses. One of the young ladies is President of her Leo Club. Every high school Leo Club in MD19 received information, including a scholarship application. MD19 Administration sent the information to its email list.

A solicitation to donate to the Foundation was also sent out by MD19. One Zone and six clubs have donated a total of \$700. To make the scholarship program sustainable will require much more than that. LCI has assured me that the Youth Camps and Exchange Program is a vital LCI program. However, no funding comes from LCI and the programs are either self-supporting or supported by donations. It would be nice if every Lion in MD19 donated 50 cents a year.

Youth Exchange in MD19 has not been a priority of the Council or most District Governors. That seems to be the main reason that it is difficult to get participation. I regularly hear from Lions who have been members for some time that they have never heard of Youth Exchange. It is simply not possible for the MD Chair or a District Chair to visit or contact every club. Youth Exchange needs to be promoted when leadership visit clubs. Please, as you visit clubs in your district, promote the Lions Youth Exchange Program.

Thank you,  
George Robison