

## The MedicAlert Foundation is 50 years old in July!

Brought to the UK and Ireland on July 28<sup>th</sup> 1964 by the Lions Clubs, MedicAlert has helped over 315,250 members during the Charity's lifetime.

Still going strong and increasing the membership year by year, MedicAlert wants to celebrate by thanking Lions International for all the hard work over the years in raising funds, sponsoring members and latterly donating to the **Early Start Programme**, which sponsors children under the age of 10 years.

### As a reminder what the charity does...

- Without backing from the Government or the NHS, we make bespoke medical ID jewellery for people with hidden medical conditions, allergies, medical implants, or on specific medicines, so that medical staff will quickly identify these in an emergency situation
- Detailed medical records are kept at a secure centre so that medical staff can access further information if necessary
- Much time and effort is spent with healthcare professionals to ensure they know about and will actively look for MedicAlert jewellery to aid swift diagnosis. Over 50% of new members come as a recommendation from their GP or Clinic

### What can your club do to help?

- An easy way to help us is to make sure that your local GP surgery or clinic has a supply of Patient Leaflets in the waiting room and where possible a poster on the wall. If you would like some leaflets or posters, email [marketing@medicalert.org.uk](mailto:marketing@medicalert.org.uk) or call 01908 951034
- Donations towards the **Early Start Programme** are extremely welcome. For more information see overleaf
- To help, please contact your **District MedicAlert Officer**



## Early Start Programme

A message from IPDG Lion John Sutherland



The MedicAlert<sup>®</sup> Early Start Programme gives crucial protection to children who have a medical condition or allergy that needs to be identified in a medical emergency – to avoid misdiagnosis and ensure fast treatment. The Early Start Programme offers protection on two levels:

- The first provides an item of medical I.D. which is individually engraved with the child's vital medical details.
- The second ensures the child's medical information is stored in our secure database which can be accessed 24/7 by any healthcare professional treating them in an emergency.

The I.D. is in the form of a piece of jewellery and will alert healthcare professionals to the child's condition or allergies and further information can be accessed from their record if required. Their membership record is held free of charge until their 10th birthday and the child will receive their first item of jewellery for free.

The jewellery is engraved with the child's vital medical conditions, their membership number and our emergency telephone number. The jewellery is worn on their pulse points; the first place checked in an emergency. This enables the medical professional treating them to identify their condition or allergy quickly and treat them accordingly. Medical professionals can access your child's detailed medical record by calling the emergency phone number (engraved on the disc) and quoting their membership number.

Lions, throughout our Multiple District have been saving children's lives around the world for many years including: 120,000,000 children helped in cooperation with the World Health Organisation, 41,000,000 children vaccinated against Measles with the Gates Foundation, and helping children through Lions Quest, LCIF and many other projects.

MedicAlert is another partner which enables Lions to save young lives. As a retired State Registered Paramedic, I have in the past valued having accurate up-to-date medical information especially when managing children following accident or sudden life threatening illness.

Fellow Lions, this is a great opportunity to make a real difference to a child's life style here in the UK. With the protection offered by the Lions sponsored MedicAlert bracelet, both the child and parent/guardian can be reassured that correct medication can be administered to the child anywhere in the world without fear of reactions such as anaphylaxis, a sudden life threatening multi organ collapse due to an allergic reaction. **For just £275** your club can provide a MedicAlert bracelet and worldwide cover for a child from birth to 10 years and by committing funds on an annual basis you could help to make this a sustainable programme ensuring that any child who needs MedicAlert protection receives it regardless of financial status.

The best way to donate is to make a payment via your District Treasurer to be paid to the MedicAlert Early Start Programme, this will ensure that your Lions club is credited with making the donation. Places are limited and change regularly in line with funding available so applications can only be met if the scheme is in funds.

If you need further information please contact your District MedicAlert Officer or Multiple District MedicAlert Officer