

# LIIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION (LCIF)



## Joint Humanitarian Aid Project 2009/2010 Districts 103W & 105SW

The Joint Humanitarian Aid Project for this fiscal year has been chosen by our twin District 103W and concerns a Charity which strives to encourage children from 7 to 18 who have had cancer to reach the summit of their own mountain.

### ‘A CHACUN SON EVEREST’ (To Everybody their Mountain)



At the Spring Congress in Cholet during the presentation of District Governor (elect) Stefan Levendof's programme eight lady Lions from the Angers Ronceray Club presented the "Coup de Coeur" not only for the Governor but also for a large number of Clubs of the District Ouest to be known as "A Chacun Son Everest"

Hidden behind this audacious title is a good deed full of hope and humanity:

- Help children suffering from cancer or leukaemia to cope with the illness
- Trust again in their bodies
- Free themselves of the worry of frightening words
- Taste a recovered freedom
- Face the looks from others

Difficulties are symbolically similar to conquering a mountain summit and the reality of overcoming the illness. The Association "A Chacun Son Everest" will put in place everything possible to help children to recover better.

In 1993 Christine Janin a woman, doctor and famous mountaineer (1<sup>st</sup> French woman to climb Everest, 27,000 ft, in 1990) began to recount her mountainous exploits to sick children at Trousseau Hospital in Paris and draw a parallel between conquering mountains and recovering from illness. In 1994 Christine Janin and Professor Baruchel founded the Association "A Chacun Son Everest". Little by little the mountain training courses were put in place and in 1997 the 1<sup>st</sup> accommodation centre in Chamonix was opened. In 2001 the Maison de Chamonix was opened and training courses have been held every year.

Training of children is continuously improving thanks to donors:

- Building of a tree walk in the grounds of Maison de Chamonix
- Building a climbing wall
- Organising training courses for all terrain wheel chairs and seated skiing

Since 1994 more than 2,446 children and teenagers from 7 to 18 years of age have been on more than 176 training courses. Trained by specialist and unpaid volunteers these children feel better able to face their illness. All their resources are tested during their sickness

#### *Patience – Will Power – Acceptance – Determination – Courage*

become the qualities of champions who reach their goal; one victory over yourself to better recover.

For several years the Lions Club of Angers Ronceray and the Paediatric Oncology Department, at Robert Debre Hospital in Angers and other Hospitals, has enabled this large number of sick children and teenagers to benefit from this special time in the Maison de Chamonix.

*Donations for this wonderful Joint Project should be send to the District Treasurer annotated JHA on the reverse.*

**PDG Lion Brenda Wood, District IRO Officer**

*Do look at the website [www.achacunson Everest.com](http://www.achacunson Everest.com) where you will find wonderful pictures - Editor*