

# Lions Australia Operation Smile Project Impact 2010-2017

237 Australian Medical Volunteers deployed  
4,481 Surgeries performed

## 2018, The Year So Far



Thanks to Lions, Lioness and Leo Clubs around Australia, our Project has achieved so much.

There are still more children waiting for surgery. Together we can reach them and bring new hope to their lives.



## Lions Australia Operation Smile Project Update September 2018

### OUR PROJECT IS CHANGING LIVES

Shijun's father tried many times to access surgery to repair his son's cleft lip and palate, but the cost of surgery was impossible for him to pay. He had almost given up hope of being able to give his son the care he needed, when by chance he heard about Operation Smile. On the mission, Shijun was excited and could not wait to have his lip repaired. He told us that he loves playing basketball with his friends but hates when he is teased and bullied about his condition. After a successful surgery Shijun promised our volunteers that he would not play basketball for at least a month while his smile healed. When we had the opportunity to visit him recently, we saw this wonderful beaming grin and we wanted to share it with you.

Shijun's story inspires us to keep working. Together we can reach out to the children who are still waiting for their chance to smile, and bring change and hope to their lives.



### Message from the Chairman

It would appear that the need for young people to have their facial problems solved through surgery is growing throughout some of the areas where our team of medical staff go. So far this year nearly 800 youngsters have had either the cleft lip or cleft palate problem solved through the seven overseas missions which your project has funded.

This demand for this special medical service is not going to reduce as there is at least another eighteen missions being undertaken before July 2019. Countries to be visited include the Philippines, Morocco, China, Vietnam and India.

The ongoing success of this Lions Australia project is brought about by the generosity of those many Clubs which have been supporting it since it started in 2010. Yes, we are very hopeful that at the MD Convention in 2019, it will be extended for another three years. If your Club would like to donate to this great Lions project, please lodge it as detailed in this newsletter.

PDG David Floyd  
Chairman

**You can be part of the Project:  
Together we can change the lives of more children.**

If your Club would like to make a donation please follow the instructions below.

#### Donations by cheque:

Payable to "Lions Australia Operation Smile Project", care of the Brisbane Holland Park Lions Club, PO BOX 42, Holland Park, QLD 4121.

#### Donations by EFT:

Brisbane Holland Park Lions Club, Everyday Account.BSB: 484 799 Account Number: 5057 422 42

# SPOTLIGHT ON RECENT MISSIONS



## MOROCCO 196 Surgeries Performed

In March, our Project made it possible for 5 Australian medical volunteers to travel to Morocco where they joined an international team in Agadir. Together they provided exceptional surgical care to 196 patients with cleft conditions. The Project was thrilled to be involved in this mission that looked beyond our usual area of responsibility in the Asia region. Our volunteers received the warmest of welcomes, and the smiles of the young patients will stay with us forever!



## INDIA 131 Surgeries Performed

In June, the Project sent Australian medical volunteers to a mission in Durgapur, India. They found the need to be very significant, with many families arriving seeking help for their children. The team worked hard and were able to provide safe surgical care to 131 patients in the week long mission. We know we have our work cut out for ourselves in India, where so many lack access to medical care.



## PHILIPPINES 119 Surgeries Performed

Our relationship with the local teams in the Philippines is very strong, and we were delighted to join missions in May and June in Bacolod and Cavite, respectively. With a good team working towards the same goal- we know we can one day heal every child.

## CHINA 105 Surgeries Performed

In April, we sent Australian and New Zealand medical volunteers to Quanxi, China where they teamed up with local medical staff to deliver surgeries to 105 patients. We met children who had travelled many hours with their families and were inspired by their hope and persistence to keep working through long days of surgery.

