

Join this exciting Service Project with MD19 KOTB!

This project may be of special interest in schools attended by students who are blind or have low vision, to improve understanding and inclusion, and could be adjusted to include these students in the presentation if desired.

Here is what one school we visited had to say on their Facebook Post:

Holy Trinity Lutheran School
May 17, 2023

Thanks to the Lions Club Knights of the Blind for their Grandpa's White Cane presentation, teaching our students about living with blindness. And how to interact with blind people.



On May 17, 2023, Lions and members of the Washington Council of the Blind (WCB) brought this service project to over 200 students from pre-K through 8th Grade! From March 2023 – December 2024, this program has been presented to over 2,000 students, individuals one class at a time.

To the right is the team of Lions from Clubs in Des Moines, Anacortes and Burlington, and WCB members from Bothell, Tacoma and Anacortes.

Together – WE SERVE!



Open request to teachers and youth groups on the other side of this page.

December 2024

RE: An open request to teachers and youth leaders:

My name is Colette Arvidson, Secretary of Multiple District 19 Lions Knights Of The Blind Committee. As one of our Lions activities to improve the quality of life for people who are blind or low vision, we are reaching out to local schools, scout troops, boys and girls clubs and any youth groups that are interested in learning more about people who are blind and how to help our community be more inclusive and accessible to them.

Recently a children's book (Grandpa's White Cane) was written by a man in South Dakota explaining to his grandson and the children of a similar age in his community how he learned to navigate the world without vision, Here is the link to an interview of the authors of the book by Hadley Helps:

<https://cdn.hadleyhelps.org/HadleyPresents/AudioTrack/2022-10-14.mp3>

The Lions Knights Of The Blind (KOTB) Committee Project is to provide interactive visitations to local youth groups or school classrooms following the example provided by the authors and utilizing the book as a resource for the students and the schools.

Although we are initially focusing on third grades students, based on the reading level of the book, we are open to working with groups of various ages.

Usually, students are introduced to the concept by a class reading of the book a few days before we visit. Our in-class presentation includes a general introduction of a person who uses a white cane sharing information on how much vision they have and noting a few of the tools they use to make life accessible for them on a daily basis. They then lead half the students in a walk down the hall with their eyes closed using a small white cane. Meanwhile the other half of the class are led in discussion by one of the Lions, appropriate etiquette when meeting someone who is blind or has low vision. Students then change places. The session closes with a Q&A session. One school's endorsement and photos are on the back of this letter.

If this is of interest to you, please give me a call at (360) 391-5880 or email me at colette.arvidson@gmail.com, and we will connect you with a team in your area.

In Lionism,

Colette Arvidson

Colette Arvidson, Secretary
MD19 Lions Knights Of The Blind