

Give From the Heart!



New Freedom Lions Club 

In cooperation with the Southern York County School District, the Club sponsors an annual ***“Give from the Heart Program”*** in which the Lions provide \$100 funding to each of the Fourth Grade classes in the District's three elementary schools. The students in each class are required to prepare a list of charitable organizations to whom they would like to donate the money. Working individually or in small groups, they research the various charities and make presentations to their classmates regarding their selected organization. After all presentations are made, the students conduct an election campaign and hold a vote within each class to determine that class' one recipient organization.

Representatives of the recipient organizations are contacted by the Lions and invited to attend a presentation ceremony, generally held during the Valentine's Day timeframe. At the ceremony, students from each class announce their “winning” charity and several reasons for their selection. The students then present the checks to the organizational representatives. For most student presenters, it is the first time they've ever touched a microphone, much less speak in front of a large group.

Obviously, one of the main goals of the program is to provide the students with the “joy of giving” experience while they learn about some of the organizations within their community. Additionally, they get the opportunity to hone their research and presentation skills within the classroom. They learn how an election campaign is conducted and how a vote is taken. And for a few student presenters, they have their first opportunity at public speaking. As a school, all attendees at the presentation ceremony learn from the recipient organizations about all the selected charities. The students are given the opportunity to see the representatives in person and hopefully learn that while giving of money is rewarding for both the giver and the receiver, there are career and volunteering opportunities available that are also rewarding.

Since the program's inception, \$6,000 has been contributed to selected organizations through February 2022.