



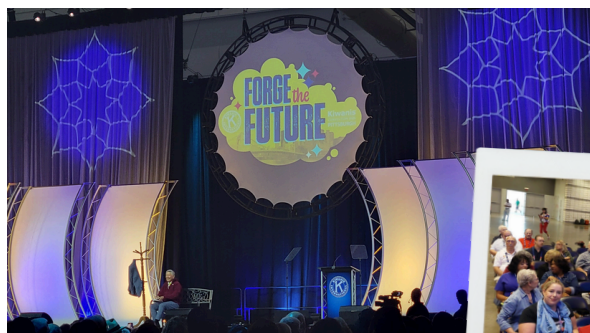
MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF KIWANIS

Serving the Children of the World



INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

- 74 Michigan Kiwanians attended international convention in Pittsburgh in June.
- 5 Michigan Kiwanians attended the Amplify Capstone Experience
- 10 Michigan Kiwanians were First Timers
- 61 Michigan Kiwanians attended the Pittsburgh Pirates Baseball game with other Kiwanis Districts
- Terry Bradshaw was the keynote speaker
- Mr. Rogers from Mr. Rogers Neighborhood was a theme throughout the convention



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CALENDAR

August

- 13- 108th Great Lakes Conference,
17 Kalamazoo
District Office Closed
- 14 4th District Board Meeting @ Great
Lakes Conference
- 15 990 & 990EZ Extensions Deadline
- 16 Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation
Board Meeting @ Great Lakes
Conference

September

- 1 **LABOR DAY - District Office Closed**
- 15 Expense Vouchers for 2024-2025 are
due, not payable after this date
Club Budgets completed for 2025-26
Annual Report of Non-Profit Corp. to
be filed by each club
- 25 Circle K's 78th birthday
- 27 First District Board Meeting of 2025-
26, 9:30am Mason
- 29 New Members for inclusion in 2025-
26 year end due

MICHIGAN BUILDER

MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF KIWANIS
INTERNATIONAL

VOL. LXXXVIII
AUG/SEP25 NO. 1

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GOVERNOR

STAN NELSON

GOVERNOR-ELECT

CINDY GREENING

IMMEDIATE PAST GOVERNOR

RENEA CALLERY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BEN PROBERT

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY
MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF KIWANIS

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STACEY NILL

THE MICHIGAN BUILDER is published
Bi-monthly for \$20 per year, by
The Michigan District of Kiwanis,
P.O. Box 231, Mason, MI 48854.

Articles are due to the editor by the 5th
of the month prior to the month of
publication.

Builder Publication Schedule

Issue	Deadline
Feb/Mar	Jan. 5
Apr/May	Mar. 5
June/July	May 5
Aug/Sept.	July 5
Oct/Nov.	Sept. 5
Dec/Jan	Nov. 5

Attention: Club Presidents, Secretaries
& Bulletin Editors; Lt. Governors and
District Chairpersons. Submit all
articles, photos and video to
districtoffice@mikiwanis.org. All photo
and artwork must be sent as either jpg
or bmp files. Video must be sent as
mpeg files.



Reflections by the Governor

STAN NELSON, GOVERNOR 2024-25

Dear Fellow Kiwanians:

As we soak in the final days of summer and begin to look toward the colors and possibilities of Fall, let us take a moment to reflect, re-energize, and recommit ourselves to our shared purpose—serving our communities with heart and intention.

The 2025 Great Lakes Conference has reminded us of something important: we are not alone in our mission. We are part of a vast network of clubs and individuals working together, lifting each other up, and exchanging creative, compassionate ideas that better the lives of children and families. The energy, enthusiasm, and innovation coming from this year's conference is nothing short of inspiring. There is truly a plethora of great ideas ready to be taken home, adapted, and put into action. Let's be ready to implement them.

Our Kiwanis motto this year—**"Listening with Purpose, Serving with Heart"**—is more than just a theme. It is a way of life, a mindset, and a call to action. As you wrap up summer projects and current club ventures, take a moment to listen—to your fellow Kiwanians, to your community partners, to the children and families you serve. Listen not just to respond, but to understand. The needs around us are ever-changing, and your compassion and attentiveness are the tools that will uncover the next great initiative your club can champion this Fall.

Fall is a natural season for fresh beginnings. It's the perfect time to complete unfinished projects and begin planning meaningful new ones. Whether it's launching a literacy program, expanding a food drive, sponsoring a youth leadership event, or adopting an entirely new service idea learned at the conference—let's approach it all with purpose, with heart, and with unity.

In this season of transition, let's also remember to engage one another. Call on your fellow Kiwanians, thank them for their efforts, and encourage them to keep going. We are stronger together. Likewise, continue to invite others into our circle. Recruitment is not just about numbers—it's about giving someone else the opportunity to serve, grow, and belong. You have done a tremendous job so far, but our family still has room to grow. Keep asking others to join us. You never know who's waiting for that invitation to make a difference.

Let's budget our time wisely—balancing personal rest with community service—so we can finish this year strong and begin the next with momentum and joy.

Together, let's keep listening with purpose... and always serving with heart.



**"LISTENING WITH PURPOSE,
SERVING WITH HEART"**





The Importance of Engagement

CYNTHIA GREENING, GOVERNOR-ELECT 2024-25

I don't know about you, but when I walk into one of my club's meetings, I feel *good*. It feels like coming home. It feels like family. And that matters! Each of our clubs' cultures matter. It matters to our members, our guests, and whoever happens to be passing through because we represent Kiwanis - not with grand overtures, but by the small things that matter - that add up - that make a difference. The human body produces chemicals that improve our mood when we're generous and caring of others. We're made to *feel* good when we *do* good!



To keep our members engaged and eager to bring in prospective members, we need to give them something to be excited and feel good about; to show them they are valued, important, contributing, and heard. Being open to new ideas and innovative ways of doing things. Celebrating achievements and contributions. Providing hands-on service to enhance personal satisfaction. And having fun!

Earlier this year, we talked about turning our meetings into *impact gatherings*. As I've traveled around the state for club visits and the 2025 KiwanisONES, I've been blown away by the number and variety of service projects happening around our District. I come home and tell my family what a great time I had, what wonderful people I met, and how much I learned - and I mean it every time. Kiwanians are *good* people doing *great* things.

So, what's next for the Michigan District? We're going BACK TO BASICS with two key goals for the coming year:

1) **Goal #1 is to grow the district by 10%** (300+ gross new members) by building four to nine new clubs, and through a growing and dynamic District Membership Team of champions who are onboard and ready to collaborate with you to bolster existing clubs. We will use every tool in our arsenal to Achieve Club Excellence.

2) **Goal #2 is to increase member engagement** by increasing tangible membership value through, among other things:

- ✓ Improved club culture, teambuilding, new member orientation, and leadership succession
- ✓ Re-establishing the Certified Trainers Program and the Membership Fall Rally
- ✓ Creating incentives for member participation outside one's own club
- ✓ and through a vigorous, profile-raising, multi-faceted publicity outreach

My heartfelt ask of you is that you **actively collaborate with me** and our District Leadership team to reach these goals. If we each **fully commit** to doing our part to cultivate healthy, growing clubs, we can and will celebrate another 110 years as the very proud Birthplace of Kiwanis.

Cindy Greening



On the Road again

BEN PROBERT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello Michigan District Kiwanians! Our International Convention at the end of June in Pittsburgh, was a blast. **74 Kiwanians** and Guests registered to attend and overall, the feedback has been very positive. If you attended, **THANK YOU!** Our District was one of the few Districts to exceed our attendance goal! The Hampton Inn (our Official Hotel) was across from the Heinz Museum and less than 10 minutes from the Convention Center.

Highlights

Terry Bradshaw opened the Convention with a humorous and inspiring presentation about the Service that Kiwanians provide around the world. He filled in last minute after Henry Winkler and Martin Sheen bailed. He intertwined football, common sense analogies and a knowledge of who Kiwanis was and what we stood for. Numerous top-notch workshops were presented, including one on Membership by our own **Rocky Roland (Alpena)**.



Friday – brought our early morning District Caucus, more workshops, visits to the Kiwanis Store plus visits with Candidates and Kiwanis Vendors at the Convention Center. Friday night, we had a fun District Event at the Ballpark. With “Eat-in-Seats” tickets we all ate too much, watched the Pirates win a game and enjoyed a drone show all between rain showers.

Saturday Morning featured the Delegate Session. Paul Palazzolo, Kiwanis International Executive Director, as part of his presentation, highlighted what Clubs were doing around the world. **The Michigan District’s own Jackson Club** was one of the Clubs recognized!

Michael Mulhaul of Interlaken, New Jersey, U.S., was elected president and Hope Markes of Hanover, Jamaica, was elected president-elect during the House of Delegates at the 2025 Kiwanis International Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, U.S. Cathy Szymanski of Erie, Pennsylvania, U.S., was elected vice president and will also serve as our Board Counselor during the 2025 – 2026 Administrative year.

Timothy Sheppard of Cheyenne, Wyoming, U.S., and Amy Zimmerman of Beavercreek, Ohio, U.S., were elected trustees for the United States and Pacific Canada Region. Also joining the board in October for three-year terms will be Shinichi Yoshikuni of Tokyo, Japan, and Jon-Fadri Huder of Samedan, Switzerland.



**2025-2026 KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The House of Delegates also voted on proposed amendments to the Kiwanis International Bylaws which require a 2/3 majority to pass. **Sue Petrisin** presented the following amendments:



- **Proposed Amendment 1:** Language Cleanup and District Submission of Resolutions. Submitted by the Kiwanis International Board, this amendment will clarify the current language of the Kiwanis International Bylaws requiring districts to be in good standing to submit resolutions. With the rewording, districts and clubs also can better understand the deadline for submission of resolutions. *The Amendment was Approved.*
- **Proposed Amendment 2:** Regional Boards to Propose Resolutions and Amendments. Submitted by the Kiwanis International Board, this amendment will allow the boards of Kiwanis regions to propose resolutions and amendments, beginning October 1, 2025. *The Amendment was Approved.*
- **Proposed Amendment 3:** Remote Voting for Kiwanis International Business — was not approved. Submitted a fourth time by the Capital District Board, this amendment was submitted to provide for candidate nominations and initial review of proposed amendments and resolutions at the Kiwanis International convention, with final voting via secure remote voting. *It failed garnering a lower percentage than last year.*

The 2026 Kiwanis International Convention will be held in Manila, Philippines, June 25-27. We hope a lot of Michigan Kiwanians will join us. We will have more information in the near future.

Next . . . on to Kalamazoo for our 2025 Great Lakes Conference! Join us August 15th, 16th and 17th for tons of fun, educational opportunities, fellowship and did I mention fun? Cathy Szymanski will be joining us! See you there!

Kiwanis of Michigan
GREAT LAKES
Conference



CATHY SZYMANSKI
2025-26
KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL
VICE PRESIDENT AND
BOARD COUNSELOR FOR MICHIGAN

Kiwanis of Michigan GREAT LAKES Conference

2025 Great Lakes Conference Highlights

**Have you
registered
yet?**



Friday Night Special Event *Evening at Kalamazoo Valley Museum and Planetarium*

Enjoy an evening at Kalamazoo Valley Museum for hors d'oeuvre, fellowship and a tour of the museum. Tickets are required.



Club Leadership Education

Education Sessions for Presidents, Secretaries/Treasurers, and Membership Chairs as well as Engage for Club Leaders will be held at Great Lakes Conference on Saturday



Saturday Night Special Event *Xtreme Karaoke with Encore Productions*

Encore Productions is back again this year to entertain after the Governor's Banquet. Bring your dancing shoes and your favorite karaoke songs to party the night away.

Pre-Registration is OPEN until August 10th for \$65

- Registrations received after August 10 will be processed at Walk-In Registration for \$75

REGISTER NOW



We Hope to See You There!

Start Strong at the Great Lakes Conference

Friday 10am

New to the Great Lakes Conference? Join us for a quick and friendly orientation designed just for you. Get tips on navigating the schedule, making connections, and getting the most from your experience. Meet fellow first-timers, ask questions, and leave feeling ready and confident to dive in!

Education Block 1

Friday, August 15

Konnecting the K's

Discover how building strong connections with our SLPs can strengthen the Kiwanis family. This workshop explores meaningful ways to engage student leaders—through service projects, meeting interactions, and officer collaboration. Key Club and Circle K members will share how to build partnerships that support their growth and inspire Kiwanis involvement.

Demystifying How to Secure your Social Media

Tips and tricks on securing social media to reduce fraudulent posts on fundraising events and account takeovers.

Three Foundations.

Learn about the differences between the Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation, Kiwanis Children's Fund and the MDK Foundation. Find out each of these foundations are positively impacting youth in Michigan.

Opening Session Keynote Speaker

Marc Alexander is back from KiwanisONE's to help us kickoff the 2025 Great Lakes Conference.

**Marc
Alexander**



Extending your opportunities with MSU Extension

Are you always looking for guest speakers? Are you itching to incorporate more volunteerism? Or maybe you're looking for more engagement in the communities you serve? Michigan State University Extension has experts and offices in every Michigan county that help you meet your goals. Learn how Extension professionals engage with Kiwanis already, and then participate in a brainstorming activity designed to help you find ways to work together with this statewide organization for the common good.

Making Meetings Fun and Inviting

Have you ever really listened to what your members say about your club meetings? What about complete strangers? Yes, your guests! Think about the things that happen from gong to adjournment that make no sense to a guest. Learn how to build a positive membership campaign in your community just by tweaking how your meeting is conducted

Education Block 2

Scroll, Post, Impact: Social Media by Gen Z

Want to make your club shine online? Led by a Gen Z social media pro, this workshop dives into tips, tricks, and tools for creating eye-catching, effective content. Learn how to boost engagement, share your impact, and keep it fun—straight from someone who grew up with a phone in hand!

Kids Coalition Against Hunger - The best hands-on service project ever.

This service project will help bring your Kiwanis family and community together. Explore how to fundraiser for the event, how to prospect for volunteers and how to find a local organization to take the food. Get a preview of the packaging day. Get tips on how to involve your Service Leadership Program.

Kiwanis Engage

The new Kiwanis platform, Kiwanis Engage, gives members, clubs and districts expanded capabilities and enhanced insights. Learn about the current and upcoming resources available to clubs, so you'll be equipped to use Kiwanis Engage like a pro - and to set up your club or district for success.

Traditional approaches to volunteerism and community engagement

Participants will learn how to embrace youth from the traditional teachings given by Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Elder Joseph Sowmick. Cultural examples of how family is "all part of the circle" will be shared with explanations of the Medicine Wheel and Seven Grandfather Teachings. Traditional approaches shared with Mt. Pleasant Kiwanis will highlight how volunteerism and community engagement is utilized in their service projects.

Build. Nurture. Retain.

This session will give members an overview of the membership initiative and how each member plays a vital role in membership efforts. We will explore proven recruitment strategies and tactics clubs can begin using now. Each pillar of Build. Nurture. Retain. will have its own workshop on Saturday.

Friday Night Special Event - Night at Kalamazoo Valley Museum

Enjoy an evening in Kalamazoo at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum.

Tickets are \$25

Education Block 3

Start Strong at the Great Lakes Conference



New to the Great Lakes Conference? Join us for a quick and friendly orientation designed just for you. Get tips on navigating the schedule, making connections, and getting the most from your experience. Meet fellow first-timers, ask questions, and leave feeling ready and confident to dive in!

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The new Kiwanis platform, Kiwanis Engage, gives members, clubs and districts expanded capabilities and enhanced insights. Learn about the current and upcoming resources available to clubs, so you'll be equipped to use Kiwanis Engage like a pro - and to set up your club or district for success. *(Repeat of earlier session)*

Club Presidents

Club President Education equips incoming Kiwanis club presidents with the knowledge, tools, and confidence needed to lead effectively, foster member engagement, and support club growth. The training emphasizes goal setting, communication, and collaboration to ensure a successful and impactful year of service.

Hear To Serve: Empowering Communities Together

Emphasize the importance of actively listening to the voices and needs of clubs, enabling them to better understand their communities and make a more meaningful impact. By fostering open communication, collaboration, and empathy, clubs can align their efforts with the unique challenges and opportunities in their local areas.

Build. – More communities need Kiwanis

Does your club have a nearby community that needs Kiwanis? What should you look for in a viable club site? Have you ever thought about opening a club as a service project? Why does everyone believe being a sponsoring Kiwanis club is expensive and difficult? Get the answers to these questions and more during this workshop.

Education Block 4

Healing The Foster Child Within

The voice of a foster child. Learning the importance of hearing a foster child.

Gaming for Good: Using Charitable Gaming to Raise Funds for Your Community

The Michigan Charitable Giving Gaming Association (MiCGA) is a statewide association that educates on charitable gaming and advocates for the charities that use it to raise funds for their communities. Join Kate Hude, MiCGA Executive Director and Kiwanis Club of East Lansing member for an introduction to charitable gaming in the state of Michigan.

Club Secretaries & Treasurers

Club Secretary and Treasurer Education provides vital training on the administrative and financial responsibilities essential to successful club operations. Participants gain the knowledge and tools needed to maintain accurate records, manage budgets, submit required reports, and ensure compliance with Kiwanis policies and procedures.



Shhh -- why Kiwanis is the Best Kept Secret in Town!!

This workshop helps clubs strengthen their recruitment strategy by focusing on community visibility, effective branding, and strong partnerships. Participants will learn how to attract new members by showcasing their impact and deepening community connections.

Nurture. – Foster strong clubs and engaged members

Whether you are mentoring a new club, helping an existing club refocus, or sponsoring a new member, understanding how to nurture clubs and members is key to greater community impact and increased member engagement.

Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation

This workshop will provide an overview of the Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation, including its mission, impact, and how clubs can support hospitalized children through Foundation contributions. Attendees will learn practical ways to engage their club members and communities in supporting the Foundation's vital work.

Education Block 5

Identify and Nurture Future Club Leaders

Strong leadership is the backbone of any successful club or organization and great leaders don't just appear; they're developed. This webinar will explore how to proactively identify emerging talent within your club and create intentional pathways for leadership development. Through practical tips, real-life examples and proven strategies, participants will learn how to empower members, encourage growth and build a strong leadership pipeline that ensures the club's continued success and sustainability.

Make an Impact! How Kiwanis clubs are changing kids' lives with support from the Children's Fund

The Kiwanis Children's Fund is impacting children all over the world by supporting Kiwanis-led service projects. Hear inspiring stories from club service projects that are creating better futures for children around the globe. Your club has the opportunity to help Kiwanis reach 10 million children who need Kiwanis the most by supporting our newest campaign- The Possibility Project.

Retain. – Keep members coming back for more

Attracting new members is essential, and retaining existing ones is equally—if not more—crucial for long-term success. There are hundreds of ways to keep members engaged and improve your membership retention rate. This workshop will discuss effective tactics for your club and options that allow a member to remain in your club and “Kiwanis differently” from their traditional counterparts.

Kiwanis of Michigan
GREAT LAKES
Conference

AUGUST 14-17, 2025
 RADISSON PLAZA & HOTEL
 KALAMAZOO, MI

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2025

- 2 - 6 pm | Registration & Credentials
- 3 pm | Exhibits, Foundation Silent Auction, District Store Set-Up
- 6:30 pm | \$\$ District Board Dinner *by invitation only*
- 8 pm | District Board Meeting



FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 2025

- 7 am - 5 pm | Registration & Credentials
- 8am -5pm | Check out the Exhibits, the District Store & the Foundation Auction
- 9:30 -10:30 am | 2024-25 Lt. Governor Meeting
- 10 - 11:30 am | Start Strong at the Great Lakes Conference - First Time Convention Participants
- 10:30 - 11:45 am | 2025-26 Lt. Governor Meeting
- 12 - 1:45 pm | \$\$ Lunch hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Kalamazoo
- 2 - 3:45 pm | Leadership Education Sessions
- 4 - 5:30 pm | Opening Session
- 6 - 8:30 pm | \$\$ An Evening at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum (horsd, refreshments)
- 6 pm - | Enjoy Downtown Kalamazoo / Dinner On Your Own

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025

- 7 am - 2 pm | Registration & Credentials
- 8 - 11:45 am | Check out the Exhibits & the Foundation Auction
- 8 - 9 am | \$\$ Breakfast with Friends
- 9 - 11:45 am | Leadership Education Sessions
- 12 - 1:45 pm | \$\$ Honors Lunch hosted by our Service Leadership Family
- 2 - 4 pm | House of Delegates
- 6- 6:45 pm | Governor's Reception
- 7 - 11 pm | \$\$ Governor's Dinner hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Alpena

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025

- 8 - 9:30 am | \$\$ Celebration of Life Breakfast hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Brooklyn
- 9:45 - 11:30 am | Retirement and Installation of the Michigan District of Kiwanis Leadership

AUGUST 14-17TH, 2025 • RADISSON HOTEL, KALAMAZOO, MI

Convention Registration Form

ALL ATTENDEES MUST REGISTER AND RECEIVE A BADGE

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

MEMBER NAME: <hr/> BADGE NAME <i>(IF DIFFERENT)</i> <hr/> PHONE: <hr/> CLUB OFFICER POSITION '24-25: <hr/>	GUEST NAME: <hr/> SLP/UNDER 18 NAME & AGE: <hr/> EMAIL: <hr/> CLUB OFFICER POSITION '25-26: <hr/>
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CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

- ☐ FIRST TIMER
 ☐ LEGION OF HONOR
 ☐ 50 YR KIWANIAN
 ☐ KMF DISTINGUISHED KIWANIAN
 ☐ KMF AL DAILEY
☐ LIFE MEMBER - DISTRICT
 ☐ LIFE MEMBER - INTERNATIONAL
 ☐ KMF J.D. ALEXANDER
 ☐ FOUNDERS CIRCLE
☐ DISTRICT CHAIR
 ☐ PAST GOVERNOR
 ☐ LT. GOVERNOR '24-25
 ☐ LT. GOVERNOR '25-26
 ☐ HERITAGE SOCIETY
☐ MDK FOUNDATION
 ☐ KMF TRUSTEE
 ☐ HIXSON AWARD

REGISTRATION SELECTIONS:

REGISTRATION	EVENT	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
EARLY REGISTRATION	ONLINE ONLY JUNE 1 - JULY 30		\$50.00	SOLD OUT
LATE REGISTRATION	ONLINE ONLY JULY 31 - AUGUST 10		\$65.00	
WALK - IN REGISTRATION	NO ONLINE REGISTRATIONS AFTER AUGUST 10		\$75.00	
SLP & UNDER 18	NAME _____ AGE ____ NAME _____ AGE ____		\$0.00	

REGISTRATION ADD ONS

FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIAL EVENT ADD ON	AN EVENING AT KALAMAZOO VALLEY MUSEUM		\$25.00	
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MEALS

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS:

- ☐ VEGETARIAN
 ☐ VEGAN
 ☐ PESCATARIAN
 ☐ OTHER _____

GREAT LAKES MEAL PACKAGE	INCLUDES ALL MEALS LISTED BELOW		\$224.00	
FRIDAY, AUG 15	BREAKFAST		\$28.00	
FRIDAY, AUG 15	KICK OFF LUNCHEON		\$34.00	
SATURDAY, AUG 16	BREAKFAST		\$33.00	
SATURDAY, AUG 16	HONORS LUNCHEON		\$37.00	
SATURDAY, AUG 16	GOVERNOR'S BANQUET		\$67.00	
SUNDAY, AUG 17	CELEBRATION OF LIFE BREAKFAST		\$35.00	



DISTRICT FUNDRAISING CHAIR

The Fundraising Chair plays a crucial role in helping our District raise non-dues funding needed to optimally function, by planning activities to raise and solicit funds.

- Develop a fundraising action plan
- Organize various fundraising events and campaigns
- Work with volunteers for fundraising purposes
- Ensure compliance with legal regulations and ethical practices

DISTRICT HISTORIAN

In our increasingly disconnected world, the significance of historians has never been more vital in preserving and honoring our past.

- Conduct research to uncover historical data
- Preserve historical data and associated photos
- Share historical stories in District communications

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN A POSITION, PLEASE CONTACT THE DISTRICT OFFICE
@ DISTRICTOFFICE@MIKIWANIS.ORG

MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF KIWANIS OFFICE CELEBRATES 25 YEARS



Michigan District Office
Building established October 19, 1999
Open House was held on May 7, 2000



315 Kiwanis Dr. Mason MI 48854
Office Hours: Mon by Appt. Tues- Fri 9am-5pm
517-676-3837 districtoffice@mikiwanis.org

Governor Bob Page
with
Circle K Governor
Tricia Jackson and
Key Club Governor
Heather Good



District Secretary/
Treasurer with
District Admin
Secretary Kathy
Alexander



Executive Director
Ben Probert



Administrative Secretary
Stacey Nill

Hello Michigan Kiwanians,

My name is Clara Berry, and I'm honored to serve as the 2025–2026 Governor of the Michigan District of Circle K International. I'm thrilled to share an exciting update about what we've been up to this summer!

In June, six members from our district traveled to Pittsburgh, PA for the Circle K International Convention. We had an unforgettable experience growing our leadership and service skills. From learning new techniques for membership recruitment to discovering fresh ideas for strengthening the Kiwanis family, ICON was a powerful reminder of what we can accomplish together.

We are incredibly grateful for the support you gave to help make this trip possible. Whether it was through donations, words of encouragement, or helping us plan the logistics—thank you. Because of you, our delegation returned inspired and ready to serve.

While at ICON, we brought home two awards! Please join me in congratulating our Immediate Past District Governor, Ananya Bommineni, on receiving the Distinguished District Governor award. I was also honored to be named a Distinguished District Committee Chairperson for my service as District Events Chair last year.



Back here in Michigan, our board has continued the momentum in July. We recently appointed two new members to our team—Jumana Kamalaldin and Mia Morabito—who will serve as Events Co-Chairs this year. Please help us welcome them aboard! We're also thrilled to announce the chartering of the University of Michigan–Dearborn Circle K! A huge thank you to the Dearborn Kiwanis Club for their sponsorship and continued support. We can't wait to see what this new club accomplishes in their first year.





Looking ahead, our District Board will be attending the Great Lakes Conference in August, and we're so excited to connect with many of you there. If you're interested in chartering a CKI club or getting involved this year, please stop by our table at the GLC—we'd love to meet you!

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support of CKI in Michigan. Your mentorship and encouragement make our work possible, and we can't wait to make this year one of the best yet.

Yours in Caring Service,

Clara Berry

2025–2026 Michigan District of Circle K Governor
Past Key Club International Vice President
Past Michigan District of Key Club Governor



ICON 2025



DEAR MICHIGAN KIWANIANs,

My name is Fatme Khalil, and I proudly serve as the Michigan District Lieutenant Governor (LTG) Chair. From June 29th to July 6th, I had the incredible honor of attending the **2025 Key Club International Convention (ICON) in Orlando, Florida**, alongside nearly 50 passionate Key Clubbers from the Mighty Michigan District!

This year's ICON was especially meaningful as we celebrated **Key Club International's 100th birthday** - a full century of empowering student leaders to serve their homes, schools, and communities. Thanks to your continued support and encouragement, we were able to join hundreds of Key Clubbers from across the globe to reflect on our legacy and look ahead to the **future of service leadership!**

Throughout the week, we engaged in inspiring workshops centered around **Key Club's four core values: Leadership, Character Building, Inclusiveness, and Caring**. These sessions challenged us to grow, provided us with insight on how to strengthen our clubs, and reminded us why service is at the heart of everything we do.

One of the most exciting moments of the week was the election of the 2025-2026 International Board. I'm incredibly proud to share that two of the newly elected leaders - **International Vice President Luna Alaowad** and **International Trustee McCarty Liang**, as pictured above - are from our very own Mighty Michigan District!

Another ICON highlight was witnessing Ms. Berry of the Saint Joseph Kiwanis Club receive the **Key of Honor** - the highest recognition awarded by Key Club International. This award honors individuals who have made a lifelong positive impact on youth and Key Club, and Ms. Berry's unwavering commitment to service and mentorship is a shining example of that legacy. Her recognition at ICON was not only well-deserved, but also a proud moment for all of us in Michigan.

Beyond workshops and elections, ICON gave us unforgettable moments - from spirited district bonding to deep conversations about the impact of service in our communities. It was a powerful reminder of what's possible when **young people are given the opportunity to lead**.

On behalf of the Michigan District of Key Club, **thank you** for making this experience possible. Your support not only brought us to ICON, but continues to shape the **leaders of today and tomorrow**. Your support empowers us to continue the remarkable legacy of service as we enter this **next century of service!**

Yours in service,
Fatme Khalil
Michigan Key Club LTG Chair
July 2025

"M-I-D-K-C-I, WE ARE MICHIGAN!"





ICON 2025



KEY OF HONOR MS. BERRY



"M-I-D-K-C-I, WE ARE MICHIGAN!"



K-FAMILY SHOUT - OUTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

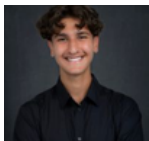
The Kiwanis Children's Fund honors 8 Key Club and CKI scholars.

By Erin Chandler

Kiwanis International

The eight outstanding students who received this year's Kiwanis Children's Fund scholarships show a special dedication to leadership and mentorship — and to ensuring everyone has equal access to the resources they need. Each recipient says that the values and skills they have learned in Key Club and Circle K International (CKI) will form the basis for the difference they'll make. In fact, each of these brilliant scholars is already paving the way for those who will come after them. And some of them are already planning to join Kiwanis!

The Children's Fund is honored to help them continue their education in the upcoming academic year.



Mohammed Ali Al-Sabeh

Kiwanis Children's Fund Scholarship

Mohammed Ali Al-Sabeh recently graduated from Crestwood High School in Michigan, U.S. He served the Crestwood High School Key Club as underclassmen director and president before going on to positions at the district and international levels, including as an international trustee. In his first year of Key Club, Al-Sabeh launched the "Mittens for Michigan" project, which has provided over 600 giant mittens filled with comfort items for pediatric cancer patients. He also helped his school's Key Club grow from 30 members to more than 100. In addition to shadowing medical professionals as an intern, Al-Sabeh is a math instructor at the Mathnasium Learning Center, where he has organized a monthly raffle and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) Day to motivate his students. His mentorship has extended to roles in Aspire United Education's STEM Mentorship Program and Crestwood Science Club, and to volunteer student teaching in the Dearborn High School special education classroom. As electrical lead of his school's robotics team, he raised thousands of U.S. dollars to provide robotics mentoring to elementary and middle school students. Al-Sabeh plans to study biochemistry at the University of Southern California before becoming a UNICEF ambassador and neurosurgeon working with the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research, where he will work to break down systemic barriers to healthcare.



Kiwanis®
CHILDREN'S FUND

K-FAMILY SHOUT – OUTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Kiwanis Children's Fund awarded 31 Youth Opportunities Fund grants to Key Clubs in April.

By Erin Chandler

This year, Key Club International is celebrating 100 years of making a difference in schools and communities around the world. The Kiwanis Children's Fund established the Youth Opportunities Fund so Key Club leaders can continue taking action for the next 100 years and beyond.

In April, the Children's Fund awarded Youth Opportunities Fund grants for 31 Key Club projects that combat food insecurity, create memorable experiences for kids with disabilities, bolster mental health and more. The top 10 projects were selected as determined by the Key Club International Board committee and Children's Fund representatives. Two Michigan Key Clubs were selected. **Congratulations to Haslett High School Key Club and St. Joseph High School Key Club:**

Courtyard Renovation and Revitalization

Haslett High School Key Club, Michigan, U.S.

Haslett High School's overgrown courtyard will get a new lease on life as an outdoor classroom thanks to the Key Club and a Youth Opportunities Fund grant. Working with Haslett High School's Sustainability Club and National Honors Society, as well as Haslett Middle School's Builders Club and Conservation Club, Key Club members will level the area, fill in a pond, cultivate a native plant and pollinator garden, and install seating so students and teachers can use the courtyard to hold classes, study and socialize. Grant funds will help purchase grass seed, mulch, picnic table kits and plants.

Senior Prom for Seniors

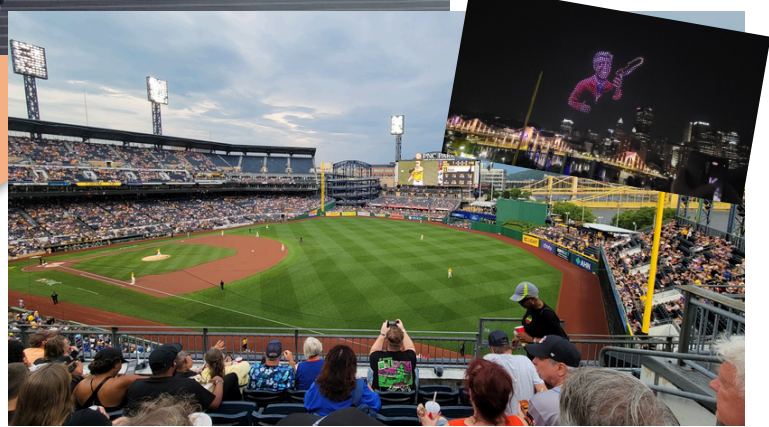
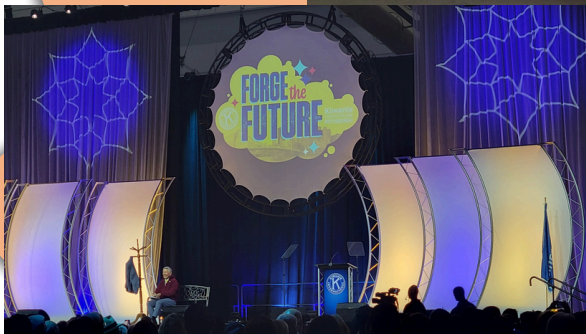
Saint Joseph High School Key Club, Michigan, U.S.

No, that project name isn't redundant — every spring, the Saint Joseph High School Key Club gives residents at a local retirement home the chance to relive their high school proms. A Youth Opportunities Fund grant will help the club bring in a band, dance floor, refreshments, door prizes, pictures and a chocolate fountain. Then it's time for intergenerational bonding as senior citizens and Key Club volunteers don their finest, dance the night away and, of course, crown a prom king and queen. The project has been so successful that Key Club members have gone on to be regular volunteers at the retirement home and launched a project to record residents' life stories.

How to get involved

Does your Key Club have a project idea that could benefit from a Youth Opportunities Fund grant? [Learn more about the grant](#) and how to apply. If your club does not yet sponsor a Key Club, [discover the advantages of chartering one.](#)

MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF KIWANIS AT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN PITTSBURGH



Club Leadership Education - Online Training with Kiwanis International

Kiwanis International has announced the availability of virtual Club Leadership Education (CLE). This training will provide a general overview of roles and responsibilities for incoming club presidents, secretaries, treasurers and membership chairs — and it will give you a chance to connect with other Kiwanis leaders.

While this virtual training can count for credit for officers who are not able to attend district training at Great Lakes Conference August 13-17, Kiwanis International strongly encourages all incoming officers to attend their district CLE training for district-specific information.

Virtual training dates

These training sessions are designed for all incoming and returning club-level officers who either are unable to attend district-led training or are looking for additional education.

All training sessions will be conducted on Zoom at 8 p.m. ET/ 7 p.m. CT/ 6 p.m. MT/ 5 p.m. PT.
The Zoom link for all training sessions will be sent at a later date.

Club President Training: *Monday, August 4, 8-9:30 p.m. ET*
Club Secretary Training: *Tuesday, August 5, 8-9:30 p.m. ET*
Club Treasurer Training: *Wednesday, August 6, 8-9:30 p.m. ET*
Club Membership Chair Training: *Monday, August 11, 8-9:30 p.m. ET*
Kiwanis Engage for Club Leaders: *Tuesday, August 12, 8-9:30 p.m. ET*



Do I have to attend the training?

All incoming club-level officers are required to attend CLE training. The virtual CLE training sessions are offered as a supplement to any training you may have already received but may count for training credit if you missed your district training.

What if I can't make it to the training?

All positional training will be recorded on Zoom for those who are unable to attend and would like to review the training on their own time. Recordings will be available beginning August 15.

How will I receive my CLE credits?

After the virtual training is complete, we will ask you to complete a brief attendance survey. All attendees who complete the survey will receive credit for attending CLE training. We ask that districts continue to track attendance for all district-led CLE training via a spreadsheet until the new Education Tracker is up and running on Kiwanis Engage.

How do I register?

Please [register here](#) — or forward the link to any incoming club officers in your club or district to ensure they get signed up. Thank you for stepping up as a club leader. We look forward to having you join us in these sessions. If you have any additional questions, contact education@kiwanis.org or the district office.

REGISTER NOW



1975 **50 YEARS** 2025

LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY - CLASS OF 2025

CONGRADUALATIONS!

Now is the time to plan in your budget for 2026.

Class for 2026-27 is June 7-12, 2026.

You can now register online. Go to MI District website, SLP Programs, Law Enforcement to download forms. Cost: \$595.00.

Suggestions: You can ask at High Schools, local Police Departments, etc.

Please call Marian O'Higgins, Chair at 586 801 6706 and leave a message or email at maoh1004@gmail.com for further assistance.

Please see us at GLC for more information.



Woodhaven Kiwanis Cereal Drive

Summer is a time for youngster to expand their horizons. It is a time for sports, bike riding, and creative play. No youngsters should have to spend their playful summer hours worrying about food insecurity, yet many downriver children do. The Feeding America Network estimates 14% of Wayne County residents face food insecurity. Following the model set by the Professional Nurses Association at Michigan Children's Hospital and Jay Towers from Jay Towers in the morning, Woodhaven Kiwanians partnered with area schools to collect cereal for local food pantries.

Students at Bates, Brownstown Middle School, Erving, Gudith, Hedke, Wegienka, Woodhaven High School, Woodhaven Upper Elementary, and Yake School collected cereal and fill 137 cases with cereal. Each case held 20 to 25 boxes of cereal. Bob McCoy, Club president, explained, the youngsters truly "Stuffed a School Bus" with cereal. Additionally, Woodhaven Kiwanians purchased 1,800 boxes of cereal, filling most of a second school bus.

Saturday, May 31st, Woodhaven Kiwanians, friends, and students head out to deliver 400 to 450 boxes of cereal to seven Downriver pantries. They visited Our Lady of the Woods (Woodhaven), Fed by Faith at Faith Lutheran Church (Brownstown), Helping Hands at Community Lutheran Church (Flat Rock), St. Philip's (Trenton), Downriver Food Pantry, St. Stephen's, and the Downriver Salvation Army.

Woodhaven Kiwanis Membership Chairman, Brenden Hoy, encourages resident 18 and older to get involved in their community through Kiwanis. Woodhaven Kiwanians meet at the Woodhaven Community Center on Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm. Meeting only last an hour. The Woodhaven Kiwanis Club serves North Brownstown, Trenton, Woodhaven, as well as, the Trenton Public Schools and the Woodhaven-Brownstown Schools.



Our whole delivery crew as we deliver at the Downriver Salvation Army



The bus stuffed with cereal from the nine schools

WOODHAVEN KIWANIS YOUTH CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

BY PAUL ELSEY

For the past forty-nine years, Woodhaven Kiwanians, have set aside time late in May to honor outstanding student citizenship. This is not an academic award, but rather an award for the student who is a leader, and has provided service to their school or community. We ask the schools to look for students who possess the outstanding personal characteristics, we would like all youngsters to emulate. Each school chooses their own winner. Woodhaven Kiwanians feel it is important to acknowledge students who take time to help others.

Our 2025 winners are:

- Colin Davey - Anderson Elementary School
- Landon Van Engelen - Arthurs Middle School
- Annabelle Heck - Bates Elementary School
- Hailey Trimai - Brownstown Middle School
- William Wyatt - Erving Elementary School
- Emma Drabczyk - Gudith Elementary School
- Lucy Wedley - Hedke Elementary School
- Alyssa Berger - Trenton High School
- Audrey Brown - Wegienka Elementary School
- Annalise Matzo - Woodhaven High School
- Audrey Votraw - Woodhaven Upper Elementary School
- Vinko Margiljic - Yake Elementary School



Each winner receives a certificate and book to commemorate their accomplishments. Students are asked to donate their book to a classroom library, school library or public library. Each time a library patron reads the book they will note the students achievements.



BATES SCHOOL WINNER
WITH HER TEACHER
MICHELLE DUCHENE



BROWNSTOWN MIDDLE
SCHOOL WINNER HAILEY
TRIMAI WITH TEACHER
AMANDA SAYRE AND KIWANIS
PRESIDENT ROBERT MCCOY



YAKE SCHOOL WINNER WITH
TEACHER JESSIE GARCIA,
KIWANIS PRESIDENT ROBERT
MCCOY, AND YAKE PRINCIPAL
TIM PODLEWSKI

Troy Kiwanis Club Raises Funds to Support Youth Mental Health

Kiwanis Club of Troy held their annual “Harvesting Hope: Healing Begins with US” youth mental health wine tasting fundraiser event on Friday, May 16 at the Troy Historic Village. Focused on helping young people struggling in the community, the event raised over \$10,000 to address the persistent mental illness issues plaguing the youth in local schools.

The fundraiser proceeds go directly to youth mental health counseling sessions to help underserved students in need of financial aid. Since the KIT Fund launch, approximately over 100 mental health counseling sessions have been funded by Troy Kiwanis KIT (Kiwanis Inspired Teens) Fund donations.

“In Michigan, nearly 60% of teens experiencing depression cannot access help—a truly alarming statistic. Families seeking mental health assistance often face significant barriers, including long wait times, limited in-person availability, and overwhelming financial burdens. Kiwanis' KIT Fund steps in to eliminate these obstacles, providing a lifeline of support to youth and their families. This initiative enables and empowers youth in our community to move towards wellness and to heal during such a critical time in their lives. We are grateful for Kiwanis' commitment to our community and our youth.” Colleen Reveley, LMSW, ARISE Counseling & Training Institute

“The KIT Fund-ARISE Counseling collaboration has embraced our most at-risk students. The cases are clinically significant wherein the lack of treatment will likely spur negative coping strategies like school avoidance and substance abuse. We feel incredible relief that we can see a case through to where students are actually receiving therapy with reduced waiting times. The gratitude that comes from knowing top-notch therapists are working with our students is tremendous. I can't fully convey the depth of this feeling. We always cheer for each other when one of us makes a referral to KIT/ARISE. It feels like such a victory. Thank you, thank you for helping school counselors too!!”. - Troy School District Counseling Office

A huge THANK YOU to our corporate sponsors this year! Presenting Sponsor – Kelly Services Inc. Corporate Sponsors: Mike Savoie Chevrolet, Diversified Members Credit Union, Giarmarco, Mullins, & Horton, P.C. – Trusts & Estate Practice Group, Rivers Bend PC, Horizon Advisers, ARISE Counseling & Training Institute, Havenwyck Hospital, Great Dane Marketing & Communications, Ken Osiwala - Modern Wealth Management, Automotive Authority, and Hotel Investment Services, Inc.

Thank you also to our restaurant sponsors: Sedona Taphouse, Carrabba's Italian Grill, Fogo de Chao, City BBQ (Troy), Chick Fil-A Somerset North Collection. Music was provided by Scott Wrona Jazz trio. Special thanks to Troy Historic Village! We appreciate all these sponsors' support to assist community youth.



Michigan District Kiwanis Store Now Open Online

KIWANIS ONLINE APPAREL STORE IS NOW OPEN!

Dear Kiwanis Family,

We're excited to announce that the Kiwanis Online Apparel Store is officially LIVE and ready for your orders! Whether you're looking for something casual, professional, or just want to show your Kiwanis pride—we've got something for everyone!

- T-Shirts, Polos, Sweatshirts, Dress shirts
- Jackets, Vests & More!
- * **Multiple colors and sizes available**
- * **Order individual pieces or bulk for your club**

Pre-pay online with a credit card

Save on shipping by combining group orders to one address



Browse Now: Please go to [Kiwanis Apparel Shop 2025](#) to order from our online shop.

Order early to wear your gear at upcoming events!

Let's wear our mission with pride and represent Kiwanis wherever we go!

If you have any questions on ordering, feel free to contact KIM at:

Kim Kramer, Owner YourLookLogos.com

Office. 844-348-3803

Fax. 313-383-9252

Email. Kim@yourlooklogos.com

Questions: IPG Renea Callery: reneaewi@gmail.com



Together, we serve—with style!

THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF KIWANIS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS TO THE KIWANIS FAMILY:

Allen Park

Maria Lalli

Hastings

Julie Andrews

Monroe

Jerry Gorman

Boyne City

Jan Goike

Jackson

Cassidy Taylor

Shorewood

Tom Budnick

Cosmopolitan Detroit

Judy Bunao

Lapeer

Leslie Getz

South Haven

Ana Aleman-Putnam

Haslett-Okemos

James 'Jim' Forgy
Kristen 'Kris' Forgy

Metro Detroit Young Professionals

Penelope Mankey

South Oakland County

Lyshon Davis
Kimberly Storks



SLP members

	Clubs	Paid Members
K Kids	6	--
Builders Club	20	--
Key Club	101	6103
Circle K	8	139
Aktion Club	18	234

In Memoriam

Ann M. Blair
South Lansing

Donald L. Horton
Owosso

Steve Mardlin
Swartz Creek



2024-2025 Governor's Membership Trophy



Shorewood.....	+13
Detroit #1	+9
Tri - Cities, GH-SL	+9
Kalamazoo	+6
East Lansing	+6
Delta Twp	+6
Haslett-Okemos	+6
Charlevoix	+6
Indian River	+5
Blue Water, Port Huron	+5
Cosmopolitan Detroit	+5
Jackson	+5

Net gain is from 10-1-24 to 9-30-25 and includes clubs only with a least a net gain of +5 based on official membership numbers supplied by Kiwanis International.

AS WE GO TO PRESS

Active Clubs: 130

Beginning Membership: 3128

Reporting Members: 3242

Net Gain: +114