

The Central View



Kiwanis®

EASTERN CANADA AND THE CARIBBEAN DISTRICT
DIVISION 23 CENTRAL

August, 2025 | Volume 6, Issue 3

THE OFFICIAL DIVISION 23 CENTRAL MAGAZINE



The Power of Purpose

Together We Transform

TRANSFORMERS
Empower, Inspire, Transform... United in service!



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L'EST DU CANADA ET DES CARAÏBES

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE
Presents

“LEADERSHIP MONTH”

September 1-30, 2025

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- ✓ LEADERSHIP WEBINAR: MONDAY SEPT 8, 2025
- ✓ LEADERSHIP VIDEOS SHARED WEEKLY
- ✓ LEADERSHIP FOCUS MEETINGS BY CLUBS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT
- ✓ HIGHLIGHTING OF LEADERS ACROSS THE DISTRICT





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THE KIWANIS MISSION

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.

THE KIWANIS MOTTO

Serving the children of the world.

THE KIWANIS VISION

Kiwanis will be a positive influence in communities worldwide — so that one day, all children will wake up in communities that believe in them, nurture them and provide the support they need to thrive.

THE KIWANIS OBJECTS

- ▶ To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life.
- ▶ To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
- ▶ To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business and professional standards.
- ▶ To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.
- ▶ To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and to build better communities.
- ▶ To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism and goodwill.



FROM THE EDITOR



As we proudly present the third issue of our Division 23 Central bulletin, I am filled with gratitude and admiration for the remarkable work taking place across our clubs. Our members have continued to embrace the theme “Empower, Inspire, Transform... United in Service” not just in words, but through meaningful action.

Your creativity, dedication and compassion have brought our mission to life. Through service projects, partnerships and community initiatives. You’ve impacted countless lives and inspired hope where it’s needed most. This bulletin captures just a glimpse of your extraordinary efforts, but the true measure of your impact is felt in the hearts of those we serve.

Thank you for your tireless commitment and the passion you bring to every endeavor. Together, we are not only making a difference today but also shaping a brighter, stronger tomorrow.

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KCNSA

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S *Message*

Sharon Usim

Lieutenant Governor 2024/25
Eastern Canada and the Caribbean District

Greetings Transformers,

How time flies when we are having fun. Our 3rd quarter was a beehive of activity as clubs continued to plan and execute some wonderful, impactful projects and inducted new members. I had the pleasure of attending the Launch of a BUG programme by the Kiwanis Club of Caribbean Emerging Leaders, at Central Branch All Age School. This project was also featured on Television Jamaica's popular morning programme Smile Jamaica and in the Jamaica Gleaner, congratulations to President Alric and team. We also had the successful implementation of our All Island Blood Drive, a plethora of Labour Day projects in numerous communities across Kingston, St. Andrew and St. Thomas and many other exciting activities and events sponsored by our clubs.

Undoubtedly the highlight of the quarter was our District Convention, which was attended by 46 members from Division 23 Central. We had a grand time in cold Niagara Falls and many of us connected with friends from across the District and made some new ones as well. We congratulate our Governor Pamela Rodney-White and the district team for hosting an enjoyable and well-planned convention. Right on the heels of the District Convention came Kiwanis International Convention in June and once again Division 23 Central shone brightly. We extend congratulations to President Claudine Heaven and the members of the Kiwanis Club of West St. Andrew on their second-place award in the Signature Project Contest. This is an outstanding achievement not only for the club but for our Division and our District.

I continue to meet with Presidents and visit clubs across the division and I am truly inspired by the dedication and level of commitment displayed. Clubs face many challenges and I know that some clubs are really struggling to survive. We continue to work with the leadership of the clubs and together we will overcome these challenges. I encourage members not to give up but dig deep and press on as the children and communities you serve need you more than ever.

I thank the divisional team including our club coaches for their hard work and I encourage the team to continue to implement the various aspects of our divisional strategic plan as we give support to our clubs to achieve the transformation they desire for their clubs and in their delivery of service to their communities. ►

As we move quickly into the 4th and final quarter of this administrative year let us keep our focus and examine the goals we have set for ourselves, many can still be achieved, keep going team. I look forward to celebrating all our achievements and great work in September.

May we remain united in service as we continue to empower, inspire and transform. ■



Kiwanis®

EASTERN CANADA AND THE CARIBBEAN DISTRICT
DIVISION 23 CENTRAL

Lieutenant Governor's Goals 2024-2025

VISION STATEMENT

Strong, inspiring and effective club leadership, united in our commitment to drive the positive transformation of Jamaica, one child, one community at a time

60% of clubs transforming the life of at least one child by September 30, 2025

All clubs to achieve a minimum net growth of 2 by September 30, 2025 & implement a plan to increase member engagement and participation

Fully implemented Divisional Strategic Plan enabling achievement of the vision

All clubs to increase Kiwanis visibility and branding by executing a signature project

All clubs to achieve Distinguished Status

All clubs fully compliant with SLP, financial and other obligations

We will achieve our vision and goals through leadership support, coaching and guidance, education and training, collaboration, fun, fellowship and good vibes, within and across divisions!





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We are who we are

We are Kiwanians, we choose to share,
We are the 2025 team of Transformers,
Intent on changing lives, showing that we care.

Big up the transformational team of Kiwanis leaders,
With their rich human and material resources and
Months of planning to raise standards and create better readers.

The clubs has plans to assist children, adults and the disabled too,
And were intent on transforming lives, bringing smiles to some faces,
Painting some spaces, to have them look new.

Transformers proudly support Gov Pam,
Regardless of the project we all lend a hand,
We can't help but join to help a child, for after all she is no sham.

Our boss, the cool, collective and competent LG Sharon,
With her vision and wise decision making she should be assured,
That attaining distinguished status has already been done.

Advisors to LG coming from Divisions 23 C and 23 E,
You have encouraged, you have nurtured our transformer in chief,
Of course impacting the clubs' work as far as our eyes can see.

No sarges around here, we will never love you,
For the charges you lay on us,
Were very often trumped up and certainly not true.

Transformers, 2025 you have been doing your part,
You have been impacting communities,
Working hard, working smart and with a good heart.

Georgia Henry
Divisional Secretary

Daring to CARE

Kiwanis Club of North St Andrew, Mustard Seed Communities join forces to help young men at Matthew 25:40 home.

Published by the Jamaica Observer
Renaë Osbourne - July 17, 2025



Eastern Canada and the Caribbean District (ECC) of Kiwanis International Governor Pam Rodney-White (left) shares a light moment with Monsignor Gregory Ramkissoon, founder of Mustard Seed Communities. (Photo: Karl McLarty)

A long-promised transitional house for young men at the Mustard Seed Communities' Matthew 25:40 home is now just months from becoming a reality.

Ground was broken for the facility on Tuesday with construction set to be completed in three months.

The construction is being arranged by the Kiwanis Club of North St Andrew — which had announced plans for the facility almost four years ago — in collaboration with Mustard Seed Communities.

“This is the official start of construction of this transitional hostel, and it symbolises the transition from planning, to the construction phase, which is where we are now, and let me confess to you that the planning phase has been extremely long,” said distinguished president of the Kiwanis Club of North St Andrew Franklin Reid, at a “*path breaking*” for the facility on Tuesday.

According to Reid, the project, which was officially launched in October 2021, is being done in three phases, with phases one and two dedicated to providing psychosocial support, training, and development to the young men of Matthew 25:40 home.

He said with first two phases done the third phase will account for the completion of the \$22-million facility which will act as a place of development and healing for the young men who will be calling it home. ►

Reid told the launch that the transitional hostel was set into motion on behalf of those living in the Matthew 25:40 home, aged 16-25, who were born with HIV and had been orphaned either by the death or abandonment of their parents.

He added that providing for the less fortunate has long been the vision and goal of the Kiwanis Club of North St Andrew and the Mustard Seed Communities.

“Inspired by the healing ministry of Jesus Christ, Mustard Seed Communities provide lifelong care for children and adults with disabilities, children affected by HIV, young mothers in crisis, and marginalised communities,” noted Reid.

In the meantime governor of Eastern Canada and the Caribbean District (ECC) of Kiwanis International Pam Rodney-White declared that Tuesday’s event was not just a path breaking, but the final step towards providing those who were once forsaken with a place where they could find support, stability, and community.

“What we witness today is not just the beginning, it’s the continuation of a vision built on hope, action, and love. This is not merely just a construction site. It is where dignity is poured into every corner street.”

“Each child who walks through these doors, this home, will be able to say, ‘I am not forgotten, I am loved, I am seen and I feel valued’. We know that the ongoing support to these young men will not be just in steel and mortar, but in mentorship, care, and advocacy,” said Rodney-White.

That feeling of accomplishment was shared by Father Garvin Augustine, executive director of Mustard Seed Communities.

According to Augustine, there were doubts about whether the transitional facility would ever become a reality but now that it is in such close reach, this is a clear reminder that all things are possible through Christ.

“If you have faith the size of mustard seed, you can move mountains, you can move oceans... I remember back when this project was conceived we all thought, ‘yeah, this is going to happen in a few months, maybe a year,’ and it has been how long now? A while. So this journey has been uncertain at times, but I never lost faith,” said Augustine.

He underscored that the project was conceptualised to console those who were neglected. *“I look forward to three months from now when we will actually open the facility that will provide care for these young men. As our motto says, ‘we are caring for the world one child at a time...no child will be abandoned twice,’”* added Augustine.

Mustard Seed Communities operate three homes in Jamaica for individuals living with HIV under its Dare to Care programme: Matthew 25:40, a home for 20 teenage boys; Martha’s House, a home for 25 children; and Dare to Care, a home for 15 teenage girls. ■

BRIDGING THE GENERATION GAP

Practical Tips for Workplace Harmony

By Horton International

Today's workplace frequently sees multiple generations working together, with Baby Boomers, Gen X, Millennials, and Gen Z all now contributing to the workforce. Yet the vast diversity in age and experience present in the modern workplace brings both opportunities and challenges. If the company is to thrive, it will be essential to learn how to bridge the generation gap and manage generational differences in the workplace, in order to create a harmonious and productive work environment.

In this article, we will outline some core practical tips that will help employers working with different generations to achieve this goal.

How to manage different generations in the workplace

1) What is the generation gap?

One of the first steps in bridging the generation gap lies in understanding the different benefits, characteristics and values that each age demographic has to offer.

Baby Boomers (born 1946-1964) – Have a strong work ethic, high company loyalty, and prefer in-person communication.

Generation X (born 1965-1980) – Are entrepreneurial, resourceful and adaptable and prioritise independence, flexibility, and a good work-life balance.

Millennials (born 1981-1996) – Tend to seek meaningful work and are tech-savvy, valuing collaboration with colleagues. They usually prefer digital communication methods. ►



Generation Z (born 1997-2012) – Are digital natives that are used to fast-paced environments and continuous learning. They often value diversity, inclusivity, and social responsibility above status and financial compensation.

Recognizing generational differences in the workplace will allow employers to better tailor their communication and management strategies, so they can best suit the needs of each age group.

2) Encourage Open Communication

Effective communication is pivotal when it comes to bridging the gap between generations. Employers should foster a continuously open dialogue where all employees feel comfortable giving their input and feedback and expressing their ideas and opinions.

Schedule Regular Meetings and Check-Ins – Schedule regular team meetings and one-on-one check-ins with individual employees to enhance good communication between different workplace generations. Employees can use these opportunities to discuss ideas and project updates, provide input, and address any concerns.

Embed Feedback Loops – Implementing effective feedback loops that let employees give and receive constructive feedback helps to encourage continual improvement and nurture mutual understanding.

Utilise Diverse Communication Channels – Employers working with different generations should deploy a variety of communication tools, as this will aid them in managing generational differences in the workplace. While Boomers and Gen X may prefer emails and phone calls for example, Millennials and Gen Z might favour instant messaging platforms like WhatsApp or Slack. ►



EVERY KID DESERVES TO GROW UP SAFE.

3) Promoting Cross-Generational Collaboration

Aiding collaboration among the different workplace generations helps to foster a sense of unity and will allow employers to better leverage the strengths of each group.

Establish Mentorship Programs – Setting up mentorship programs where more experienced employees share their knowledge with younger colleagues will help in upskilling and boosting mutual respect and understanding.

Encourage Reverse Mentorships – Reverse mentorships are where younger workers mentor older ones, especially in areas like technology and social media. Doing this can help expand perspectives, bridge the digital divide and enhance intergenerational learning.

Create cross-collaborational team projects – Creating cross-functional teams for projects, made up of a mix of different workplace generations, helps promote diversity of perspective and encourages creative solutions.

4) Nurture a Culture of Inclusivity

An inclusive work environment is a space where all employees feel valued and respected – and embedding this organisation wide is key to bridging the generational gap in the workplace.

Offer Diversity and Inclusion Training – It's important to provide regular training sessions that emphasise the importance of diversity and inclusion, so employees understand and appreciate the unique contributions of their colleagues. ►



**Thankful to
be part of an
organization that
makes a difference
in the world
every day.**



Celebrating Difference – Employers should celebrate the diverse backgrounds and experiences of employees through team-building activities and cultural days or events, as well as recognition programs.

Provide Flexible Work Options – Flexible working arrangements help to manage generational differences at work and cater to the new hybrid workforce. While Boomers and Gen X might prefer the option to telecommute, Millennials and Gen Z may opt for more flexible hours and remote working opportunities.

5) Leverage Technology

Technology has a major part to play in helping to bridging generational differences in communication, as well as in solving generational issues at work. Platforms that facilitate communication, collaboration, and efficiency help connect up employees from across the generation divide.

Adopt User-Friendly Tools – Deploy tech that's intuitive and easy for all generations to use and provide the necessary training and support to get employees comfortable with their new tools.

Encourage Digital Literacy – Nurture digital literacy by holding regular workshops and training sessions. Doing this is important to help create a generation gap bridge, as older employees may not be as tech-smart as their younger counterparts. ►

Utilise Collaboration Platforms – Make use of intelligent collaboration platforms like Microsoft Teams, Trello, or Asana to streamline project management and communication between a diversity of generations. Tools like these greatly aid in collaboration and help to bridge the gap between different working styles.

6) Build Solid Interpersonal Relationships

The bedrock of a thriving and harmonious workplace lies in strong interpersonal relationships, which make employees feel supported and connected and foster cooperation.

Hold Team-Building Activities – Organising regular team-building and bonding activities helps to promote trust, loyalty and camaraderie. These can include day workshops, trips away, or social or sports events, where colleagues with generational gaps can freely mix. Host Lunch and Learn Sessions – Informal lunch and learn sessions where employees share their expertise on various topics will aid in bridging generational differences in the workplace. They help foster knowledge sharing and cross generation communication, as well as promote strong workplace relationships.

Create Peer Recognition Programs – Implementing peer recognition programs where employees acknowledge and appreciate each other's contributions helps to boost morale and encourage a positive work culture.

7) Leadership can help in bridging the generation gap

Leaders play a crucial role in bridging gaps due to a diversity in generations. They should be strong role models and set the tone for the entire organisation, so they effectively impact and influence the workplace culture.

Strive to Lead by Example – It's vital to demonstrate respect and appreciation for all generations and show a willingness to learn from others and adapt to different working styles.

Nurture a Culture of Continuous Learning – Leaders should encourage continual learning and development and identify opportunities for employees to upskill and reskill, regardless of what age demographic they come from.

Try to Address Conflicts Promptly – Deal with generational issues and conflicts swiftly and fairly by fostering an open dialogue between employees and management. To effectively bridge the generation gap, it is vital to respect the perspectives of all employees.

The strategies outlined above require intentional effort and commitment, but the payoff is substantial: increased employee engagement, enhanced creativity, improved retention, and a workplace culture where every generation feels valued and empowered to contribute their best work. As the workforce continues to evolve, companies that master the art of generational harmony will not only survive but thrive in our increasingly diverse professional landscape. ■

**Eat. Sleep.
Volunteer.
Repeat.**



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23C&E SPORTSDAY

Highlights

CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR SPORTS DAY CHAMPIONS
WHITE KNIGHTS!!

White Knights Kiwanis Clubs of: CyberConnect,
SASPO, JFB Kingston, Barbican, NSA, ESA.

CHAMPION MALE: Kwesi Osbourne (Kiwanis Club of JFB)

CHAMPION FEMALE: Shanique Sommerville (Kiwanis Club of YPK)





Transitional Hostel Launch



Published By the Gleaner Company, July 21, 2025

On Tuesday, July 15, members of the Kiwanis Club of North St Andrew (KCNSA), in partnership with the Mustard Seed Communities, gathered for a proverbial groundbreaking on a new transitional hostel at the Matthew 25:40 Home on North Street in Kingston.

The Path-Breaking Ceremony marked the official launch of Phase 3 of the award-winning Matthew 25:40 Initiative, which began in October 2021.

Dr Laine Oakley Williams, senior general manager of customer relationship management at the National Housing Trust (NHT), delivered a heartfelt and motivational address that resonated deeply with the audience, especially the young men of the Matthew 25:40 Home. She urged them not to let the hardships of the past define their future.

"The future is still unwritten. With the pen in your hand, I challenge you to write something bold, brilliant, and unforgettable."

The National Housing Trust, alongside Royal Computers and Accessories and many other sponsors, has supported the development of the transitional hostel.

The Matthew 25:40 Initiative is an award-winning signature project led by the KCNSA. Phase 3 of the initiative focuses on providing housing support for young men, ages 16 to 25, from the Mustard Seed Communities' Matthew 25:40 Home. These young men were born with HIV and have been orphaned through the death or abandonment of their parents. ▶

The 1,500 square foot transitional hostel will accommodate 19 residents. Construction began on June 30, made possible by the fundraising efforts of the KCNSA. Since 2000, the Mustard Seed Communities, through its Dare to Care programme, has been committed to providing safe housing, access to education, consistent healthcare and medication, and a range of outreach activities for children and adolescents living with HIV.

Speaking at the Path-Breaking Ceremony, Pam Rodney-White, governor of the Kiwanis Club Eastern Canada and Caribbean District, praised the initiative's impact.

"This isn't merely a construction site. It is where dignity is poured into every cornerstone... where each child who walks through this door will remember that they are not forgotten," she said.

Also in attendance were honourable representatives from the Mustard Seed Communities and members of the Kiwanis family. The atmosphere was one of hope and gratitude as stakeholders celebrated a project that promises not only shelter, but also dignity, stability, and a renewed sense of purpose to these young men.

Monsignor Gregory Ramkissoon, founder of the Mustard Seed Communities, expressed his deepest gratitude and appreciation to the members of the Kiwanis Club for their continued support.

With construction now underway, the hostel is expected to be completed by the end of the year, at which point residents will be welcomed into a space tailored to support their health, education, and emotional well-being. ■

Fight against HIV



For many Jamaicans, memories of HIV/AIDS as a virtual death sentence, dating back to the 1980s and 90s, remain strong.

To this day, horrific social stigma attached to the disease is a huge problem, slowing efforts to ensure that those who are afflicted get required medical treatment.

Thankfully, down the years, advances in medicine have ensured the development of antiretroviral drugs which suppress HIV viral loads in the human body thereby saving lives and, very importantly, significantly reducing spread.

Hence concern that, according to the 2024 edition of the Economic and Social Survey published by the Planning Institute of Jamaica, only 46 per cent of HIV-positive Jamaicans on antiretroviral treatment were showing viral suppression at the end of last year.

Presumably, that's because, for whatever reason, many were not taking the treatment as prescribed, if at all.

According to our story published Thursday, while most Jamaicans with HIV — estimated by the United Nations at 30,000 — know their status, a relatively significant number are believed to be unaware.

In such circumstances, there is clear need to step up testing of high-risk segments of the population, including homeless people, drug users/addicts, female sex workers, and men who have sex with men. ▶

Given progress down the years, we believe it is still possible for Jamaica to manage and contain the spread of HIV and even end the epidemic by 2030, in line with a United Nations Sustainable Development Goal.

But for that to happen there must be the will and commitment by all stakeholders.

In that regard we applaud the charity group Mustard Seed Communities and their partner, Kiwanis Club of North St Andrew, in breaking ground on Tuesday for a transitional hostel for young men, aged 16-25, who were born with HIV.

They had been orphaned either by the death or abandonment of their parents.

Construction of the facility, which was first decided on four years ago but suffered delays, is now set to be completed in three months at a cost of \$22 million.

We note the pledge by governor of Eastern Canada and the Caribbean District (ECC) of Kiwanis International Pamela Rodney-White: *"...Each child who walks through these doors, this home, will be able to say, 'I am not forgotten, I am loved, I am seen and I feel valued.' We know that the ongoing support to these young men will not be just in steel and mortar, but in mentorship, care, and advocacy."*

Also, the faith and commitment of the Christian-based, non-profit Mustard Seed Communities is beyond admirable.

We are told that the organisation operates three homes in Jamaica for individuals living with HIV under its Dare to Care programme. They are Matthew 25:40, a home for 20 teenage boys; Martha's House, a home for 25 children; and Dare to Care, a home for 15 teenage girls.

Father Garvin Augustine, executive director of Mustard Seed Communities, told Tuesday's ground-breaking function, *"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed you can move mountains, you can move oceans... I remember back when this project was conceived we all thought, 'yeah, this is going to happen in a few months, maybe a year,' and it has been how long now? A while..."*

That's a wonderful example of patience and fortitude for the rest of us. ■

UPCOMING

Events



Kiwanis®

EASTERN CANADA AND THE CARIBBEAN
L'EST DU CANADA ET DES CARAÏBES

Governor Pam Rodney-White

is honoured to invite you to the inaugural

**CHARITY BALL FOR
STUDENTS' SCHOLARSHIPS
& GRANTS**

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UPCOMING

Events

**I'M GETTING READY,
ARE YOU?**



 **KIWANIS EC&C DISTRICT
GOVERNORS BALL FOR SLP
SCHOLARSHIPS**

AUGUST 29

 **Kiwanis**
Club of Liguanea



MEMORIES

Back2Skool Rule



ATURDAY, SEP. 6, 2025
ATES OPEN 8:00 PM
OOTPRINTS CAFE - 5 BELMONT RD
DITIONAL PARKING @ JIN FUND MANAGERS - 4 BELMONT RD.)
1,000 PRESOLD | \$1,500 AT GATE
RIZES & SURPRIZES | MUSIC - DJ KOOLIE
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO FUNDING SERVICE PROJECTS



 **HELP US HELP KIDS**

STRATEGIC TRANSFORMATION PLAN



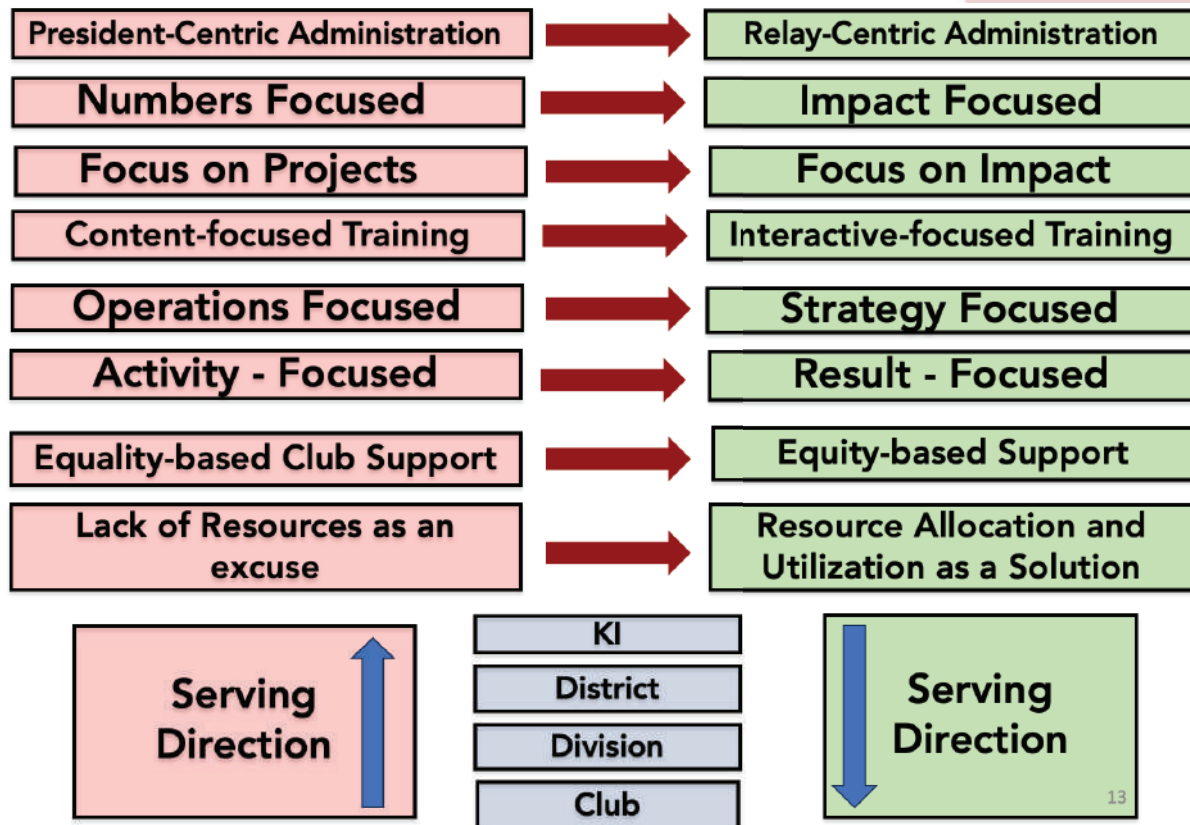
What are we Promising?

- We promise **our clubs** to understand their individual needs and to support and guide them in meeting those needs.
- We promise to partner with **KI and the EC&C District** to meet our mutual goals by providing greater support to our clubs to improve their impact and compliance.
- We promise to engage, coach and support our **Divisional Officers and Committee Members** as we provide opportunities to serve, learn and grow.

How will we be Structured?

Service Delivery Committee Chairs	Internal Committee Chairs	Special Committee Chairs
1. <u>Membership</u> – LGE Michael	8. <u>Strategic Planning</u> – Hugh Reid	13. <u>One Day and other Special Events</u> – Althea Alexander
2. <u>Education</u> – Cheryl Smith	9. <u>Public Relations and Communications</u> – Romona Morgan	14. <u>On to Convention</u> – Dollis Campbell
3. <u>Coaching</u> - Chris Robinson	10. <u>Governance, including Elections</u> – IPLG Desmond Batchelor	15. <u>DCM</u> – Anthea Domville
4. <u>New Club Building</u> – Ralston Nunes	11. <u>IT</u> – Jason McIntosh /Marissa Jones	16. <u>Awards and Recognition</u> – Rosie Henry
5. <u>Interclub/Fellowship</u> – Pat Bowen	12. <u>Human & Spiritual</u> – Odette Ingram	17. <u>YCPO</u> – Shauna McLeod
6. <u>SLP – Circle K/Key Club</u> - Willie Reeson		
7. <u>SLP – Builders/K-Kids/Aktion</u> – Clover Edwards		

How will we be Structured?



What will we be doing Differently?

- ✓ Specific Actions to address the key Issues have been developed and allocated to Committees, such as (not exhaustive):
- 1. **Membership** - Support Clubs in Revamping Member Recruitment, Orientation, Engagement and Recognition
- 2. **Education** – Support Clubs by preparing and facilitating divisional and individual club training that meet club needs.
- 3. **Coaching** – Support Clubs by understanding their needs and provide support to meet those needs, from resources within and without the Division,
- 4. **PR & Communications** - Circulating information such as foundations from which clubs may source funds; Creating interactive calendar to share Divisional, Club, District and KI activities to keep members well informed.
- 5. **Strategic Planning** - Facilitating Clubs' in annually developing rolling 3-year strategic plans; collaborating with Coaching Committee to support plan execution; facilitating implementation of a Division-wide Culture Change Program, including getting Coaches to become change agents

My Experience at the Kiwanis International
Convention (ICON) June 25–28, Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania — *“Forge the Future.”*



What an experience!



This was my first time attending the Kiwanis International Convention—affectionately called ICON—and it did not disappoint. It was a wonderful, inspiring mix of meeting fellow Kiwanians, swapping stories, learning new tools to build stronger clubs, and exploring a vibrant new city.

I want to share a little of my journey in the hope it encourages more of us to put ICON on your Kiwanis bucket list.

Opening Moments

The convention began in earnest on Thursday, June 26, with the traditional parade of flags from all participating countries and a lively welcome in the (very large!) convention hall the size of 2 football fields .

The keynote was none other than NFL Hall of Famer Terry Bradshaw. He had us laughing, reflecting, and maybe even tearing up a little as he spoke about teamwork, service, and the importance of giving back. It was equal parts motivational and entertaining—exactly the kind of energy that sets the tone for ICON. ▶





Learning, Sharing, Growing

Each day offered buffet lunches where over 2,000 participants gathered—sometimes it felt like a family reunion, with new friends at every table. After lunch came the real work (and fun): breakout sessions.

Topics ranged from attracting younger members, to keeping clubs safe in cyberspace, to creating service projects that really stick. The best part? It wasn't just presentations. There was plenty of lively participation and practical tips from Kiwanians who are in the trenches, just like us.

Friday Highlights

Friday brought even more energy—an SLP (Service Leadership Programs) showcase and sessions on fundraising, service project success, and membership growth. What I loved most was that the sessions catered to both large and small clubs. Whether you're running a major annual fundraiser or just starting your first community project, there was something useful to take home. ▶



That evening, many members went to a Pirates baseball game—complete with a drone show and fireworks lighting up the Pittsburgh skyline. I didn't make it, but the buzz afterward told me it was a night to remember.

Jamaica Shines

Saturday was our annual business meeting—resolutions, officer elections, and organizational updates. But the highlight for me was seeing Jamaica in the spotlight. Our projects and people were mentioned often, both on the main stage and in breakout rooms.

And of course—the proudest moment of all—our own Ms. Hope Marks was announced as President-Designate of Kiwanis International. When she takes her seat, she will be the first Jamaican ever to reach such a high position in the movement. The global stage keeps discovering what we already know—Jamaican Kiwanis is the real deal.

Closing Gala

The convention closed with a Roaring '20s Gala—think Gatsby-inspired attire, sharp suits, flapper dresses, jazz, and a dance floor that never seemed to empty. It was equal parts stylish and fun, and a perfect way to wrap up the ICON experience. ▶



Discovering Pittsburgh

Part of the joy of ICON is exploring the host city. Pittsburgh, known as the “City of Bridges,” boasts an impressive 446 bridges, three rivers, and a skyline where historic steel-era architecture meets modern design. Home to the Steelers (NFL) and the Pirates (MLB) teams, it’s a city that knows its heritage but is also forging a bright future—just like us in Kiwanis.

Final Thoughts

ICON filled my cup. It reminded me that Kiwanis is bigger than our meetings, bigger than our projects—it’s a global family with shared passion, joy, and commitment to serving children and communities.

I left Pittsburgh inspired, energized, and already looking forward to the next ICON—in Manila, Philippines.

What an experience! ■

Stephen Greig

President, Kiwanis Club of Kingston



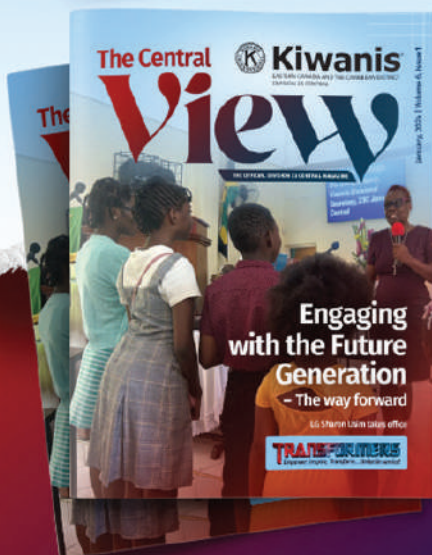
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Lieutenant Governor



Georgia Henry
Divisional Secretary



Michael Powell
Lieutenant Governor Designate
Membership, Growth & Retention



Desmond Batchelor
Immediate Past Lieutenant Governor
Governance



Ralston Nunes
LG's Advisor
New Club Building



Robert Wynter
LG's Advisor



Deborah Manning
LG's Advisor



James McNish
Divisional Treasurer



Christopher Robinson
Coaching



Paulette Kirkland
Lead CLE Trainer



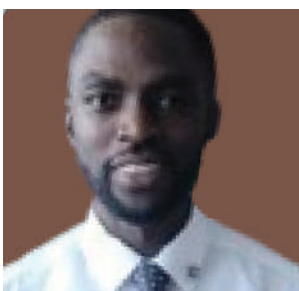
Jason McIntosh
Tech Team Lead



Marissa Jones
Asst. Tech Team Lead



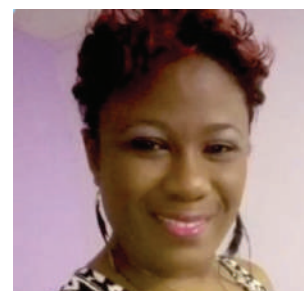
Nadeen Francis
Sergeant-at-Arms



Dane McLean
Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms



William Reeson
SLP: Key Club & Circle K



Clover Edwards
Vybz Captain
SLP: K-kids, Builders & Aktion

DIVISIONAL *Team*



Cheryl Smith
Education



Odette Ingram
Human and Spiritual Values



Shauna McLeod
Young Children Priority One



Althea Alexander
Special Events & Kiwanis One Day



Anthea Domville
Divisional Council Meetings



Patricia Bowen
Interclub & Fellowship



Hugh Reid
Strategic Planning



Romona Morgan
PR and Communication



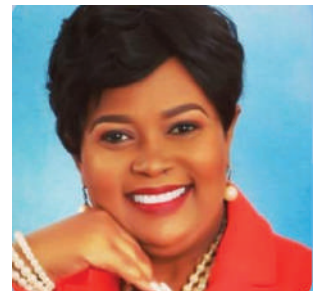
Christopher Samuels
Bulletin Editor



David Brooks
Divisional Photographer



Roxann Lewis
Media Liaison



Dollis Campbell
On to Convention



Rosemarie Henry
Recognition and Awards



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CLUB

Coaches



Sandra McPherson
for KC 23 Central Surrey Online



Domenique Martin
for KC Barbican



Desmond Batchelor
for KC Capital City



Selina Campbell
for KC Caribbean
Emerging Leaders



Georgia Henry
for KC Constant Spring



Rosemarie Henry
for KC JTS St. Andrew



Hugh Reid
for KC Friends Across Borders



Beverly Thompson
for KC Kingston



Rupert Whitaker
for KC Nation Builders



Rosemarie Heaven
for KC North St. Andrew



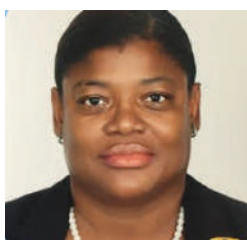
Deborah Manning
for KC St. Thomas



William Reeson
for KC Stony Hill



Paulette Kirkland
for KC West St. Andrew



Karen Sinclair Lym
for KC Young Professionals
Kingston



Michael Powell
for KC Young Professionals
St. Andrew



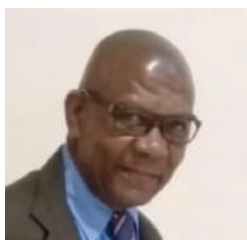
DP Charmaine Shaw
for KC Nation Builders



PE Anthea Domville
for KC Barbican



PP Clava Mantock
for KC Global Alliance



DP Clive Mohalland
KC St. Thomas



DP Bridgette Steele
Friends Across Borders

Club Presidents 2024/25



Uredeci Condison
Kiwanis Club of 23 CSO



Kevonia Tomlinson
Kiwanis Club of Barbican



Carole Martinez Johnson
Kiwanis Club of Capital City



Alric Wiles
Kiwanis Club of Caribbean
Emerging Leaders



Sheron Gilzean
Kiwanis Club of Constant Spring



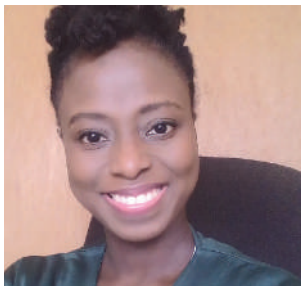
Thelma Young
Kiwanis Club of
Friends Across Borders



Tameika Bartley
Kiwanis Club of JTSSA



Stephen Greig
Kiwanis Club of Kingston



Joan Phillips Bennett
Kiwanis Club of Nation Builders



Kenton Bryan
Kiwanis Club of North St. Andrew



Javal Dunn
Kiwanis Club of St. Thomas



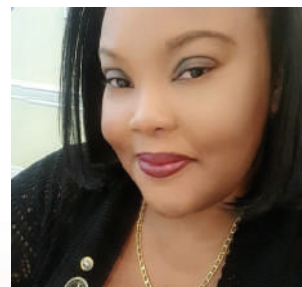
Peta-Gaye Rookwood
Kiwanis Club of Stony Hill



Claudine Heaven
Kiwanis Club of
West St. Andrew



Kemar Lake
Kiwanis Club of Young
Professionals Kingston



Nandie Brooks
Kiwanis Club of Young
Professionals St. Andrew

EVENT

Highlights



District Governor Pam Rodney-White proudly representing at the Kiwanis International Convention



Kiwanis International President Elect Designate, Hope Markes shared with the audience at Kiwanis International Convention



Congratulations to Michael Mulhaul on being elected Kiwanis International President Designate for the year 2025–2026!



President Claudine from WSA proudly displays her prize at the KI Convention, where WSA secured an impressive 2nd place in the Signature Project Contest.



EVENT

Highlights



Divisions uniting in the true spirit of service at the Circle K International Convention, held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Members of Division 23 Central proudly represented at the Key Club International Convention, held in Orlando, Florida - showcasing our spirit of service, leadership and community impact on the global stage!



Congratulations to Capital City Kingston for winning the Q2 LG Ribbon — a true testament to dedication, teamwork and service excellence!



Kiwanis Club of Constant Spring donated some funds to the Annie Dawson Home for Girls, for the renovation of their new location.

EVENT

Highlights



Division 23C was well represented at the EC&C District Convention in Niagara Falls, uniting members in purpose and passion for service.



EVENT

Highlights



EVENT

Highlights



Proudly representing the island spirit, members showcased Jamaica's vibrant culture during Jamaica Night at the EC&C District Convention.



EVENT

Highlights



3rd Quarter DCM — Club members uniting to review progress, strengthen collaboration and set the stage for greater impact across Division 23 Central.



EVENT

Highlights



EVENT

Highlights



KCCS members planting trees and beautification of the Peace Garden at Constant Spring Primary on Labour Day 2025.



NGPS CORE VALUES	
COOPERATION:	Working together respectfully and collaboratively.
ACHIEVEMENT:	Striving for personal and academic excellence.
RESPONSIBILITY:	Being accountable for one's actions and choices.
EMPATHY:	Showing kindness and understanding towards others.
SAFETY:	Ensuring a secure and supportive environment for everyone.

Kiwanis Club of Young Professional Kingston painted a mural of the school's core values at the Norman Gardens Primary School. Team work makes the dream work.

EVENT

Highlights



VP Joscelyn (Kiw Club of Stony Hill) adding a splash of colour at the Beatitudes Home in Stony Hill. A true Labour Day masterpiece!



Team West St. Andrew- Painting of Classrooms and furniture at Duhaney Park Primary.



EVENT

Highlights



Club Leadership Education Training for the 2025–2026 administrative year — equipping leaders with the tools, strategies and vision to inspire service and strengthen impact.



EVENT

Highlights





Congratulations!



Congratulations to Judi-Ann Patterson on being elected Caribbean District Governor for 2025–2026.



Congratulations to Sara Norman on being elected Key Club District Governor for 2025–2026.



Congratulations to Theodore Doyle on being elected CKI international Trustee sharing a moment with Governor Pam.



Kiwanis B.U.G. Program Launches a New Chapter for Literacy in Kingston

Kingston, Jamaica – April 7, 2025 – The spirit of literacy and community engagement was alive and well at the Central Branch All-Age School in Kingston, as the Kiwanis Club of Caribbean Emerging Leaders, Jamaica, proudly launched its highly anticipated Kiwanis B.U.G. (Bring Up Grades) program.

The event drew a diverse group of attendees including club leaders, educators, students, and passionate volunteers—united in a shared mission: to foster a love of reading and empower young minds to succeed academically.

Notable guests in attendance included:

- Alric Wiles, President, Kiwanis Club of Caribbean Emerging Leaders, Jamaica
- Sharon Usim, Kiwanis Lieutenant Governor, Eastern Canada and Caribbean Division 23 Central
- Michael Powell, Lieutenant Governor-Designate, Division 23 Central ►

- Deborah Manning, Distinguish Lieutenant Governor, Division 23 Central
- Ralston Nunes, Past District-Trustee, Kiwanis Eastern Canada and Caribbean
- Keron Woods, Chairman, Kiwanis B.U.G. Program
- Sadara Dayer, Immediate Past-President of Mico University College Circle-K International
- Michael Sutherland, Principal, Central Branch All-Age School

The Kiwanis B.U.G. Program—a cornerstone of the club’s outreach initiatives—is designed to help students improve or maintain their grades while cultivating a passion for lifelong learning. This year’s launch featured a generous donation of books catering to all age groups—from colorful storybooks for early readers to thought-provoking novels and insightful non-fiction for older students.

Excitement buzzed across the schoolyard as students eagerly received their new books. Their smiles reflected the transformative power of this initiative. The event also included interactive storytelling sessions led by Kiwanis members and volunteers, bringing the stories to life and further inspiring the young audience.

“Reading is a fundamental skill that opens doors to endless possibilities,” said Lieutenant Governor Sharon Usim. *“By giving these students access to books, we are investing in their future and empowering them to become lifelong learners.”*

President Alric Wiles extended his heartfelt thanks to Principal Michael Sutherland and the school’s academic staff for warmly welcoming the Kiwanis Club and supporting the mission of the B.U.G. program.

Principal Sutherland praised the initiative, stating:

“These books are a valuable resource for our students. They will not only strengthen literacy skills but also broaden perspectives and inspire bigger dreams. We are truly grateful for the Kiwanis Club’s commitment to our school and community.”

The event’s success was a testament to the dedication of Kiwanis members and volunteers whose hard work and passion for service made the day possible. Their belief in the power of education and community was evident in every detail of the program.

The Kiwanis B.U.G. Program at Central Branch All-Age School stands as a shining example of how meaningful partnerships can shape the future of education. By providing access to books, the Kiwanis Club isn’t just encouraging reading—they’re planting seeds of knowledge, nurturing young potential, and inspiring the leaders of tomorrow. ■



A conversation with the right person could convince someone to stay

By Tony Knoderer - July 30, 2025

What happens when a Kiwanian decides not to renew their membership? Well, there's the procedural answer: They tell the club secretary, who is responsible for updating the roster before the club is invoiced for member dues.

But wait! There's another question to ask first: How can your club keep that member? Remember, some people leave Kiwanis clubs when life circumstances get in the way or they feel a bit disconnected from the other members — not because they've lost touch with the club's mission.

Who In your club could have a conversation with the resigning member to discuss the value they bring to Kiwanis and the community? Here are a few possibilities to consider:

- **Membership chair or committee member.** This is a logical answer, since recruitment and retention are the official responsibilities of the membership chair or committee. But is this the person who knows the most about the member? If your membership chair is, in fact, influential in retaining members, ask that person to talk with the member. Questions they could ask: Is there a better option for their membership — for instance, can the member become a satellite member, which allows them to remain in your club and “*Kiwanis differently*” from their counterparts? ►

- **Chair of the member's favorite project.** This is often the best answer. What is the member's favorite project? Ask the chair of that project to connect with the resigning member. What's the value they bring to the project — and what will the project miss because the member is no longer involved? What ideas does the member have for improving the project?
- **Board members.** Many clubs take a list of members they fear may be leaving the club and divide the names between the club's board members — who then contact the assigned member to have a conversation. Make sure the board members know as much as possible about each member they will contact, including their membership history, how and why they joined, and why they're planning to leave.
- **Sponsor.** Who brought the member to the club? Why did they feel that person was right for Kiwanis? Ask the sponsor to reach out and remind the member why they were invited to join. Dig deep — is something missing from their club experience? Are your service projects no longer relevant for them? What is the member's passion? Can the club find a way to connect that passion to a current project — or even start a new service project or fundraiser?
- **Best Kiwanis friend.** Every member has that one fellow club member they rely on or feel closest to. Who do they sit next to during meetings? Who do they “buddy up” with on projects? Why would this person miss the resigning member?

No matter which club member is the best person to speak with a resigning member, the key is to have the conversation — rather than just accepting that a person is leaving. Sometimes just knowing that someone in the club cares enough to notice is a powerful incentive to stay. And the more a fellow member or set of members know about the resigning member personally, the more likely they are to convince them to stay — by being responsive to what they seek from Kiwanis membership.

Remember, you can even show people who have already left the club that you still value them enough to miss them. We call it reMembering — and we welcome you to check out some tips you can use and pass along to fellow club members! ■



REACH OUT AND CELEBRATE COMMUNITY!

When we work together, we make the world better. That's why Kiwanis International participates every year in Celebrate Community — a weeklong initiative that promotes collaboration between Kiwanis International, Lions Clubs International, Optimist International and Rotary International. The event happens the second week of each September. In 2025, Celebrate Community will take place September 14-20.

Celebrate Community is the evolution of Kiwanis One Day. While Kiwanis One Day is still commemorated by many clubs, we encourage clubs to broaden their reach by partnering with other organizations service clubs. Service projects can focus on the environment, food insecurity and hunger, health and wellness, and education and literacy.

Don't forget to spread the word about your collaboration. Use your club's website, social media accounts and more - including contacts with local media. ■

CLUB *Directory*

Name of Club	Meeting Day & Time	Meeting Location
Kiwanis Club of 23 CSO	3rd MONDAYS 7:00 pm	Online
Kiwanis Club of Barbican	1st & 3rd TUESDAYS 6:00 pm	Jamaica Employers Federation
Kiwanis Club of The Capital City	2nd & 4th WEDNESDAYS 6:30 pm	Betting Gaming & Lotteries Commission
Kiwanis Club of Caribbean Emerging Leaders	1st & 3rd TUESDAYS 6:00 pm	Online
Kiwanis Club of Constant Spring	2nd & 4th TUESDAYS 7:00 pm	HEART College of Beauty Services
Kiwanis Club of Friends Across Borders	3rd TUESDAYS 7:00 pm	Online
Kiwanis Club of JTS St. Andrew	3rd WEDNESDAYS 6:30 pm	Jamaica Theological Seminary (Hybrid)
Kiwanis Club of Kingston	Every TUESDAY 6:30 pm	National Chest Hospital (Hybrid)
Kiwanis Club of Nation Builders	2nd & 4th THURSDAYS 6:30 pm	Online
Kiwanis Club of North St Andrew	Every THURSDAY 6:30 pm	Police Officer's Club
Kiwanis Club of St. Thomas	3rd THURSDAYS 6:30 pm	Stitches, Albion
Kiwanis Club of Stony Hill	2nd & 4th MONDAYS 7:00 pm	Shortwood Teachers' College

CLUB

Directory

Name of Club	Meeting Day & Time	Meeting Location
Kiwanis Club of West St. Andrew	1st & 3rd WEDNESDAYS 7:00 pm	Medallion Hall Hotel
Kiwanis Club of Young Professionals Kingston	3rd WEDNESDAYS 6:00 pm	College of Insurance & Professional Studies (Hybrid - online start time 6:30pm)
Kiwanis Club of Young Professionals St Andrew	Every Other Month - 2nd WEDNESDAYS 6:30 pm	Online



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“Kiwanis is being a
good human,

caring about the world we are in, and trying to make a dent in that universe in a positive way, whatever we can when it comes to children.”

— Kiwanian Jean Chadwick

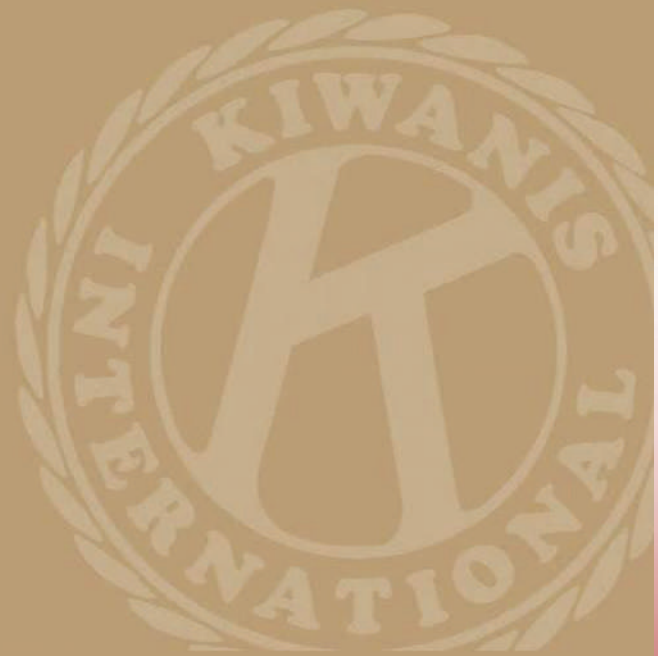


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