The **Motto of Kiwanis** is “Serving the Children of the World.” This motto replaced the original motto: “We Build.” The new motto was approved by vote at the International Convention in 2005.

The **defining statement** for Kiwanis is: “Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world, one child and one community at a time.”

There are **Six Objects of Kiwanis International** that were approved by club delegates at the 1924 International Convention in Denver, Colorado. These objects have never been changed since that vote.

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 good will.

**Kiwanis Service**

As a global project in coordination with UNICEF, members and clubs contributed more than $80 million toward the global elimination of **Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD)**, the leading preventable cause of mental retardation.

Beginning in 2010 a second worldwide service project is currently ongoing when Kiwanis International joined with UNICEF to launch a new worldwide health initiative, The Eliminate Project. This is a global campaign dedicated to raise $110 million to wiping out **Maternal Neonatal Tetanus (MNT)**, which kills more than 100,000 babies worldwide each year, one baby every 9 minutes.

**Kiwanis International** (KI) is an international, coeducational organization of service clubs founded in 1915.

- KI is headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana.
- Kiwanis Clubs are found in more than 80 national and geographic areas.
- Current membership in Kiwanis including the entire family of clubs is nearly 600,000.
- Kiwanians raise over $100 million each year worldwide.
- Kiwanians report over 18 million volunteer hours each year worldwide.
- KI is a volunteer-led organization headed by a Board of Trustees consisting of 19 members: 15 elected trustees, 4 elected officers, and an executive director (paid position).
- There are approximately 115 employees in KI; most working at KI headquarters in Indianapolis, IN.

- Kiwanis became international with the addition of the Kiwanis club of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, in 1916.
- Worldwide expansion of Kiwanis began in 1962.
- Besides districts throughout the United States and Canada, Kiwanis Clubs can also be found in the following countries throughout the world: Andean & Central America, Australia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand-South Pacific, Philippine Luzon, Philippine South, Taiwan, Korea, Austria, Belgium-Luxembourg, Czech Republic and Slovakia, France-Monaco, Germany, Iceland-Faroes, Italy-San Marino, Netherlands, Norden, Poland, and Switzerland-Liechtenstein.
**Kiwanis International Trustees** serve a three-year term, with 5 trustees elected at the International Convention each year. As set out in the Bylaws, 9 trustees are elected from the U.S. and Pacific Canada Region, 1 trustee is elected from the Canada & Caribbean Region, 2 trustees from the European Region, 2 trustees from Asia-Pacific, and 1 trustee elected “at large” from any region other than the U.S. and Pacific Canada region. The elected officers include V.P., president-elect, president and immediate past president. The executive director is a full time employee who is responsible for the organization’s paid staff and serves as a non-voting member of the board.

**Seven regions** make up Ki: Africa, Asia-Pacific; Canada and Caribbean; Europe; Latin America; Middle East; and U.S. and Pacific Canada. The U.S. and Pacific Canada Region incorporate the 50 states of the U.S. as well as British Columbia and the Yukon Territory of Canada.

**Districts** in Kiwanis are compiled of 53 administrative areas. District board typically consist of a governor-elect, governor, and immediate-past governor, secretary, treasurer, and several trustees or Lt. Governors. In many districts the secretary and treasurer positions are combined. Normally this is the paid position in a district. Other officials sometimes receive mileage and other reimbursements for some travel. Districts are further divided into service areas called divisions, comprising 5 to 20 clubs and headed by a lieutenant governor. Clubs have boards consisting of a vice president (and/or president elect), president, immediate past president, secretary, treasurer, and typically about five directors. At both the district and club level, secretary/treasurer may be combined by one person and may be a volunteer or a paid employee; all other positions are unpaid.

**Kiwanis website**
The Kiwanis website can be accessed at Kiwanis.org
There is a website for members titled KiwanisOne.org.
Members use their Kiwanis ID to access resources on this website. The ID can be found on the Kiwanis Magazine sent to all members.

**Women in Kiwanis**
Until 1987 Kiwanis only accepted men as members. Women currently constitute about 26% of total members in Ki. At the 2013 International Convention, Sue Petrisin was elected as the organization's first female international vice president. Petrisin was installed as Kiwanis International President in 2015, the year of the organization's 100th anniversary. She is the first female to lead any major member service organization.

**International Convention**
Every year, in the summer, there is a Ki convention and these are held all over the world. Some of the host countries are the United States, Taiwan, Italy, France, Canada and Switzerland.

**Membership**
The membership of the entire Kiwanis family is currently 592,820 members, which varies from year to year as most service organizations do. This includes the traditional clubs and the Service Leadership Programs.

**Service Leadership Programs (SLPs)**
Kiwanis clubs sponsor about 7,000 youth service clubs with nearly 320,000 members
Kiwanis provides leadership and service opportunities for youth through its Service Leadership Programs (SLP’s) which include: Key Club, Circle K, Builders Clubs, K-Kids, and Aktion Clubs. These Kiwanis family clubs are defined as follows:

- **Key Club** was founded in 1925 in Sacramento, California. It is the oldest and largest service program for high school students in the world. There are currently 272,315 members in 5,449 clubs in 34 nations.
- **Circle K** is the world’s largest student-led collegiate service organization and is known as CKI (Circle K International). The first CKI club was chartered in 1947. There are currently 13,408 members in 549 clubs in 14 countries.
K-Kids is the largest service organization for elementary school students, with more than 40,000 members worldwide in 1,414 clubs in 20 nations. K-Kids is a “student-led” community service organization that operates under school regulations and draws its members from the student body.

Builders Club was founded in 1975 for middle school students. Today, there are 37,350 members in 1,600 clubs in 20 nations.

Aktion Club is the only service club for adults with disabilities, with more than 12,000 members in over 500 clubs worldwide. Their motto is “Where development has no disability.”

EXPAND FOUNDATION
In 2007, the charitable financial arm, Kiwanis International Foundation, was awarded the top rating by an independent evaluator.

The Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis is known as MN-DAK and includes three states: North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota. There is also one club in Wisconsin (Superior) due to geographic concerns.

- MN-DAK officers include a Governor, Governor-Elect, Immediate Past Governor and secretary-treasurer. Only the secretary-treasurer is a paid position. There are also District Chairs that serve MN-DAK in various key areas.

- MN-DAK is divided into 7 divisions with a Lieutenant Governor, Lieutenant Governor-Elect and Immediate Past Lieutenant Governor serving as the leadership team for each division.

- MN-DAK organizes a district convention in early August every year. Many forums are held to educate and inform members about service, membership, Service Leadership Programs and much more.