



# The Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Foundation

Greetings to all with the beginning of this new administrative year! We have a lot of good things going on within the Foundation and with our service to children and community. We hope this newsletter will keep you up to date on the exciting things happening in your own District Foundation.

The Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Foundation will be 40 years old in 2010. We have come up with a slogan: 1 million in 10. This year we surpassed the \$500,000 mark in Foundation assets. I hear the first half million is the toughest...so let's push for the next half million! When you put this in perspective, the Foundation matched over \$125,000 for pediatric trauma, and still our assets are growing. One million dollars in the year 2010. I think we can do it. I hope your club will help us attain this lofty goal!

For the first time in the District Foundation's history, we are offering clubs and divisions an opportunity to participate in two Foundation-sponsored projects—Child Lures Prevention and Backpacks for Kids. More on these exciting projects to follow. Again, you can find more information on the District Foundation Web site.

Please note that all forms with money, all club gifts, all life memberships, anything that has money with it, goes to Linda Van Horn, District Foundation Treasurer. Her address is :  
5031 Emerson Drive, Ames, IA 50014

## Child Lures Prevention

The Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Foundation is proud to be partnering with Child Lures Prevention. Child safety has not only become a "buzz" word, but also an extremely important factor in raising today's children.

The statistics are staggering:

- ❖ 1 in 4 girls is sexually abused before the age of 14.
- ❖ 1 in 6 boys is sexually abused before the age of 16.
- ❖ 100 children are kidnapped by strangers each year in the United States.
- ❖ 74% of abducted children who are murdered are killed within three hours of abduction. In 80% of the cases, the initial contact between the killer and the victim

was within 1/4 mile of the victim's residence, and the majority of the cases (57%) were based solely on opportunity.

Children are taught to be friendly, respectful and trusting. But we need to protect our richest commodity from the predators who go "fishing" for children. They use "lures" that short circuit the normal thought process and basic instincts.

Prevention is key.

The founder of Child Lures Prevention was a correspondent for the television show 20/20. Through the course of years, he interviewed hundreds of child molesters, kidnappers and murderers. Through these interviews, 18 major "lures" appeared that these predators used to get children and adults out of their safety zones. Thus the creation of this project.

Child Lures Prevention has been being used by the Department of Defense for over 20 years. Ambassadors assigned to foreign countries are trained through this program before leaving the states. It has a proven track record.

The governor of Illinois mandated all schools be taught the lures through the Child Lures Prevention program. This program is going on all over the United States. One school district in California uses the 18-week program on Fridays the last 15 minutes of the day as students are not really focusing on school, but do focus on safety AND it sticks in a student's head for the weekend.

Here is how the program works:

You can invite your Foundation Division Trustee to give a program on the project, or you can obtain the Child Lures Prevention kit from your trustee. The kit has a power point DVD (which is usually used for a parent education night explaining the program to the parents); a student DVD and a presenter's DVD. You want to view the presenter's DVD at your club meeting. Also included in the kit are the Presenter's guide and the Parent Guide. The parent guide has the Foundation logo, as well as a letter from our Foundation and important safety numbers pertaining to Nebraska and Iowa.

If your club decides to get involved in the project, the next step is to approach a school principal, guidance counselor, or even one of your sponsored youth teachers. Let them view the materials. This should not take more than a week.

When you hear that the school would like to have this program, your club needs to go to the District Foundation Web site, complete the appropriate grant application and send it along with your check made payable to the Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Foundation to the Nebraska or Iowa contact person.

The \$300 provides one complete kit with 100 parent guides. Additional parent guides can be purchased for \$1.50 each.

If you need any further information about the program or how to present it, please let me know and I will be happy to help you out. My own Kiwanis club has been asked to provide 9 kits and 5000 parent guides!!!

## Backpack Project

"Backpacks for Kids in Crisis" was the Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis First Lady's project in 2004-2005. The feedback received from that project was tremendous.

Agencies that received the backpacks were so thankful to have something to give to children of all ages who, in many cases, had left their homes with nothing but what they were wearing. Many times younger children and teenagers are taken from their homes in the middle of the night when police are called to settle domestic disturbances. The backpacks were often described as something the child could call his/her own when they had nothing else.

In simple terms, the project is to purchase backpacks or duffle bags (one agency prefers duffle bags to backpacks) and fill them with items children of different ages need, such as toothbrushes and toothpaste, combs, brushes and other personal care items. We learned, too, that having some items such as books, a small toy or a snack helps touch the hearts and spirits of these children as much as the other items fill some needs.

Club responsibilities/Division Responsibilities:

- o Each club will need to order the backpacks and duffle bags they need and pay the foundation \$3 per bag. Orders will be sent to the Foundation Representative for their state.
- o Clubs will fill the backpacks and duffle bags with the supplies and mark the age of the child that is appropriate to the contents or provide items for the backpacks and duffle bags separately from the bags, per request of agencies distributing the bags.
- o Clubs will be encouraged to deliver the bags they produce to local agencies or to one of the suggested agencies. We believe that Kiwanians who help deliver the bags to the agencies will see the joy they bring and that will encourage even more giving.
- o The clubs need to get a confirmation of donation from the agency and send it to the Foundation Secretary so the numbers and success of this project can be recorded.

The Foundation Web site has a grant application for each state.

## Club Gifts

Three years ago, we proved that the number of clubs making club gifts to the Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Foundation – and the amount they give – could be greatly increased. Just look at the results:

Kiwanis year	Total Club Gifts
2003-2004	\$12,637
2004-2005	\$19,770
2005-2006	\$25,240
2006-2007	\$27,471
2007-2008	?

We urge all clubs to put as a budget item \$5 per member (this is just a guideline) for BOTH the Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Foundation and the Kiwanis International Foundation. The funds to the District Foundation make it possible to bring Camp OK to students and participating clubs at a nominal fee. Your club gifts allow us to provide \$2,500 each year to Key Club and Circle K.

Budgeting \$5 per member per year enables the District Foundation to provide grants to clubs and divisions for projects too large in scope to go it alone. It was also because of your club gifts that the Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Foundation was able to provide so many Pediatric Trauma Kits throughout the two states with matching funds from the clubs and individuals.

### A Gift to the Foundation

The Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Foundation became a recipient of a planned gift by a non-Kiwanian. And what a gift we received!!!!

Dorothy Holland of Lincoln Nebraska heard about our District Foundation. She left no heirs. As part of her estate, she left the Foundation 1/18<sup>th</sup> after expenses. The gift totaled \$110,601.18!

It was Ms. Holland's wish that these monies be used only for the clubs in Nebraska.

The challenge is now to all Nebraska clubs to come up with an over-the-top project. Complete a grant application (which can be found on the Foundation Web site) and submit it to the District Foundation.

If you or any member of your club is doing any estate planning, please remember the District Foundation.

### Did you know?

The District Foundation takes donations by way of credit cards. You just simply call a District Foundation officer (or Linda Van Horn, the District Foundation Treasurer) with your credit card information (card number/expiration date/amount of gift/name on the card/name of the Kiwanis club) and we can process your request.

You can also honor a member of your club or community with a Life Membership to the Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Foundation. \$100 will get the job done. A plaque will be mailed to your division trustee who will make a special presentation to your club. The recipient will also receive a lapel pin. If the member you wish to honor is already a Life Member of the Foundation, you will be moving them up the ladder to a Star Life Member status on their way to receiving their District Bartlett designation. This is a great way to let someone in your club or community know you appreciate the job they are doing.

A really easy way to become a Bartlett Fellow of the District Foundation is to take advantage of our automatic banking. You simply complete the application (which can be found on the Foundation District Web site) and include a voided check or savings slip. The great thing is YOU decide how much you wish to contribute AND how often!!!

Some of our members have sustained the District Foundation annually and already have a Bartlett Fellow designation. Instead of going to the Diamond level of the Bartletts, they have decided to use their contribution in the name of someone who is close to achieving Bartlett status and have done a lot for the District.

As always, any time an individual or club contributes to the District Foundation, please be assured your dollars are working to make a difference in the lives of children and their communities within Nebraska and Iowa.

### A Final Thought

The Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Foundation wish you all a wonderful year as we begin anew. I hope your clubs will embrace the work the District Foundation and get involved in at least one of the projects we are offering. You can always find more information on the Web site.

Mary Langdon, President,  
Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District Foundation