

# K-Kids In Brief

## K-KIDS IN BRIEF

K-Kids is a community-service club for elementary school students, which operates under school regulations and draws its members from the student body. K-Kids is unique because a Kiwanis club, composed of the leading business and professional people of the community, sponsors it. K-Kids' objectives are: To provide opportunities for working together in service to school and community; To develop leadership potential; To foster the development of a strong moral character; and To encourage loyalty to school, community, and nation. K-Kids is structured only on the local club.

K-Kids is the largest community-service club for elementary school students, with more than 900 clubs.

## HISTORY

K-Kids, a Kiwanis club sponsored program, has seen steady growth since its inception in 1990. Begun in Florida, where 1998-99 Kiwanis Governor Lamar Fisher developed the program and provided continuing support, K-Kids soon spread to other Kiwanis districts. As a result of its growth, K-Kids was adopted as a sponsored program on October 1, 1998.

Today, in addition to the US, there are clubs in Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Canada, Italy, Jamaica, Malaysia, Martinique, Nigeria, the Philippines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Above all else, K-Kids is a community-service club whose members are dedicated to improving their communities. The variety of K-Kids service work is as broad as the needs it fills. The elderly, the disabled, and the underprivileged are all benefited by K-Kids-sponsored projects. Virtually any unanswered need is a potential target for K-Kids, commitment and dedication.

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

K-Kids is dedicated to the principle of being student-led. K-Kids members are elected to serve as the club officers.

The underlying message K-Kids members receive is that every member is a leader, developing skills from planning projects, leading meetings, and being part of a team that helps others.

Adult advisors work with the youth leaders to provide guidance and advisement and to help them develop leadership skills.

## THE KIWANIS FAMILY

Each K-Kids must have one or more sponsoring Kiwanis Club. The program is designed for the Kiwanis members to interactively support the K-Kids. In addition, most Kiwanis clubs provide financial support of the club and its members.

Kiwanis International is a worldwide organization of 8,400 adult community service clubs in more than 96 nations. It is the parent organization for all the members of the *Kiwanis Family*, a special group of dedicated youth and

adults who provide more than 20 million hours of community service to thousands of communities every year. The Kiwanis family includes:

- *Circle K International*, a student-led organization on college and university campuses
- *Key Club International*, a student-led organization for high school students
- *Kiwanis Kids Programs* for elementary students:
  - *Terrific Kids* is a student recognition program that promotes character development, self-esteem, and perseverance. Students learn how to establish and work toward achievement of realistic goals.
  - *Bring Up Grades or (BUG)* is a program designed to provide recognition to students who raise their grades into an acceptable range, and maintain or continue to raise them from one grading period to the next.
  - *K-Kids* is a "student-led" community service club that teaches members the value of helping others through participation in community service projects and club activities.

## MEMBERSHIP

K-Kids membership is open to students willing to provide service each year, qualified scholastically, of good character, and possessing leadership potential. A K-Kids club may not restrict its membership based upon gender, religious affiliation, or ethnicity.

### K-KIDS MEMBERSHIP

(as of September 30, 2006)

Paid Membership .....	31,989
Paid Clubs .....	900
K-Kids Nations .....	12

## MEMBER BENEFITS

Each member receives a membership card. Each club receives officer, advisor, and educational training materials and resources, liability insurance coverage, and ongoing support from the Kiwanis International service centers around the globe.



## K-KIDS CLUB

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