Kiwanis
NEBRASKA-IOWA DISTRICT

Happy New Year Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanians! I hope all of you and your clubs have a great 2023!

I received emails from the Children's Fund about two items important to our District. We will receive a District Grant in the amount of $4,640, which is 5% of the donations received by our district in 2021-2022. Next, we ranked No. 4 in the world in donations, which means we will receive $2,000 for scholarships. The District Board of Officers and Trustees will determine how these funds will be used. Thanks to all of the clubs and individuals who helped us achieve these honors.

I was able to make 12 thank you calls to clubs that donated to the Children's Fund in November. Thank you! As of Nov. 30, Nebraska-Iowa clubs and individuals have donated a total of $12,686. We're off to a good start!

The grant I would like to share with you this month is from the Kiwanis Club of Appleton-Fox Cities, Michigan. They were a bronze award winner in the Kiwanis Signature Project Award. The club is using a Children's Fund grant to do more with their signature project that involves police officers reading to children. The grant will help them provide more entertainment and snacks for hundreds of children that come to the Long Cheng Marketplace for the readings. The members hope these improvements will encourage more children from the Hmong community to attend the events, develop a love for reading, and learn to trust local law enforcement. Great project!

Keep saving those "K" Dollars! I will start taking RMD's in January. My annual donation to the Children's Fund will come from those distributions. So, what, you may ask, am I going to do with my "K" Dollars if they won't be part of my annual donation? I came up with a pretty good idea. Several of my good Kiwanis friends have passed away in the past year or two. Some of them were an important part of the Children's Fund and one was a governor with me. I made donations to the Children's Fund in their memory. So, my "K" Dollars will be used as donations to the Children's Fund or District Foundation in memory of Kiwanians who have been special in my Kiwanis life.

Thanks for reading!

Jody Melcher
Kiwanis Children's Fund District Chair