

Children's Fund News

By Kiwanis Children's Fund District Chair Jody Melcher

Happy February, Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanians!

During the first quarter of our Kiwanis year, 36 of our Nebraska-Iowa clubs donated \$9,430 to the Kiwanis Children's Fund! Thank you! I don't know individual donations, so our total is no doubt, higher than that. Thanks to your donations last year, our District received \$2,888 in grant funds to use to benefit our kids here in Nebraska-Iowa. The Board of Trustees will decide how those funds will be used.



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CHILDREN'S FUND

The Kiwanis Children's Fund recently announced the date for this year's Day of Giving. It will be Feb. 21. Did you know \$2.25 can make a positive impact in the life of a child? The fundraising goal is \$75,000 received that day to help 30,000 kids. Go to the Children's Fund website and click on Give. There is a link to "Give now" online. Thanks for considering this.

A grant I would like to share with you comes from New York, where the Kiwanis Club of the Bellmores teams up with Carroll's Kitchen, a local non-profit, to provide Thanksgiving meals to families in need. This is their fourth year. The project has grown over the years with participation from churches, synagogues, food pantries and other Kiwanis Clubs to serve thousands of people. Volunteers work together to prepare and package the meals. The culinary program at a local high school prepares side dishes. Due to rising costs and food insecurity, the project's budget doubled between 2021 and 2022. A grant from the Kiwanis Children's Fund will help the Thanksgiving meals to continue and to expand. What a great project that involves the whole community working together!

I also want to share some ways your club and individual donations help. Sixty-six million children go to school hungry, and as all of you know, it's happening right here in Nebraska-Iowa. Grants can also help us give access to books and other educational materials, warm clothing, health care, vaccinations, iodized salt, and more. Kids need Kiwanis!

A great way to help is to save those "K" Dollars. They can help you make an individual donation or, gathered together with your club members, a donation from your club.

Thanks for reading!