Children's Fund News

By Kiwanis Children's Fund District Chair Jody Melcher

Kiwanis CHILDREN'S FUND

Hello Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanians!

It's a cool, rainy day as I sit here at the computer writing this article. Everything looks so green, and the flowers are beautiful! I hope your clubs are doing well and that you are having great experiences serving the children in your community.

May Possibility Project reports haven't been sent yet. I hoped they would be out before I wrote this article so I could update you on how Nebraska-Iowa is doing with donations. If you and/or your club donated in May, thank you so much! I appreciate your generosity! I hope to have an update for the July Kiwanian.

Our champions are still contacting clubs and asking to present a program so members will be familiar with the Possibility Project. Please invite your champion to your meeting. Champions are listed below.

Divisions 1, 2, 8—Jim Davies of Hampton.
Divisions 3, 4, 5, 6—Pam Henderson of Alta.
Divisions 9, 10, 14, 15—Lyle Weber of Iowa City Old Capitol.
Divisions 11, 12, 13, 16—Jody Melcher of Nevada.
Divisions 17, 20—Brian Wells of Bellevue.
Divisions 18, 19—Emily Wageman of Fremont.
Divisions 21, 22N, 22S, 23—George Cook of Lincoln Northeast.
Divisions 24, 25—Open. Let me know if you are in one of those divisions and would like to help us get the word out. George has been to North Platte Buffalo Bills and Ogallala. THANKS GEORGE!

The grant I would like to tell you about this month comes from Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. The local Kiwanis club there received a grant that enabled them to install handicapped accessible signs and merry-go-rounds in six of the community's parks. They also have a pavilion planned at one park so people can have picnics and parties while using the new equipment. They are helping children have access to inclusive play. They figure over 7,800 children will benefit from this project! Wow! Great project!

I know there are clubs in our district that are raising money or have already raised money for inclusive playground equipment. So many children benefit, not just those who are handicapped in some way, but all children who come to the playground. New relationships are built when they can all experience play together.

If your club has a project that you would like to do in your community, consider requesting a Children's Fund Grant. Traditional grants are available to any club. Microgrants ranging from $250-$1,000 are available to clubs with 35 or less members.

And keep saving those "K" Dollars. They are a great way to make an individual donation, or combine with the members of your club to make a club donation.

Thanks for reading!