

EMERGING LEADERS of the 21st century,

take note!



In 2003, a task force of professionals with more than 175 years of combined experience in teaching, coaching, developing, and encouraging young leaders was asked to invent something extraordinary. The result is an exciting program designed to move beyond where most other youth leadership programs stopped. The result is Key Leader.

Since 1925, Kiwanis International has positively impacted the lives of young leaders through its youth leadership organizations: Key Club and Circle K. Many credit these programs for their **first taste of leadership**, including senators, governors, university presidents, corporate executives, and a United States president.

Kiwanis International presents Key Leader, a weekend leadership experience for today's youth leaders. It focuses on service leadership as the first, most meaningful leadership-development experience. A Key Leader will learn the most important lesson of leadership: **Leadership comes from helping others succeed.**

- *Key Leader is designed for multiple students from the same school—those who care are already **student leaders** and those with **leadership potential**.*
- *Key Leader is designed to begin a process of personal leadership growth and development as opposed to being a weekend event that is forgotten weeks or months later. It is a **life-changing experience***
- *Key Leader is designed to **open doors** to all student leaders. Leadership development shouldn't wait.*
- *Key Leader is designed to teach what it means to be a youth leader in **three different communities**: the local community; the state/province or national community; and the global community.*

A LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM HAS BEEN DEVELOPED TO INCLUDE:

Mission Statement: To inspire young people to achieve their personal best through service leadership.

Keys to Excellence:

- *Personal **Integrity**—Doing the right thing.*
- *Personal **Growth**—Developing in mind, body, and spirit.*
- ***Respect**—Showing consideration for self, others, and property.*
- *Building **Community**—Developing relationships to achieve positive goals.*
- *Pursuit of **Excellence**—Expecting and achieving the best.*

Participation in the program begins with attending a **Key Leader conference**, which is a weekend retreat. An opportunity to learn skills that can be transported to the school is an essential element of the program, as is development of ongoing interaction with other Key Leader participants. Positive interaction with other Key Leader "graduates" offers continuing reinforcement, encouragement, and growth of leadership skills.





Through the sponsorship of Kiwanis International, Key Leader is breaking new ground. Kiwanis has a great reputation for developing youth leaders. Now, Key Leader strives to be the most meaningful leadership enrichment experience for youth—the next generation of local, state/provincial, national, and world leaders.

PREP TOMORROW'S LEADERS

Key Leader teaches youth about their responsibilities to lead by example, and to encourage others and assist them in achieving their goals. Support for the program comes in many forms. School administrators spread the word about Key Leader to teachers, students, and families, as well as identify potential participants. Students in the program tout its advantages and influence others to participate. Parents find out more about the leadership development effort and encourage their children to take part. Kiwanians promote Key Leader and initiate plans for their clubs to sponsor teens in the program.

EXPAND HORIZONS

The opportunities for fellowship presented by Key Leader are endless. For starters, participants meet like-minded youth from around the globe, which immediately sparks new friendships. In addition, through a number of team-building exercises, teenagers gain exposure to a variety of leadership styles and have the opportunity to learn from the advice and suggestions of trained staff members, as well as each other. Youth are also introduced to new cultures and lifestyles that differ from their own, which encourages the development of goodwill and a sense of respect for others.

“This was an incredible experience that you should try to share with as many people as possible. This was awesome. Lots of group interaction....I made awesome friends....I learned what it truly means to have integrity and what a great listener is...Incredible....Super Idea....Key Leader Rocks!!!!”

—Student evaluations

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Simply the best way to get involved is to **NOMINATE** students from your school or even your school district! We are looking to serve students from all organizations in high school, with a main emphasis on 14-17 year olds. Many schools award scholarships to students to attend a Key Leader event, but you can also work with your Kiwanis club or Key Club to arrange financial sponsorship. To learn more about the Key Leader program and to find out about your local Key Leader event, go to www.key-leader.org today. There you will find a map of Key Leader events, registration information, and much more! Remember, the fee for a student to attend a great weekend of service-learning and service leadership is only US \$175.

HOW DO YOU FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE KEY LEADER PROGRAM?

Go to www.key-leader.org. There you will find a listing of all events—dates, locations, and district chairpersons with an e-mail link to communicate with that person. You can also direct questions to the Key Leader staff at Kiwanis International by using the **CONTACT** box on the website or call them at 1-800-KIWANIS.

