

President's message**ART RILEY**
KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Kiwanis clubs and districts have been developing leaders since 1915 primarily through individual mentoring and business networking. Today, the evolution of business environments and increasing social needs of communities require more and better-equipped leaders. These leaders must demonstrate their ability to realistically visualize the future, understand a diverse population and promote servant leadership. Providing tomorrow's leaders with the skills to make the most of these opportunities requires a more structured and deliberate approach.

In 2018, the Kiwanis International Board, the Kiwanis Children's Fund Board and a member task force identified the need for better prepared Kiwanis leaders. To address this need, Kiwanians and staff designed Kiwanis Amplify, a unique curriculum to enhance the leadership skills

Kiwanians need to be successful within our clubs, districts and communities and in ventures outside of our organization. Participants will be exposed to a spectrum of skills in a virtual interactive format presented by a world-class faculty. It is anticipated that Kiwanis Amplify will attract potential community leaders to join Kiwanis.

Kiwanis also has an obligation to offer youth members these leadership opportunities. The inspirational ideas developed for Kiwanis Amplify are the basis for the innovative Global Leadership Certificate program being created and implemented by Kiwanis staff. In fact, this will be a natural evolution of the leadership development programs Kiwanis has offered our youth partners since 1925.

The future of Kiwanis is dependent on an abundance of leaders of all ages. Being recognized as a trustworthy source of leadership development will uniquely position Kiwanis to attract more members and expand its service reach.

Executive perspective**STAN SODERSTROM**
KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It has been about a year since most Kiwanis clubs responded to the pandemic by moving meetings online. For many clubs, of course, the traditional format offers a level of camaraderie and fellowship that only in-person gatherings can provide.

But not all was lost. Late last year, Kiwanis International collected information from more than 1,500 club secretaries — and we got some surprises. For example, 66% of clubs maintained the same meeting frequency. And 41% reported the same number of members — or more — at online meetings. In fact, some members who found it difficult to attend in-person showed up more often.

Many clubs saw improvements: 45% said virtual meetings improved access to speakers. Clubs

also reported increases in guests from other clubs, including Service Leadership Programs.

Ultimately, we'll move back to in-person meetings. And that's great. But I hope you'll keep the virtual option. The "hybrid" meeting has become an effective way of engaging members.

It also brings new considerations. If virtual attendees participate in discussions, you might need a fee-based tool like Zoom or GoToMeeting. If they only watch and listen, a free streaming service like Facebook Live or YouTube Live will suffice.

Either way, prepare to make a small investment in lighting, microphones and cameras. Find a member to handle set-up and production. Use multiple meetings to introduce new technology. And get resources at [kiwanis.org/covid](https://www.kiwanis.org/covid). Done well, the virtual option can make meetings accessible to more people.