

Where development has
no disability

AKTION CLUB



SERVICE LEADERSHIP FOR
ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES





Kiwanis
Aktion Club



Who are Aktion Club members?

They are extraordinary people. And they make an extraordinary impact—in their communities and in the lives of those around them.

Aktion Club members are adults with disabilities who have the heart to serve. Aktion Club gives them that opportunity. It also gives members the chance to answer the call to lead—and the courage to build relationships and engage in their communities. Aktion Club members serve children. They improve lives. They make a difference.

Thanks to Aktion Club. And thanks to people like you.

“The members of our club are beautiful people.”

—Kelly Aktion Club of Mercer County, Ohio

Why they need you

When you work with Aktion Club, your impact is both measurable and inspirational. You can:

- **Support members' belief in their ability to make a difference in their community.**
- **Help members develop self-confidence.**
- **Encourage leadership that transforms ideas into meaningful action.**
- **Generate a more caring and inclusive climate.**

All that inspiration is a two-way street. With Aktion Club, the results of service and fellowship shine through in members' lives... and in the lives of those who assist them.



All figures approximate as of October 10, 2015, and subject to change.

Fast facts

12,000+
Number of Aktion Club members

500+
Number of Aktion Clubs

10
Nations with Aktion Clubs

15
Members recommended
to charter an Aktion Club



Why Aktion Club?

There are nearly 500 Aktion Clubs around the world. It's no wonder—adults with disabilities want to be an integral part of their communities. Aktion Club makes it happen. In fact, it gives *you* that opportunity too.

Aktion Club represents a chance to meet some of your community's most interesting people—including members of the club itself. You'll work with them as they work together. And your service will enhance *their* service to local children and families.

Aktion Club offers opportunities to:

- **Develop self-assurance.** Members become more effective and confident as they address needs and challenges throughout their communities.
- **Enrich the community.** Aktion Club helps make your community a kinder and more inclusive place to live.
- **Increase visibility.** Through service, Aktion Club members increase the visibility of adults with disabilities—and the respect for them throughout the community.
- **Enhance your reputation.** Members' service increases the prominence and enhances the reputation of the Kiwanis club and the organization they represent.

Benefits both ways

For Aktion Clubs and the people who support them, success runs in both directions. Aktion Club leads organizations and Kiwanis clubs to greater prominence, giving them an enhanced reputation in the community. For Aktion Club members, your guidance helps make the club effective—which makes the club experience special.

The difference you make

Nobody knows more about people's potential than someone who works with them. That's why an Aktion Club is supported by a member of a sponsoring Kiwanis club, in cooperation with an organization or agency that serves adults with disabilities.* Aktion Clubs are member led, but advisor support helps members:

- Follow agency or organization rules that pertain to club bylaws, financial records, service projects and fundraising.
- Form partnerships and plan projects with other groups that serve the community.
- Find meeting space for club meetings.
- Find new members through contacts with other Kiwanians and people in the community.
- Spread the word about the club and its initiatives.
- Gather ideas and suggestions for service projects.

Thanks to a collaborative partnership between advisors, Aktion Club members also see why teamwork matters. They learn that giving can last a lifetime.

The Kiwanis club connection

Aktion Club is part of the Kiwanis family. For many members, it's the beginning of a lifelong journey of service. Sponsoring Kiwanis clubs benefit too. Aktion Club can help a Kiwanis club gain:

- Invigorated members with a rejuvenated commitment to service.
- Fresh connections with other service-minded people in the community.
- New members attracted by their contact with Aktion Club.

The sponsoring Kiwanis club gets things started by paying a one-time chartering fee—after which the Aktion Club itself annually pays an affordable fee for member dues. Of course, the best Kiwanis advisors also attend Aktion Club meetings regularly. In turn, they welcome Aktion Club members to Kiwanis-club meetings, projects and events.

“Working with Aktion Club gives us a chance to give back.”

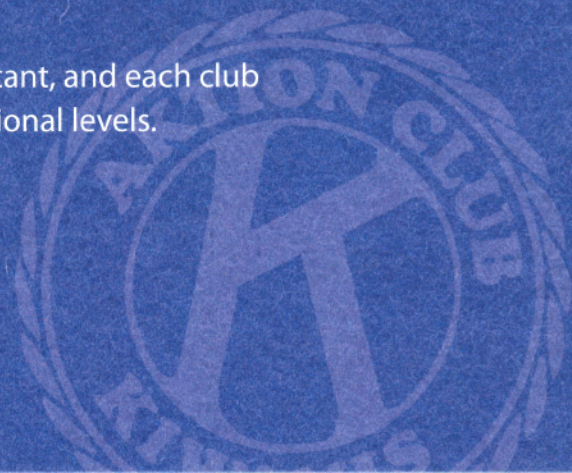
—Mark Cloud Advisor, Riverside, California



How to get started

If you've never started an Aktion Club or other service program, it can sound like a daunting prospect. But there's good news—it comes down to a few basic steps. Take a look at the overview to the right.

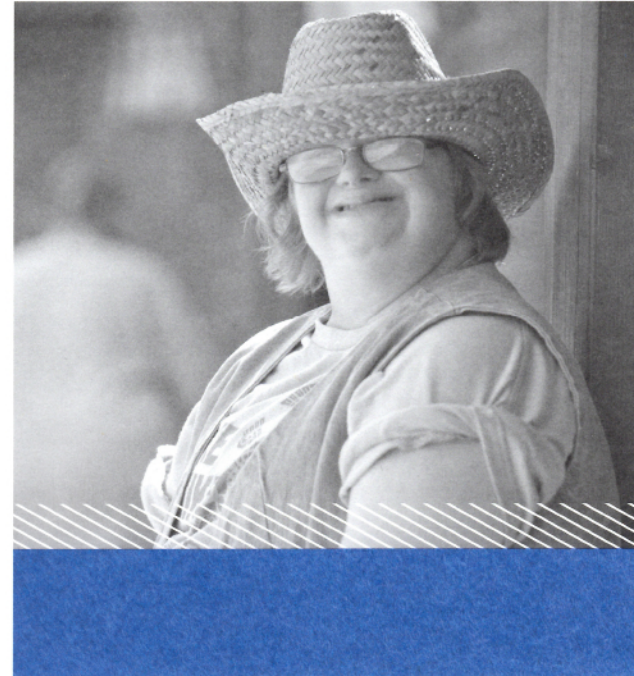
And remember: you're not alone. Each club's success is important, and each club has the support of other volunteers at the regional and international levels.



1 Find

The first step is to lay the foundation. It starts with finding:

- **A site.** Your club needs a home base—and a place to meet. They're usually the same place. Sometimes it's a community center or other facility.
- **Advisors.** To guide your club, you'll need a mentor from your organization or facility and from your local Kiwanis club.*
- **Resources.** Determine club structure. Learn responsibilities. Order recruiting materials. Do it at www.kiwanis.org/charter.
- **Members.** Of course! Start with a core group of interested people. Then get them to work on promoting the club and recruiting other adults with disabilities. It's easy to get materials at aktionclub.org/store.



2 Lead

It's time for the club to get organized. That means leadership. You help provide it when you:

- **Organize.** Get new members together to adopt club bylaws, elect officers and directors, plan your club's meeting schedule and start brainstorming service-project ideas.
- **Charter.** Gather signatures, create a roster—make the club a reality. Then celebrate with a special ceremony.
- **Train.** Make time to educate officers on their responsibilities, create a budget and set club goals.

3 Serve

Now the club is ready to reach out! Thanks to you, members will start making a difference in the community. Help them find a service project everyone loves, and get to work!

“I love it! It's fun to be here. I want to help.”

—Cheryl Aktion Club member





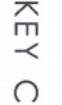



*Sponsorship from a Kiwanis club is encouraged but not required.

Where to
get started

The resources you need are available online.
kiwanis.org/charter

Kiwanis programs

Kiwanis International is a global organization of members who are dedicated to serving the children of the world. Kiwanis programs prepare people of all ages to be the most engaged members of their communities. Each is an opportunity to begin or continue a lifelong journey of service.

	 K-Kids	 Terrific Kids	 Bring Up Grades	 Builders Club	 KEY CLUB	 KEY LEADER	 CKI	 AKTION CLUB
Web site	kkids.org	terrifickids.org	bringupgrades.org	buildersclub.org	keyclub.org	key-leader.org	circlek.org	aktionclub.org
Who participates?	Elementary school age children age 6–12	Elementary school age children age 6–12	Elementary school age children age 6–12	Middle/junior high school kids age 12–14	High school students	High school students age 14–18	College and university students	Adults with disabilities
What is it?	Club	Recognition program	Recognition program	Club	Club	Weekend retreat	Club	Club
Who can sponsor it?	Kiwanis club or community organization	Kiwanis club or CKI or Key Club	Kiwanis club or CKI or Key Club	Kiwanis club or community organization	Kiwanis club or community organization	A Kiwanis district and Kiwanis International	Kiwanis club or community organization	Kiwanis club or community organization
Who can co-sponsor?	CKI or Key Club	Kiwanis club or CKI or Key Club	Kiwanis club or CKI or Key Club	CKI or Key Club	CKI	N/A	N/A	CKI or Key Club
Minimum number of chartering members	15 recommended	N/A	N/A	15 recommended	15 required	60 attendees per weekend	15, four-year university 10, two-year or community college 10, fewer than 1,000 students, regardless of type of school	15 recommended
Required volunteers	Faculty advisor and Kiwanis advisor (when sponsored)	School contact and Kiwanis Terrific Kids chairperson	School contact and Kiwanis BUG chairperson	Faculty advisor and Kiwanis advisor (when sponsored)	Faculty advisor and Kiwanis advisor (when sponsored)	10 per weekend	Faculty advisor and Kiwanis advisor (when sponsored)	Faculty advisor and Kiwanis advisor (when sponsored)
Ongoing costs	Annually: Club fee	Annually: Purchase additional supplies as needed	Annually: Purchase additional supplies as needed	Annually: Club fee	Annually: Individual membership dues	Check website for current pricing	Annually: Club fee and individual district dues	Annually: Individual membership dues

For more information on chartering, visit kiwanis.org/charter. Chartering materials are available from the Member Services Department of Kiwanis International at +1-317-875-8755, ext. 411 (worldwide) or 1-800-KIWANIS, ext. 411 (USA and Canada only).

Supporting materials for all service clubs and Bring Up Grades are available in English only. However, many non-English-speaking communities support thriving Kiwanis programs. The Terrific Kids program is available in a Spanish version, Niños Destacados. As interest in programs expands, so will the availability of customizable materials.

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 **AKTION CLUB**
aktionclub.org



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YOU'RE ABOUT TO **CHANGE LIVES**

Thank you for your order.

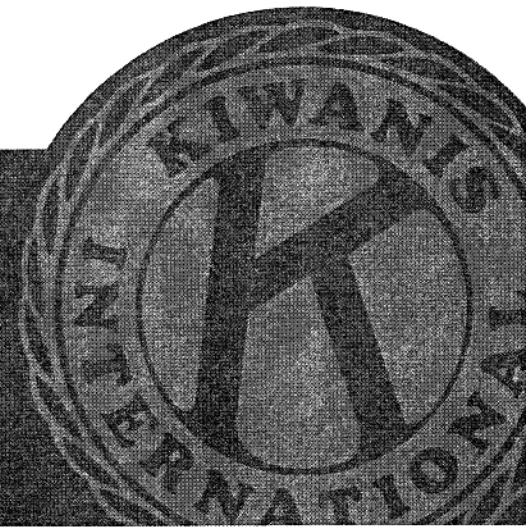
Use the In Your Community brochure to introduce people to the Service Leadership Program club you hope to start.

On the back of this flier, you'll also find a simple how-to guide. It helps you kick off a conversation about Kiwanis and its family of clubs for youth, university students or adults with disabilities. There are five key steps:

1. Choose a Kiwanis club representative
2. Schedule a meeting
3. Prepare the meeting
4. Run the meeting
5. Follow up

You can also log on to **www.KiwanisOne.org/charter** for more tips and tools.

IN YOUR COMMUNITY
HOW-TO GUIDE



IN YOUR COMMUNITY HOW-TO GUIDE

Five steps for starting a conversation about a service club for youth, university students or adults with disabilities.

1. Choose a club representative

First impressions count

You might want to choose two Kiwanians—to make sure you have someone who's passionate about serving *and* someone who's relaxed and persuasive.

2. Schedule a meeting

Get a foot in the door

- If you're meeting with a Kiwanis club, contact the club president and/or the Service Leadership Program chairman or chairwoman.
 - If you're meeting with a school, contact the principal or staff responsible for clubs.
 - If you're targeting a facility, research the organization, its programming and its client base. Determine the name and title of the programming decision-maker.
 - Let your prospect suggest when and where to meet.
 - Ask how much time is available. Tailor your presentation to fit the time you've got.
 - Schedule and confirm your meeting. Never arrive without an appointment.
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3. Prepare the meeting

Great plans lead to great results

- Share a testimonial from a club member to demonstrate the benefits of the program you're suggesting.
 - Allow time for questions and answers. Write down questions you don't have the answers to, and provide answers at your next meeting.
 - Establish next steps and a timeline for follow-up meetings.
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4. Run the meeting

Every second counts—use your time well!

- Stick to the Kiwanis big picture and club-level experience. Avoid potentially confusing details like district structure and Kiwanis acronyms or titles.
 - Stay focused. You're representing the Kiwanis family, but make sure you're telling the club's story.
 - Discuss the program's benefits to the potential members and the school or organization.
 - Share service project ideas and outcomes. Show a video or photos of a project, if time permits.
 - Relax—let your passion shine through!
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5. Follow up

Keep the door open

- Follow through on your follow-up plans and schedule a phone call or meeting.
- Be sure to answer any unanswered questions from previous meetings.
- Leave a good impression of Kiwanis and the program you're promoting—no matter who attends or what the result may be.