

KEY LEADER STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

FOUNDATION

Key Leader, a program sponsored by Kiwanis International, is designed to inspire young people to achieve their personal best through service leadership. The program is grounded on the objects and core values of the Kiwanis International Family organizations.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE PROGRAM: THE 5 KEYS OF THE KEY LEADER PROGRAM

The program is founded on five principles known as the 5 Keys, and that when practiced by the Key Leader will develop leadership competencies to better serve the individual, organization and community. The principles are applicable for leaders of all ages and levels of experience.

- 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

KEY LEADER

A Key Leader is a person who believes in, and practices, the 5 Keys of the program. This individual believes in putting the other person and organization first, helping them to become more autonomous, stronger and independent. The Key Leader believes in serving for service sake. A Key Leader is ever growing and changing, improving self while providing help and assistance to others.

SERVICE LEADERSHIP

Service leadership is the act of leading that answers the questions: “Is what I’m doing helping others to become better? Do others or does the organization become stronger and more independent because of what I’m doing?”

SERVICE-LEARNING

Service-learning is the outcome from the acts of one or many by the service projects completed and leadership shared. The outcomes may come from informal or formal activities.

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WHY THE SERVICE LEADERSHIP APPROACH?

- It meets the needs of people, community, not the needs of the leader
- It is the right thing to do – Golden Rule
- It allows more people to own the projects, organizations and leadership opportunities
- It grows our own leaders
- It is the truest sense of democratic principles are brought to life and light

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Increase opportunities for participation
- Highlight value of leadership programs
- Increase the number of people involved in leadership programs
- Increase worldwide channels for delivering leadership development programs

KEYS FOR SUCCESS

In order to make this program a success, several philosophical keys must be in place and accepted by program participants, facilitators and sponsors:

- Self-discovery is the preferred method of experiential learning for participants
- Coaching, rather than telling or lecturing, is a critical element in delivering the message by facilitators and advisors
- The curriculum must be ever-evolving in order to remain relevant to the participants
- Advisors and leaders who attend programs will be active participants
- This is not a once-and-done event, Key Leader is an approach to growth and development that involves continuous growth
- The program is based on transformational rather than transactional development
- The program is based on the thought that growth is an evolution, not a revolution
- A person may “enter” the program at any point in his or her life
- Non-Kiwanis Family members are encouraged to participate in the program