# HISTORY OF KIWANIS

#### 1915-2025



#### Kiwanis International was founded in Detroit, Michigan

#### BIRTH OF KIWANIS

Kiwanis International, one of the great service organiza-tions of the world, had its origin on January 21, 1915. On this date the State of Michigan issued a charter to a group of business and professional men who organized the first Kiwanis Club on this site in the Griswold Hotel. The club's name. Kiwanis, was an Indian term. The concept and principle which Kiwanis represents is symbolized by the slogan "We build." From its beginning, and within two years, **Kiwanis became international** in its scope.

> REGISTERED STATE STATE NO. 254 PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF MICHICAN, 1982



First club outside USA: KC Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

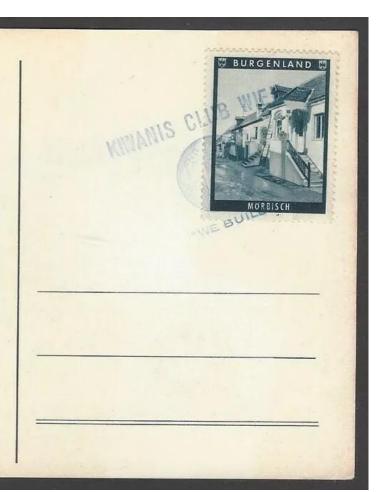




Herzliche Grüße von der Charterfeier des ersten europäischen Kiwanis Clubs am 5. Mai 1963 in Wien/Österreich.



Greetings from the Charter Celebration of the first Kiwanis Club of Europe in Vienna, Austria, on May 5, 1963.



#### **First club in Europe**

Vienna, Austria



### **International Convention**



## Vienna, Austria

Kiwanis International stages its annual convention outside the US and Canada.



#### Women are admitted as members



Julie Fletcher of Ridgewood, New Jersey—the woman who challenged Kiwanis' "male-only" membership in the mid-1980s—listens to delegates debate the "genderless amendment" at the 1987 Washington, D.C., Convention.







## **Partnership with UNICEF**

World initiative to eliminate Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD).

#### IDD





#### 1st European International President





### "Serving the Children of the World" is the new official motto









### **The Eliminate Project**

## ELIMINATE maternal/neonatal tetanus



### **Partnership with UNICEF**

Global campaign to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT)

#### Kiwanis International celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary





