

# Kiwanis

Wisconsin - Upper Michigan District

[www.stevenspointkiwanis.org](http://www.stevenspointkiwanis.org)

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Kiwanis Kare Kits is a project that began in January of 2014 when the Kiwanis Club of Stevens Point went in search of unmet needs in the community with a focus on our area's youth. After an initial meeting with the Stevens Point Public School District Superintendent and later with a number of K-12 teachers, principals and counselors - the idea of purchasing products and assembling kits for distribution to at-risk youth in need of hygiene products and instruction began to take shape. Our intent was to find a project that would provide more substantial impact with Kiwanis fundraiser proceeds than we had experienced with smaller allocations to numerous existing programs. We were also interested in the selection of a project that was an unmet need without significant duplication of efforts from other programs.

Through a fair amount of discussion, we realized that although the exact need varies from school to school, the need for hygiene products and hygiene education is a reality for a segment of K-12 students. Schools currently deal with the issue on an ad-hoc basis and draw resources from office funds and other indirect sources where possible. Ultimately, the group concluded that there is a need for hygiene kits.

Today's activities by Kiwanis members wraps up several months of planning, requests for product and gathering supplies. Three different pre-packed kits are being assembled; Elementary School Kits, High School/ Middle School Kits, and Teen Mom Kits. Each of the nine elementary schools, the two middle schools and the two high schools will also receive a tote containing individual hygiene product that is either gender specific, needed only infrequently on for individual situations.

Once the product is distributed to schools, we hope to learn more about the significance of the project from school officials. Usage monitoring will be important. We hope to gain valuable information from participating schools. Our intent is to check back with the schools at the conclusion of the 2013/2014 school year and again in six months to review the effectiveness of the program and to revise any future processes if the program is considered successful in meeting the needs of our Kiwanis Club, the school district, and most importantly, the youth that are being served.

A sincere thank you goes out to the committed sponsors that have supported the mission of Kiwanis over the years. The items contained in the Kiwanis Kare Kits were donated by the Kiwanis Club of Stevens Point, aided in part by the generous support of the sponsors shown below.



Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to



changing the world one child and one community at a time.