

Landscape Structures

CREATING AN AMAZING PLAYGROUND

Landscape Structures (LSI) joined Kiwanis International in 2013 as a vision partner to bring play to communities across the globe. Kiwanis aligns with partners possessing a shared mission to preserve the trust of members and the communities, children and families served. LSI is proud to provide high-quality commercial playground equipment and planning consultation services that reflect the high degree of integrity that Kiwanis clubs expect. This toolkit will help Kiwanis clubs create amazing playgrounds that will bring their communities together to play.

WHO IS LANDSCAPE STRUCTURES?

Since 1971, Landscape Structures has been committed to enhancing children's lives while honoring the environment. LSI knows play shapes kids into better adults – that's why they create innovative playground equipment to inspire children to grow strong bodies and minds, so their future remains bright. And to further ensure a better tomorrow, LSI is sensitive to the environment through manufacturing practices that minimize the impact on the earth. LSI's goal from day one has been to foster healthy children playing in healthy communities – year after year, generation after generation.



WHY IS LANDSCAPE STRUCTURES PARTNERING WITH KIWANIS?

Landscape Structures believes in creating better communities. What better way to do this than by partnering with the world's best volunteer-led service organization? Kiwanis family members are able to provide LSI's representatives with community connections, access to local leadership and most importantly, members who are committed to giving all families the ability to play on an innovative, fun, safe and inclusive playground structure.

WHY IS KIWANIS PARTNERING WITH LANDSCAPE STRUCTURES?

Kiwanis only partners with the most trusted organizations, with these criteria:

- Industry leader with a strong, stable reputation
- Mission-focused
- Shared values
- Ability to fill a need within the Kiwanis family of clubs
- Interest in long-term partnership

It doesn't stop there. Our clubs need to feel comfortable knowing LSI has their best interests at heart. With more than 150 local sales representatives, Kiwanis members know their service needs will be met from the smallest to the largest concerns. Clubs can be proud to know the beautiful playground they help build will be a major legacy centerpiece in the community, illustrating how powerful a signature project can be. LSI has also created the **Planning Playground Guide** to help Kiwanis clubs envision, analyze, design, install and take pride in their very own playground. Take a look at the exclusive playground designs created for Kiwanis international at playlsi.com/kiwanis.



HOW CAN YOUR CLUB CONTACT A LOCAL LSI SALES REPRESENTATIVE?

It's very easy to connect with LSI. Simply go to the **Contact page** and search for your local representative. Outside North America? Contact Landscape Structures by phone at **763-972-5200** or by email at **info@playlsi.com**.

STARTING THE CONVERSATION

After you've found your local sales representative, here are a few simple ways to begin developing this meaningful partnership.

Meet casually for coffee. Discuss how you can work together to improve the community. Getting a better understanding of how LSI works can help your club achieve its goals.

Invite the representative to a club meeting. This is a great way to share with your club members how committed LSI is to being the industry leader in inclusive playground design. Continue to invite LSI's rep to club meetings as your guest and be sure to introduce them to other club members.

Invite them to a service project. Building playgrounds takes time. Take the opportunity to get them involved in another club service project, so you'll get to know each other on a more personal level and become equally committed to creating a better community.

Extend a Kiwanis membership invitation. This provides you access to an additional local network you may not be aware of – leading to shared networks and stronger community alliances.



PLAYGROUNDS AS A SIGNATURE PROJECT

A playground build makes a great signature project – an ongoing way to make your mark in the community. More than 20 years ago, the Kiwanis Club of Napa, California, set an ambitious goal of installing playgrounds in every area elementary school. There just weren't enough schools.

"We've built more than 70 playgrounds now throughout Napa County for schools, park departments and various organizations, including a secret domestic-violence shelter for women and children," says Napa Kiwanian Jim Roberts. "Without the Kiwanis Club of Napa, many of these playgrounds might not have ever been built."

"We don't know of anybody else in the country that's done this many community builds," says Tim Barrett, a representative for Landscape Structures.

Many members joined Kiwanis because of the club's reputation as a playground builder. The roster includes the mayor, a superior court judge, a city council member, police chief, fire chief, librarian, county auditor-controller, two district attorneys and many professionals who want to be associated with this can-do club.

"We're known as the go-to club in Napa County," Roberts says. "We have dozens of ongoing projects all year long, mostly dedicated to our children."



LEGACY OF PLAY CONTEST

Since 2014, LSI has partnered with Kiwanis International for the Legacy of Play Contest – which gives Kiwanis clubs the opportunity to win US\$25,000 in playground equipment. The contest celebrates our shared beliefs that investing in communities through legacy signature projects is important to the success of a Kiwanis club.

The contest is open every spring to clubs in any phase of a playground project. It's a great opportunity to share your club's story and grow community awareness of your project. Learn more at [kiwanis.org/legacyofplay](https://www.kiwanis.org/legacyofplay).