Developing college and university students into a global network of responsible citizens and leaders with a lifelong commitment to service.

**WEBSITE:** nedcki.org

**FACEBOOK:** New England District of Circle K International

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Better World Books is an organization “whose mission is to capitalize on the value of the book to fund literacy initiatives locally, nationally and around the world.” BWB collects discarded and donated books from over 1,800 college and university campuses and over 3,100 libraries and thrift stores. They find the best possible use for each book collected in order to promote literacy. The books are either sold to raise money for nonprofit literacy programs or sent to one of their nonprofit partners for use in their programs. Some books are given to those who otherwise cannot afford them. Some books are in too poor condition to be used. These books are recycled if they cannot be sold or given to partners. Better World Books takes all types of books, including novels, textbooks, poetry, nonfiction, or fiction, and determine where they will go. Better World Books has currently donated 15,484,698 books, raised $19,001,813 for Literacy and Libraries, and recycled 153,041,324 books.

Colleges can partner with Better World Books to organize a book drive. The organization supplies the materials and boxes that you need in order to have a successful book drive. Once you collect the boxes, you can organize a date with BWB for them to come and collect the books. The books can be donated, sold or recycled. Colleges can choose from a list of Better World Books partners to whom they will donate the money that was raised from the books collected. The university also gets part of the money collected from the books for putting on the book drive.

When my Circle K at Bridgewater State University held a book drive, we were able to collect 8 boxes of books. We collected over 70 books from our school and surrounding areas. Some books were sold while others were donated. Some were even recycled if they could not be used. Overall, we had a very successful book drive, and I am so glad that we were able to support this organization.

By: Savina Pires
Greeting New England District:

My name is Karl Uzcategui, your 2015-2016 New England District Governor.

Year: Senior

Major: International Business with a concentration in Political Science

School: Johnson & Wales University-Providence Campus

Fun Fact: In my free time I volunteer at the March of Dimes Rhode Island Chapter as their NICU Family Support Volunteer and enjoy attending cultural programs that are hosted in the JWU BRIDGE Center, our intercultural center on campus.

Favorite Service Project: My favorite service project is Letters to Veterans through Operation Gratitude. My home club is too familiar with this service project as we have done many drives in the past and continue to do so. The holiday season is a wonderful time to craft some amazing cards for those performing such outstanding service to our nation.

Goals for the 2015-2016 Year:

- Membership Growth and Development: We have a number of new members that have joined us for the upcoming year. That being said, it would be beneficial to inform these members of the wonderful opportunities and resources that come with being a CKI Member. It is my goal to filter through the resources we already have and make them readily available for any situation that might arise.

- Fellowship: We have many outstanding events each year. Some include: Fall Conference, KPTI Day, and District Convention. It is now time to look at what we have done and what we can improve upon so we can expand your experience and increase attendance at these events.

- Communication: Weekly updates won’t always be needed. As we move forward we will need to look at what is the most effective way to work with the clubs in our district so we are unified in our efforts as an organization.

What is Circle K? Exploration, Determination, and Friendship. Circle K provides us with the unique opportunity of exploring ourselves within service and leadership. Through setting goals and working together, we are able to transform the tasks that are presented to us and make them worthwhile. The bonds we make through our time in this organization will last us a lifetime. It is because of this that Circle K will always have a substantial place in our homes, schools, and communities.

Karl Uzcategui
2015-2016 District Governor

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Dear New England Circle K Volunteers,

My name is Kyle Parks-Damon and I am honored to be your District Secretary/Treasurer for the 2015-2016 service year!

Major: Environmental Engineering


Favorite Service Project: My favorite service project is undoubtedly making no-sew blankets. It’s a fun group activity and so rewarding to visit Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute (KPTI) and understand the cause our work is going toward.

Fun Fact: I would be eternally barefoot if that sort of thing was socially acceptable.

Circle K has built my confidence and dedication to service. I encourage you all to get involved and see what Circle K can do for you! More aptly, ask not what Circle K can do for you, but what you can do for your community.

Kyle Parks-Damon
2015-2016 District Secretary/Treasurer

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Hey, Lobsters!

My name is Emily Mui, and I have the pleasure of serving as your District Editor for this year!

Major: Industrial Engineering with a minor in Art

School: Northeastern University, Class of 2018/2019

Favorite Service Project: I love decorating shower curtains for Camp Sunshine with my club because it encourages all of us to interact with new members and work together to create something for others.

Fun Fact: I’m going to Ireland for two months this summer to take drawing and painting classes that count towards my minor!

Goals: I want to get each Circle K in the district to submit at least one article for Lobster Tales.

To me, Circle K is about support. It’s about constantly being around great people who love to help others and want to make a difference in the world, no matter how much work, time, or persistence it takes.

Emily Mui
2015-2016 District Editor
**GREATER BOSTON LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR:**
**BRYANT SOOHOO**

Hello Lobsters! My name is Bryant Soohoo and I will be the Lieutenant Governor of the Greater Boston district for 2015-2016.

**Major:** Mechanical Engineering, with a minor in Electrical Engineering  
**School:** Northeastern University (GO HUSKIES!), Class of 2016

**Fun Facts:** I used to play jazz trumpet in high school! It has been a while since I have played, but the pep band that supports our school’s sports teams has been catching my eye as of late...

**Favorite Service Project:** I have been a Circle K member for about 2 years now, and have participated in numerous service projects over the years. A particular favorite of mine would have to be making no-slip socks for children with acrylic paint. I was actually tempted to take a pair home with me, but unfortunately the sizes were a little small.

**Goals:** As LTG of the Greater Boston district, I hope to reach out to more people that might be interested in Circle K by chartering a new club in our district. I also hope to set up some inter-club events so that individual chapters can meet members from other areas.

For me, Circle K is all about meeting new people and making friends while helping out your community, and I hope to encourage that as Lieutenant Governor.

In short, I am looking forward to working with the members of Circle K Greater Boston, and am excited for the upcoming year!

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**ATLANTIC DIVISION LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR:**
**SCOTT COX**

Happy Spring (it’s finally here)! I would like to formally introduce myself as your Atlantic Division Lieutenant Governor for the 2015-2016 service year.

**Major:** Hotel & Lodging Management  
**School:** Johnson & Wales University in Providence, RI, Class of 2016

**Goals:** I hope to improve district relations with Providence College and Salve Regina. Bridgewater State University, Johnson & Wales University and Brown are excellent clubs, and I want to strengthen those relationships with members. I also would like to improve attendance at district events and promote interclubs.

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**SUNRISE DIVISION LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR:**
**DERIC IRISH**

Hi my name is Deric Irish and I will be your Sunrise Division LTG over the next year.

**Major:** Accounting major with a minor in Political Science  
**School:** University of Southern Maine, Class of 2017

**Fun Facts:** I have lived my entire life in the same small town in Maine. I also love baseball and am a big Red Sox fan. I joined the Kiwanis family about 5 or 6 years ago and absolutely loved it. I love to talk about CKI, so come talk to me about it. Another great thing that everyone should know about me is that very outgoing and love to joke around with you.

**Goals:**
- At least one Sunrise division service project this year
- Either charter or start the chartering process of at least one club in the Sunrise division
- I also would like to try to know everyone in the Sunrise division

Circle K is indescribable to me because it means everything to me. You guys are my family and I love going to meetings, even if they are 2 1/2 away (*cough cough* UMO).

I enjoy the idea of getting to know you all of you this out coming year. Don’t hesitate to email with any question or if you want to talk to me at dirish.cki@gmail.com.

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**Fun Fact:** In my spare time, I like to longboard in the summer, ski in the winter, or just go for a hike through the woods.

**Favorite Service Project:** My favorite service project is a beach/shore cleanup. I am a very outdoorsy person, so I love being able to clean up the local community for others to enjoy.

To me, Circle K is a way of life. I think about it every day, and am always striving to make new friends or discover a new service project. I look forward to meeting all of you, and good luck on finals!
Happy Spring NED!

The snow has finally stopped, our semesters are coming to an end, and what’s even more exciting is that we just kicked off the 2015-2016 CKI service year! My name is Kelly Chan, I am a speech-language pathology graduate student at St. John’s University in Queens, New York, my favorite service project is serving at the Ronald McDonald House, I am entering my 9th year in the Kiwanis Family, and I am serving as the Subregion F Trustee until the end of June 2015. This means that I serve as the liaison from the international board to each of the five districts in Subregion F: Capital, Eastern Canada, New England, New Jersey, and New York. In addition to serving as your liaison, I am also serving as CKI’s Kiwanis Family Relations Chair, helping us strengthen our relationship with all branches of the Kiwanis Family.

What does serving as a liaison mean exactly? It means that I serve on the international board, which consists of a president, vice president, and 8 trustee’s (including myself). Together we work to promote the growth of our organization by serving as a resource to the districts and members we serve. As Subregion F Trustee, I’ve worked very closely with each district board to help with club charters, increase and strengthen membership, increase service hours, increase fundraising, plan for district events, make visits when possible, and provide general updates on international campaigns and events (CKI Preferred Charities and Service Partners, CKIx, Leadership Academy, etc.).

More importantly, I am here to serve each of you. I believe in transparency and open communication. I have set up a Facebook group for all members to communicate with one another about service projects, fundraising ideas, and also to share updates from the international level (https://www.facebook.com/groups/4924883501/). You can also stay updated by “liking” the ‘CKI Subregion F’ Facebook page. Finally, you can sign up to receive Subregion F Leadership Team Updates, a bi-weekly newsletter including which include a variety of resources and information on what other districts within Subregion F are up to by e-mailing me at kelchan.cki@gmail.com. Don’t be afraid to contact me for more information or to ask any other questions you may have.

I wish you the best in your CKI journey and would like to leave you with my one of my favorite quotes: “Work for a cause, not for applause. Live life to express, not to impress. Don’t strive to make your presence noticed, just make your absence felt.” - Unknown

Yours in Service, Leadership, and Subregion F Love,

Kelly Chan

2014-2015 Subregion F Trustee
The past few months have been very fast-paced for Northeastern University Circle K. The club has participated in several service projects throughout the Greater Boston area. A few members represented Northeastern at District Convention. Our big service project, BBQ for Eliminate took place mid-April. Lastly, but certainly not least, members said goodbye to their dedicated leadership team, and welcomed a new, eager elected board.

District Convention was an event that brought Northeastern University Circle K much pride and joy. We want to thank everyone who put in countless hours to make the weekend such a huge success. The members that represented NUCKI were humbled by the kindness, dedication, and inclusiveness that they experienced during their stay at Camp Sunshine. Thank you!

BBQ for Eliminate took place April 19th. Our leadership team worked tirelessly to make this event happen. The BBQ consisted of free food and informative games and activities to educate the Northeastern community about maternal/neonatal tetanus and the Eliminate Project.

We want to say farewell and congratulations to Kristina Norris, our dedicated and hardworking President, and Julie Paquette, our Secretary and go-to girl. Both ladies are nearing graduation, and therefore, are moving on to the next chapter in their lives. We wish them the best, but will also miss them dearly. These two have been the heart and soul of Northeastern University Circle K for many years, and their dedication deserves some serious recognition!

By Jenn Rigby

The Circle K at Brown just started up at the beginning of this year’s spring semester. As such, we’ve spent most of our time trying to lay down the foundation for the club. This means we’ve focused on membership recruitment, officer elections, reaching out to the division and district for help with the chartering process, and fundraising.

In the past few weeks, some of the events our club participated in include a charity night at our local Flatbread Company to support March of Dimes and our attendance at and donation to the Relay for Life on campus. Two of our club officers also had the amazing opportunity to attend District Convention in Maine! They learned a lot, and we are planning to put the information they took from the event to use next semester to make our club even more impactful in our community.

On the more organizational aspect of club activities, we have applied for a fund, which our school provides, that will hopefully cover the $600 cost of officially chartering our club. We have not had much success with reaching out to the Kiwanis Club that agreed to sponsor us, but we are hoping that more persistence will change that soon. We are also planning a "Kiss a Senior Goodbye" fundraiser where we will sell bags of Hershey’s Kisses that students can have us deliver to the mailboxes of outgoing seniors.

All in all, it has been a challenge to start from scratch, but this club definitely has the potential to be great. With any luck, we’ll soon be on our way to district awards, (positive) newspaper headlines, and making CKI members over the world exclaim "Wow!" when they hear about us. Just wait and see!

By Connor Watts
The Westfield State University Circle K hosted a shoe drive on campus as part of a campaign called “Pair it Forward” to help keep shoes out of landfills for Earth Day, April 22, for the organization Soles4Souls. By the end of the campus-wide drive, we collected 881 pairs of shoes and about 35 single shoes (used for amputees), totaling just over 900 pairs of shoes.

and weighing in at 1,118 lbs. The shoe drive will benefit more than 1,000 people. The new and slightly used shoes will be given to those in need in the US and overseas. The shoes that go overseas are given to micro-entrepreneurs in developing countries that sell the shoes for Soles4Souls to help end poverty.

I would like to give a special thanks Westfield South Middle School for collecting 200 shoes and to Bridgewater State University and everyone else who brought shoes to DCON 2015!

Rebecca Talamini
Shoe drive organizer
Circle K Treasurer 2014-2015

The member Bridgewater State University Circle K has chosen for this month is Ariana LaFarve! She is currently a sophomore who joined this past January and is actually now the treasurer for the new Circle K year. Ariana has exhibited amazing qualities of leadership and has shared many new ideas for the club volunteer/service projects and fundraising. She has gone to all of the club events and is always exuding much excitement with her contagious smile. We expect great things from Ariana!

By Chakriya Boesm

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The member Bridgewater State University Circle K has chosen for this month is Ariana LaFarve! She is currently a sophomore who joined this past January and is actually now the treasurer for the new Circle K year. Ariana has exhibited amazing qualities of leadership and has shared many new ideas for the club volunteer/service projects and fundraising. She has gone to all of the club events and is always exuding much excitement with her contagious smile. We expect great things from Ariana!

By Chakriya Boesm

DISTRICT CONVENTION:

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The member Bridgewater State University Circle K has chosen for this month is Ariana LaFarve! She is currently a sophomore who joined this past January and is actually now the treasurer for the new Circle K year. Ariana has exhibited amazing qualities of leadership and has shared many new ideas for the club volunteer/service projects and fundraising. She has gone to all of the club events and is always exuding much excitement with her contagious smile. We expect great things from Ariana!

By Chakriya Boesm

SUMMATION
Haven't really been involved in Circle K since last semester, I didn't fully understand the community that is Kiwanis International. After a single District Convention, I can say that I feel a part of that community. I met an incredible group of dedicated, passionate leaders from across New England and from my school, Northeastern University.

My weekend started at Ruggles Station in Boston, where I packed into a car with my fellow Circle K members. An hour later, we were driving through Maine, singing along to service themed lyrics to the tune of Stacey’s Mom, preparing for roll call. We arrived at Camp Sunshine, an amazing nonprofit in Casco, Maine, that hosts families of terminally ill children. I had no idea what to expect, after hearing the cheers of all the other schools, I could tell this was a great bunch of people and that this weekend would be one to remember.

After a night of getting to know my fellow Circle K members, I felt so much more connected to the district. I couldn’t wait to see what the next day had in store. After breakfast, I decided to head to a service workshop, where we painted shower curtains for Camp Sunshine. Though I had made shower curtains at NU Circle K meetings, staying in the place where those curtains end up going always makes me feel so strongly about the Kiwanis formula of “Love It, Share It, Live It.” I realized that, while I love service and Circle K, I hadn’t been doing much of the sharing and living aspects of making it part of my life beyond a club that I go to once a week and a way to volunteer on the weekends. Service was always important to me, but it was never a constant or a fundamental part of who I am. DCON helped me to see this differently and meet people for whom service is everything and I felt with a need to not only continue doing service but to invite others to serve. This was perhaps the most important takeaway for me from that entire weekend.

I came into DCON without much of an understanding of Kiwanis, but by the Farewell Brunch on Sunday, I felt so strongly about the importance of Circle K in my life. It was so great to see the awards handed out to people for whom this revelation clearly already happened. The dedication of people like Rachel Shanley and the rest of the 2014-2015 District Board inspired me and I am looking forward to what new District Board will do and where the next year will take us.

By Lauren Cosenza
At Simmons, we hold an annual 12-hour Service-a-thon in the fall. This is a great service event because you can customize it to your own club and what populations you would like to serve. Essentially, for 12 hours on a Saturday, we all work on service projects. Each hour we start a new one, and we have breaks throughout the day to do something fun like have a dance party or a trivia game. People can come and go as they please. This past year we even incorporated off-campus service events like volunteering at Boston’s Breath Deep Walk.

For this service event, you need: a location, supplies for all of the service projects you want to do, snacks, a fun playlist, advertisements, and people!

In order to get the highest attendance, make sure you don’t plan your event on a holiday weekend. Some of the projects we have done in the past at the Service-a-thon are: fleece blankets for KPTI, dog and cat toys for a local animal shelter, thank you cards for veterans and deployed soldiers, non-slip socks for KPTI, and paracord bracelets. If you like this idea and want to learn more, email circlek@simmons.edu.

By Kati Ripaldi

Hey NED!

CKI is the world’s largest collegiate community service organization and you will understand what this really means by attending CKIx 2015, which combines the 60th Annual Circle K International Convention (ICON) and our 15th Annual Large Scale Service Project (LSSP). This year, CKIx will be held June 24-27, 2015 in Indianapolis, IN.

CKIx is a 5-day experience where we will all get the chance to celebrate CKI’s 3 tenets to its full capacity alongside thousands of members from not only Circle K but with members from Key Club, Aktion Club, and Kiwanis International. Together as a Kiwanis Family, we will be celebrating 100 years of Kiwanis during several events together. These events include the Kiwanis Pancake Throwdown, Kiwanis birthday bash on Georgia Street, and Kiwanis Family baseball night. Leadership opportunities include attending many great luncheons, workshops, sessions devoted to our service partners, an awards ceremony, the retirement of the 2014-2015 International Board, and the election of the 2015-2016 International Board. Fellowship opportunities include a scavenger hunt around Indianapolis, a free Hellogoodbye and A Great Big Pile of Leaves concert, and many other opportunities to mingle. Of course, I can’t forget about service. This year we will be building a playground, which will serve the Hawthorne neighborhood, home to many lower income families and first generation citizens. This is on top of various other service projects such as volunteering at an achievement center for Down syndrome children, a bike race for cancer research, and the local food bank.

Early bird registration was due on April 17th but if you missed the April 17th deadline, don’t worry! You can still register for $325 until May 15th. This does not include your hotel or travel expenses but it does include free breakfast each morning, admission to all events mentioned above, and a week you won’t forget!

For more information such as election procedures, the tentative schedule, awards you can apply for, or specific dates and rates, check out http://circlek.org/CKIx, contact me at kelchan.cki@gmail.com, or contact your District Governor, Karl Uzcategui at governor@nedcirclek.org. I can’t wait to meet you all at CKIx!

Yours in Service, Leadership, and Subregion F Love,
Kelly Chan
2014-2015 Subregion F Trustee
YOU’LL FALL IN LOVE WITH INDY!

While Kiwanis celebrates its centennial, CKI will celebrate six decades of service, leadership and fellowship. Join CKI members from around the world in Indianapolis for the 60th Annual Circle K International Convention and 15th Annual Large Scale Service Project.

**ICON**

Your voice will be heard as you elect future CKI leaders, learn from amazing speakers, see hellogoodbye in concert and enjoy the fellowship of CKI members.

**LSSP**

Rebuild a playground and the surrounding area in one of Indianapolis’ most diverse and culturally inclusive neighborhoods—and leave your mark on other area communities.

**CKIx**

This ultimate summer experience will make your heart grow even fonder of Circle K.

**JUNE 23–28, 2015**

COMPLETE DETAILS AT WWW.CIRCLEK.ORG/CKIx

LOVE is an artwork by American artist Robert Indiana. It was created in 1970 as the first sculptural form of the artist’s famous LOVE painting and has been on continuous exhibition at the Indianapolis Museum of Art since it was acquired in 1975.