



District Director Report for District Council – April 2024

Submitted by	Angie Kivido
Portfolio	The District Director is responsible for directly overseeing and managing the District's day-to-day operations, finances, and human resources in support of the District Mission.
<u>District Mission</u> We build new clubs and support ALL clubs in achieving excellence!	

2023/2024 Theme: Building A Legacy

Vision: Creating Two Healthy, Sustainable Districts by 30 June 2024

We are Southern African Toastmasters District 74 – Legacy Builders

The Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu once said, “A journey of a thousand miles starts with one single step.”

It only took one man, Dr Ralph Chestnut Smedley, to start a movement that has impacted millions of individuals in building communication and leadership skills through Toastmasters International for over 100years!

In 1978, District 74 Southern African Toastmasters become part of the Toastmasters International organizational structure. Over the past 45years, thousands of individuals have actively pursued their personal development journeys through this life changing program. Leaders have been made, through the “*learn by doing*” ethos embedded in the Toastmasters educational program.

Today, our Southern African Toastmasters community is on the precipice of giving birth to a new district. The journey towards two Healthy, Sustainable Districts by 30 June 2024 is in our hands. What we do NOW will impact the trajectory of the future Toastmasters in Southern Africa.

As Legacy Builders, we are called to embrace the idea of servant leadership and leaving a lasting impact for generations to come.

At the time of writing this report, our members and our District are facing several challenges, amongst others:

- Varying economic environments affecting our 12 countries
- Increased semi-annual dues.
- Membership retention
- Leadership apathy

The reports presented by our Cabinet team members, specifically our Program Quality Directors and Club Growth Directors highlights the need for more focused action over the remaining months in support of our vision of Two Healthy Sustainable Districts by 30 June 2024.

Today, I call on every member, every leader, every legacy builder to join me as we passionately work on the following actions:

- Ensure every viable club that are not yet verified complete becomes verified complete before 30 April 2024.
- Work with every member and every club to meet the needs of our members to increase our member retention rate.
- Encourage members to take on leadership roles in their clubs, as a first step in their leadership development journeys.
- Live the **Toastmasters Promise**
As a member of Toastmasters International and my club, I promise
 - *To attend club meetings regularly*
 - *To prepare all of my projects to the best of my ability, basing them on the Toastmasters education program*
 - *To prepare for and fulfill meeting assignments*
 - *To provide fellow members with helpful, constructive evaluations*
 - *To help the club maintain the positive, friendly environment necessary for all members to learn and grow*
 - *To serve my club as an officer when called upon to do so*
 - *To treat my fellow club members and our guests with respect and courtesy*
 - *To bring guests to club meetings so they can see the benefits Toastmasters membership offers*
 - *To adhere to the guidelines and rules for all Toastmasters education and recognition programs*
 - *To act within Toastmasters' core values of integrity, respect, service and excellence during the conduct of all Toastmasters activities*

It is not yet the end of our story, we can make the impossible possible!

To be celebrated during our DreamCon Conference happening from 2nd to the 4th May 2024, ensure that you are a member in good standing from a club in good standing! I look forward to celebrating your achievements for this Toastmasters year!

In Conclusion

For the opportunity to lead our District 74 in the Toastmasters year 2023/2024, I extend my heartfelt gratitude! Truly, Leaders Are Made, in Toastmasters! Thank YOU!

To the team of leaders, our Cabinet, Division Directors, Area Directors, Club Officers that I have the privilege to service with, thank you for sowing seeds into my leadership journey which I will nurture and develop as I continue my personal development journey.

To every leader who has served, sustained, nurtured and contributed to District 74 Southern African Toastmasters growth till now, we acknowledge your dedicated service – Thank YOU!

Remembering, Dr Ralph Chestnut Smedley when he said: *“Ours (meaning Toastmasters) is the only organization I know dedicated to the individual, we work together to bring out the best in each of us, and we use these skills to help others.”*

May we continue to write our legacy story with every step we take on this life changing journey of a thousand miles!

Yours in Legacy Building,



Angie Kivido
District Director: Southern African Toastmasters District 74