



District Leader

Biographical Information

Candidate's Name: **Kimberly Ortiz**

Candidate's Office: **Hudson River Toastmasters** District Number: **46**

Toastmasters member since: **February 2002**

Education:
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:
HRT Club Treasurer, 2023-2024
Area 32 Director, 2024-2024

Toastmasters honors and recognition:
Spotlight on D46 website - for my experience as a member and Area Director
Sponsor of JNF

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:
20+ years experience in HR and Financial Administration. Managing direct reports, cross training, developing and empowering employees.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?
Worked with Executives, Members of the Boards, Stakeholders, and Management for budgetary reasons, forecasting and monthly meetings to discuss deviations, and new opportunities.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?
20+ years of experience in accounting and finance:
budget, forecast, treasury functions, back office operations: A/P, A/R, Payroll, Billing, bank reconciliations, maintain GL, journal entries, generate financials.
within the private equity industry, collection of capital calls, and distributions.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

Developed and implemented business procedures such as Request For Payments, created expense reports in alignment with business operations. Onboarding and Offboarding checklist for employees, welcome package for new employees, maintain cash management controls via treasury functions. Co-created compliance manual.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

Aligning yourself with an organization with the same values is important. Some of my values are integrity, inclusion, transparency, accountability, creativity, flexibility and development. Additionally, I think everyone is a leader, regardless of their title. Quoting John Maxwell, a good leader will invest in himself and have certain qualities such as Character, Charisma, Communication Commitment and competency. A good leader will also have empathy and be a good listener.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

The answer is two fold, to grow and evolve myself as a leader, and the second is to help others do the same. It took me a while to find my voice, and I'm still learning but the path is different when you have a community to develop with. I hope to be that bridge of communication for someone. The true reward is when you see others grow and become who they were meant to be.

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

To provide a platform where like minded individuals can gather, share, and learn from one another by communication. My role would be to empower and encourage members to build their self confidence, and to develop their leadership skills. All of us need a platform and support to become who we are destined to be. Toastmasters is that platform, and I will help support the Toastmasters mission to RISE: Respect, Integrity, Service and Excellence. Together, we can do hard things, together we can RISE.

Additional information about yourself:

I am a wife, and mother of two adult kids, 28 and 26, because of their independence, I have been able to dedicate time to my own growth. Toastmasters, is one of the outlets I choose for development, I am also part of a personal development coaching program, and during my spare time I like to read books on personal development and listen to podcasts about the same. I also enjoy traveling around the world, taking walks with my dog, Grizzly, through nature, and finding a corner in my home to park myself in and to either read or journal.