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News and Information



National Child Abuse Prevention Month

April, 2020

From the CEO

Laura Askowitz

Let me start by saying I miss everyone! You don't realize how much you communicate with people daily (or touch your face!) until you are told not to. Throw in the challenge that April, [National Child Abuse Prevention Month](#), is one of our busiest months with outreach and education, fundraising and events. April is even when we start planning for next fiscal year. Take all those things together, and you have a team that is – like you – wishing life was “back to normal”.

We know our families are living a new life. Parents and caregivers are now doing those jobs full time, and are feeling the pressure to become seasoned, life-long educators as well. I received some good advice from a friend:

*Now is not the time to become “your best self”
or a perfect month to learn a new language;
instead, just get through this time,
as safely as possible.*

As many of you know, when I became CEO of KidSafe last July, it was a result of thoughtful succession planning with our board, Sally, Cherie and the team. Sally is moving on from KidSafe. Her last day with us is April 1, and I want to give her a virtual standing ovation: profound recognition of the dedication with which Sally served our community. Sal, I cannot wait to see what you do next! (You can read Sally's farewell message, [here](#).)

Cheers, then, to Sally, and to all of you wonderful people learning to navigate April and these new challenges. Let us know, as often as you have time, how we can help.



Program Update

Cherie Benjoseph & Elysse Dion

Childhood Abuse Prevention Month

Join KidSafe as we celebrate [Child Abuse Prevention Month](#) throughout the month of April.

This month, we celebrate the right for all children to have a great, safe and yes, [healthy](#) childhood. Each day this month, we will post new material to help kids have a great, safe, and empowered childhood:



- Conversation starters about safety

- Videos
- KidSafe activities you can do with your kids
- Articles on talking to your kids about their personal safety

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

The national symbol for a carefree childhood is a pinwheel. So throughout the month, KidSafe will also share some beautiful pinwheel pictures with you.

As KidSafe kicks off the month of April, here is a video message from Cherie about how we will be celebrating the safety of your children and recognizing **Child Abuse Prevention Month**: <http://ow.ly/Vrf150z1f3R>



A Special Note: Consider Your Child's Personal Safety During COVID-19

Vulnerable children become more vulnerable, people that feel powerless are less empowered, and a general stress that complicates everything is in the air; this is life during COVID-19. KidSafe has been careful to not over-communicate with parents and caregivers on how to manage this difficult time. However, it is actually a really opportune moment to continue teaching kids about their personal safety. You can read more in our **Blog**: <http://ow.ly/9MOW50yUihA>

Be safe!

Cherie Elyse



Featured Supporter - Boca West Children's Foundation

Today we highlight the incredibly generous Boca West Children's Foundation for their support of KidSafe Foundation. Since 2015, Boca West Children's Foundation has been a major partner of KidSafe.



The Foundation has granted upwards of \$150,000 to KidSafe. That money has helped support the *Empower Me KidSafe* educational program to prevent child abuse and childhood trauma. We used the funding to provide materials for this vital program to children, parents, teachers, and child-serving professionals in our community.

Last year Boca West Children's Foundation helped to fund our newest educational endeavor, **CampSafe**, an online training program for camp staff to educate them how to recognize, respond to, and report child sexual abuse. We have begun to roll out **CampSafe** and we are eternally grateful to Boca West Children's Foundation for their continued support.



Thank you, Boca West Children's Foundation,
for your support in building safe lives for children!

Sally



Volunteer Spotlight

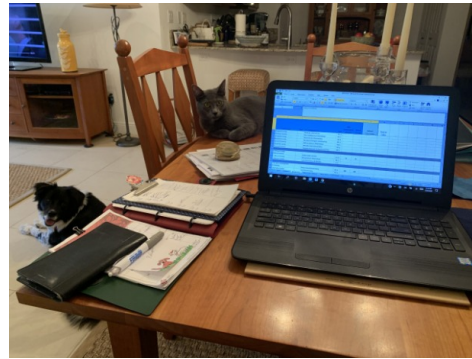
Eliza Vasquez

I think I have said this before, but let me repeat it just in case you missed it...

The KidSafe Team
has
THE BEST
volunteers ever!

I mean it!

All of us at KidSafe, and around the world really, are adjusting to our "new normal" ... you know working from home, homeschooling our children and barely leaving the house (just to get necessities). While we are doing that, we have the pleasure of being virtually surrounded by our KidSafe Volunteers.



Even though our physical office is closed, our volunteers are asking for work that they can do remotely! Patti and Susan are doing research for our Programming Department, and Dan, as usual, is putting all of his technical skills to use (gosh I wish I had half of his Windows knowledge!).

Every day, working with these people is a blessing, and we are so grateful. No one shows what being selfless means like our Volunteers! Thank you, guys, and stay safe!

Oh... and do not worry... April, [Child Abuse Prevention Month](#), is one of our busiest... We will keep our volunteers entertained.

With gratitude,

Eliza



Donations

Year to Date, 2020

\$10,000 or more

Saul & Theresa Esman Foundation
Focus for Health
L'Oreal Paris

\$5,000 or more

Stephen B. Wechsler
Aaron Friedman
Castle Group
Goody Two Shoes Inc.
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church of WPB

\$1,000 or more

Greenacres Nissan
The Boca Rio Foundation
Edge Endo, LLC
Points of Light Foundation
Northwestern Mutual
Michael Mann
Rotary Club Downtown Boca
Raton Fund

\$500 or more

Allan Zinberg
Kathy Tuckel
Calli Cain Ph.D.
Shelia Mains

\$100 or more

Timothy J. Dion
Sally Berenzweig
Daniel and Randi Paul-
Heskins
David Rosenfeld
Carl M. Lender
Joel Meisner
Chris Ashley
Elliott Tuckel
Eugene Fleishman
Peter Oldbury
Wendie Berenson
Judi Kroll
Elysse Dion
Jennifer Renee Rodriguez
Laura F. Askowitz
Kenny Laguna
Rita Diamond
Thomas Patrick Stewart
Todd Lawrence
Dinah Mirson



The KidSafe Mission

Teach personal safety to children and their grown-ups
to build strong, resilient families and safer communities.

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