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News and Information



New Year - New Opportunities

January, 2021

From the CEO

Laura Askowitz

Dear Friends,

I am so happy that it's a new year!

It's not just because 2020 was bad – it was in so many ways. I'm happy because, as our theme this month suggests, a New Year brings New Opportunities. KidSafe is always looking for new opportunities, and with the help of our supporters, sponsors, and staff, we are able to find them all the time.

Our biggest New Opportunity is our *StayKidSafe!* program. You can read all about it in the **Program Update** section of this Newsletter. We are very excited about this new project and its potential to expand our reach to children across Florida and beyond. We're also excited because so many of our Community of Support provided funding and encouragement for this new opportunity.

A lot of people are pessimistic these days. They look into the dark that the pandemic has created in so many lives and that's certainly understandable. On the other hand, our entire KidSafe team are so positive about the future, and so vocal about our optimism, that some people might find it annoying.

KidSafe is always looking for new opportunities, and with the help of our supporters, sponsors, and staff, we are able to find them all the time.

We love the New Opportunities that appear when we focus on our KidSafe Mission. It helps keep us positive and optimistic. It's like New Year all year long. If that's annoying, we hope it's contagious. I would love more people to feel as optimistic as we do.



Program Update

Cherie Benjoseph & Elysse Dion

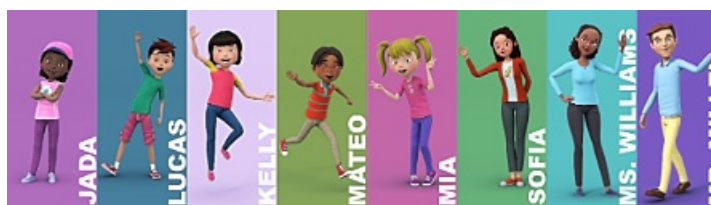
Our Biggest-Ever Launch!

KidSafe is excited to announce the launch of our biggest new product ever coming this Spring. *StayKidSafe!* is a highly interactive program that ramps up our fun curriculum teaching personal safety. Friends from our original KidSafe books come to life in striking 3D animation in a blend of video learning and teacher instruction. And thanks to a partnership with amazing people at Lynn University, each character will have professional-quality voices and performances.



StayKidSafe! fulfills Florida Education mandates on safety and preventing sexual abuse. As a result, this new program has the potential to reach every elementary school student in the state of Florida. Can you see why we're so excited about this program?

StayKidSafe! characters will demonstrate critical skills such as assertiveness, getting help, and body boundaries. The program covers issues of personal safety both online and in the real world. The program materials include comprehensive lesson plans as well as a teacher guidebook about child sexual abuse prevention, child trafficking, long term impact to victims and a teacher's role in prevention, recognition and reporting. Lessons are age-appropriate for K through 5th grade and work in the classroom or by distance learning.



Children have the right to be safe. *StayKidSafe!* is an actionable step to strengthening our children, families, and communities to prevent child sexual abuse and exploitation.

To reserve your space for the KidSafe for Kids preschool program or for our new K – 5, *StayKidSafe!* program please email training@kidsafefoundation.org.

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month



People often dismiss human trafficking as either something that occurs in other countries or as too big an issue to battle. Or they tell themselves, "This couldn't happen in my community, and especially not in my family." Sadly, they are wrong. Each of us needs to recognize that children of all ages, wherever they live, are vulnerable to trafficking, particularly sex trafficking, especially children who already have a history of child sexual abuse.

Read More:

<https://kidsafefoundation.org/topics/january-is-human-trafficking-awareness-month/>

Child sex trafficking is horrific to consider, which can cause parents to shy away from looking for signs or talking with children when signs are evident. Don't make that mistake.

If you suspect a child is being **trafficked**: call the **National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888** to report a tip or to get help.

If you suspect a child is being **sexually abused**: call the **Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-422-4453**.

Cheri Elyse



Our KidSafe Community

Eliza Vasquez

Dear Friends,

Welcome to 2021! I hope it will be a prosperous year. It will be absolutely an exciting one for KidSafe!

As you can read above, KidSafe will soon launch our biggest project to date, *StayKidSafe!* an animated form of our curriculum prepared for K through 5th-grade students. It's a big undertaking with new technology, new graphics and professional-quality voices. I bet our Programming Department feels a little like they are making a movie?

This fantastic initiative wouldn't be possible without our most committed community supporters. So let me take a moment to pause and thank them for their generosity, for their huge hearts, and for their firm stand against child sexual abuse and human trafficking.

Here are the **Funding Funders** of *StayKidSafe!* with their donations of **\$25,000 or more** (listed in alphabetical order):

- Boca West Children's Foundation
- Community Foundation of Palm Beach and Martin Counties
- Leslie L. Alexander Foundation
- Saul and Theresa Esmen Foundation
- Vegso Family Foundation



Leslie L. Alexander Foundation

Too Good To Go
Your Community
Better Together



Thank you all for believing in the power of education in prevention! Thank you all for helping us educate children and their grown-ups about personal safety! Because **empowered children become powerful adults!**

With *immense* gratitude,

Eliza

*P.S. Special thank you, also, to
Lynn University for their incredible help in
giving voices to all of our characters!*



KidSafe Español!

Melissa Maya

Queridos amigos de KidSafe,

Despedimos y esperábamos que no volviera nunca más! Habíamos estado contando los días para dar la bienvenida a 2021 con mucha buena energía, para que sólo sucederán cosas positivas en este nuevo año y podamos olvidar todas las cosas malas que sucedieron en 2020.

Queremos invitarlo a seguir compartiendo tiempo de calidad con su hijo en este nuevo año, no sólo porque una cuarentena que lo obligue a pasar tiempo en familia. En su lugar, aprenda a enseñar seguridad personal. Recuerden, como aprendimos en 2020, que la salud y la seguridad son las cosas más importantes.

KidSafe en Español te invita a participar de un seminario en el que podrás aprender como hablar con tu sobre seguridad personal y como comenzar a generar un vínculo de confianza con tu hijo.



Para más información: melissa@kidsafefoundation.org o en el teléfono: 954-397-5198. También compartiremos información en nuestras redes sociales de [Facebook](#) e [Instagram](#) (@KidsafeFoundationEspanol).

Melissa

Dear Friends of KidSafe,

We said goodbye to 2020 and hope it never comes back! We had been counting the days to welcome 2021 with a lot of good energy, so that only positive things will happen in this new year and we can forget all the bad things that happened in 2020.

We want to invite you to continue sharing quality time with your child in this new year, not just for a quarantine that forces him to spend family time. Instead, learn how to teach personal safety. Remember, as we learned in 2020, that health and safety are the most important things.

KidSafe en Español invites you to participate in a seminar where you can learn how to talk about kids' personal safety and how to start building a bond of trust with your child.

For more information: melissa@kidsafefoundation.org or on the phone: 954-397-5198. We will also share information on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) social networks (@KidsafeFoundationEspanol).

Melissa



Volunteer Spotlight

Our Volunteers segment this month celebrates our Volunteer Coordinator, **Jennifer Rodriguez**, who just became a mother again!

Baby Lucca Sierra was born on December 28, at a healthy 6 lbs. 13 ozs. and 20 inches long. Jennifer tells us she is feeling well and Lucca is settling in with his new family.

The KidSafe Family wishes Lucca, Jennifer and her husband, Hegell, their children Arianna and Ottavio (even their dog, Foxy) much love, health and happiness.

Congratulations!



October through December, 2020

\$10,000 or more

Leslie L. Alexander Foundation, Inc.
Boca Raton Regional Hospital Foundation
Florida Blue Foundation
Paul Palank Memorial Foundation
Saul & Theresa Esman Foundation
The Harry T. Mangurian, Jr. Foundation, Inc.
The Vegso Family Foundation

\$5,000 up to \$10,000

Boca West Children's Foundation
Josephine S. Leiser Foundation, Inc.
Lattner Family Foundation
Mary Alice Fortin Foundation, Inc.

\$1,000 up to \$5,000

City of Boca Raton

\$500 up to \$1,000

Matthew & Jodie Roseberg

Up to \$500

Josh & Larissa Abrams
Sherry Apple
Laura F. Askowitz
Jacob Beil
Stephen & Sally Berenzweig
Michael Deutsch
Diamond Service Group of South
Florida LLC
Elyse Dion
Leslie Diuguid
Kenneth S. Fraidin
James Gold
Sonya Gossard
Susan Huffman
Beth Johnston
Leonard Keilin
Liselotte Kleckner
Andrea Kling
Sung Knowles

Christina Kranick
 Allen Lebowitz
 Matthew Thornton School
 Neil and Vicki McAdorey

Susan Menzer
 Victoria Merrill
 Peter & Julie Oldbury
 Asha Padmanabhan
 Hegell Sierra & Jennifer Rodriguez
 Matthew Runyen
 Gregory Schiller Esq.
 Marvin Serota
 Philip Strasser
 Judi & Steve Tainsky
 Dustin Wilson



Don't Forget to Smile



New Year's resolution generator

© John Atkinson, Wrong Hands

choose one from each column

stop	shouting	during	grandpa's stories
start	sobbing	loudly at	rodeos
avoid	using the term 'derivative'	when tweeting about	Tom Hanks movies
keep	quoting ABBA	before	pilates
quit	saying 'it is what it is'	when complaining about	karaoke
practice	freestyle rapping	after	civil war re-enactments
try	mispronouncing chipotle	when deconstructing	anything

gocomics.com/wrong-hands • wronghandst.com



The KidSafe Mission

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

PLEASE DONATE

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