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News and Information



Spring-ing Into Action

March, 2021

From the CEO

Laura Askowitz

*Here comes the
sun... and I say,
"It's all right."
— George Harrison*

Dear Friends,

One of my favorite songs is really applicable here. I think all of us are feeling a hopeful outlook towards our COVID battle perhaps coming to a (manageable) end. To those of you who lost your loved ones—my heartfelt sympathies. I summon, for all of us, small moments of hope like in the quote above, and that we enjoy them, like a spring flower.

The more things get back to a new normal, the more we will be able to dissect COVID-19's impact on our children. All nonprofits that serve children—through food, shelter, academics, social / emotional learning, safety education, post-trauma treatment—will be required to unite and support our youth. We will need to remember that *not any one of these serving areas is less important than the other*. Rather, for the health of our children, we need to invest and to do all these things at once, in a galvanized effort to increase their resiliency and gain their losses back.

That's what we're doing here at KidSafe: springing forward, so to speak. As always, we appreciate your friendship and support.

Here comes the sun! And may it shine warmly on all of you.



Program Update

Cherie Benjoseph & Elysse Dion

The Program Department is Spring-ing into Action!



It is time to think about summer camp!

Think positive. According to the American Camp Association (ACA), camps are in full swing preparing to provide your campers and the staff with a safe summer. Camp Directors tell me they are increasing their pre-camp training by signing their staff up for CampSafe — our proactive, online training that educates staff about sexual abuse prevention. *Educated Staff Equals Safer Camps*. Our CampSafe program is endorsed by the ACA, and now is the perfect time for camps to sign on. For more info write to cherieb@kidsafefoundation.org

Are you sending your children to day camp or sleep-away camp this summer? Have the conversation: ask your Director what they are doing for abuse prevention training. This is how we create a culture of safety at camp.

Here is a link explaining the benefits of the CampSafe training - <https://kidsafefoundation.org/campsafe/>

And here is a 2 minute preview of CampSafe: <https://youtu.be/bDBM6DbXHA0>

Please share these links with your friends and with your camps!

KidSafe in the Classroom!

Our KidSafe Instructors are well into teaching this season, and we already have 11 schools receiving the *Stay KidSafe!* Program. Our instructors are having a blast via virtual learning, bringing personal safety education to local preschools and elementary schools. A big shout out to the classroom teachers who are our co-hosts and windows to the students.



Is your school signed up for KidSafe? For more information about receiving KidSafe write to elyssed@kidsafefoundation.org

The *Stay KidSafe!* animation project has been quite a success and we had a sweet moment when we did a reveal to our group of Voice Over students from [Lynn University](https://www.lynn.edu/). They were thrilled to see themselves in their characters! See photos below! Much more to come soon.

Cheri Elyse



Our KidSafe Community

Eliza Vasquez

KidSafe Foundation is fortunate to be supported by exceptional individuals every year. People from all walks of life believe that the personal safety of children is essential. In The Year of COVID (otherwise known as 2020), we received more than 200 individual donations under \$1,000. These donations totaled over \$29,000. Thank you all for your truly generous support. We are grateful and lucky to have you.

For those of you who would like to join the efforts of so many and help us further our mission of teaching children and their grown-ups personal safety, please follow the link [here](#) to donate.

Every donation, every person, can make a difference.

With gratitude,

Eliza

*One person can make
a difference, and
everyone should try.*

— John F. Kennedy



KidSafe Español!

Melissa Maya

Queridos amigos de KidSafe,

Según la Organización de las Naciones Unidas, durante los meses de confinamiento, incrementaron los delitos cibernéticos contra los niños.

Durante este tiempo, los menores están pasando más tiempo en Internet ya sea por entretenimiento o por fines académicos. Sin embargo, los niños no son realmente conscientes de los riesgos, como el acoso sexual en línea, la transmisión en vivo de abuso sexual infantil, la distribución y reproducción de material de abuso y explotación sexual infantil.

Otro de los factores de riesgo que ha afectado a los menores durante la pandemia, es que muchas niñas y niños viven actualmente con sus agresores y pasan más tiempo con ellos. Recordemos que el 70% de los casos de abuso sexual infantil ocurren en casa.

¡Únete a la prevención! Juntos podemos hacer un mundo más seguro para los niños, un mundo KidSafe.

En el mes de Abril, mes de la prevención del abuso sexual infantil, estaremos brindando un seminario web gratuito para todos los padres de familia que estén interesados en proteger a sus hijos de cualquier riesgo de abuso. También si como organización te interesa un seminario personalizado para ofrecer a tu comunidad contáctanos al email: melissa@kidsafefoundation.org o al teléfono: 954-397-5198.

Síguenos en nuestras redes sociales de Facebook e Instagram @KidsafeFoundationEspanol.

Melissa



Dear friends of KidSafe,

According to the United Nations, during the months of confinement, cybercrime against children increased.

During this time, minors are spending more time on the Internet for entertainment or academic purposes. However, children are not really aware of the risks such as online sexual harassment, live transmission of child sexual abuse, distribution and reproduction of child sexual abuse and exploitation material.

Another risk factor that has affected children during the pandemic is that many children currently live with and spend more time with their abusers. Let's remember that 70% of child sexual abuse cases occur at home.

Join us in prevention! Together we can make a safer world for children, a Kid Safe world.

In April, the Child Abuse Prevention Month, we will be providing a free webinar for all parents who are interested in protecting their children from many risks of abuse. Also, if an organization you are interested in a personalized seminar to offer your community, contact us by email: melissa@kidsafefoundation.org or phone: 954-397-5198.

Melissa



Volunteer Spotlight

Jennifer Rodriguez

As many of you know (thanks to the greetings in the January Newsletter), I'm back after maternity leave. My family and I are well and healthy, and we are grateful that little Lucca is now part of our lives.

I really appreciate the extra support our volunteers provided while I was out. Thanks to Dan Paul-Heskins, Patti Ellis, Sophia Falzone, and the other volunteers who stepped up and filled in for me. You kept things going and I am so very grateful.

Heartfelt 
THANKS
TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Being back at work is a breath of fresh air. Even though I'm on the job, it is actually *me time* for this busy mom. I get to socialize with adults and other moms, which is great. And our continued focus is how to keep our children and every other child safe which is also great, and why I'm with KidSafe. I feel as though it is my calling outside of motherhood. It's where I am supposed to be, doing my part to help keep Kids safe.



December, 2020 - February 2021

Special Recognition

Leslie L. Alexander Foundation, Inc.

\$10,000 or more

The Harry T. Mangurian, Jr. Foundation, Inc.
William & Helen Thomas Charitable Trust

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

Boca West Children's Foundation
Castle Group
Lattner Family Foundation
Mary Alice Fortin Foundation, Inc.

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

Stephen B. Wechsler

\$500 up to \$1,000

Matthew & Jodie Roseberg
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Up to \$500

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Mr. Keilin and Ms. Savanuck



Don't Forget to Smile

Spring
already?

SPRING TIME AT THE SOUTH POLE



The KidSafe Mission

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

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