



IMPROVING
CHILDREN'S
PRODUCT
SAFETY

ACTION NEWSLETTER

FALL 2014

SAFE PRODUCTS AND CHILD CARE: AN ILLINOIS SNAPSHOT

BACKGROUND: In 1999, Illinois became the first state to pass legislation banning recalled products from child care facilities when it passed the **Children's Product Safety Act (CPSA)**. Since then Illinois has become the recognized leader of children's product safety. However, it is imperative that we continue to uphold and strengthen children's product safety within child care.

In order to determine how Illinois could better keep children in child care safe, **Kids In Danger (KID)** developed an online survey for child care workers. A total of 227 responses help shed light on the risk dangerous products currently pose in home and center-based child care facilities throughout Illinois.

FINDINGS: We started by looking to see if economics as identified by location (zipcode) had an impact. But all areas of the state show similar awareness of product safety and are just as likely or unlikely to have unsafe products in their facilities. The Illinois CPSA requiring each caregiver to learn about product safety and remove dangerous products may have helped level the playing field.

The findings show **Illinois child care facilities can improve safety.** Nearly half (49%) of all respondents reported at least one recalled or otherwise prohibited product present in their facility. And over a third (37%) of respondents reported unsafe sleeping conditions were present in their facility.

Illinois child care workers show a strong desire to improve child product safety. Nearly all child care workers agree that child product safety should be a priority for child care facilities (91% agree or strongly agree). Additionally 66% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that more children's product safety training would benefit their facility.

This spring, KID worked with many allies including **Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan**, **Illinois Action for Children**, and **SIDS of Illinois** to bring a ban on the sale of crib bumper pads to Illinois. We made it all the way through the House and to the Senate floor but were unable to get a vote there. We will be back this fall and need your help. Call your Illinois Senator now urging a yes vote on HB 5348 sponsored in the Senate by Senator Julie Morrison. We know babies have suffocated on this unnecessary product – it's time to get it out of our stores.



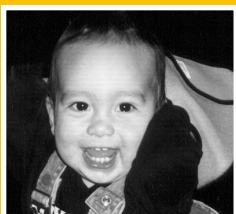
WANT MORE information?

GO TO: Kidsindanger.org/bumpers

The survey **uncovered inconsistent enforcement of current children's product safety rules.** Only 41% of respondents reported that the Department of Child Family Services (DCFS) inspectors checked if their facility kept its dated recall product notice within the last two years. This notice is mandated by the Illinois CPSA and serves as proof that child care facilities are continually checking their products for recalls.

ACTION: Illinois should **invest in providing DCFS with the resources necessary** to improve the consistency of its inspections and child care workers with more and improved children's product safety and safe sleep trainings. Child care workers are eager to provide the safest setting for their children. We should give them the tools to do so. Find further results and the full report on KID's website.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH KID →



KIDS IN DANGER (KID) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting children by improving children's product safety. KID was founded in 1998 by Linda Ginzler and Boaz Keysar, the parents of sixteen-month-old Danny Keysar who died in his Chicago childcare home when a portable crib collapsed around his neck.

KID's mission is to **PROMOTE** the development of safer children's products, **ADVOCATE** for children, and **EDUCATE** the public, especially parents and caregivers, about dangerous children's products.

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY: JULIETTE

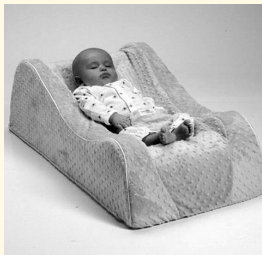
In the early hours of July 9, 2010, 4-month old Juliette Grace died in her sleep due to positional asphyxiation after twisting over the side of a Nap Nanny. Her parents' hearts and future dreams were broken; they lost their first born child to a product they thought was safe.

Juliette was born healthy and happy. "She was a cuddly baby, who loved to be held, and it was obvious that everyone was drawn to her, wanting to hold her," her parents describe.

They were cautious in transitioning their baby girl to her nursery, but after careful planning and adherence to warning labels—they decided upon the Nap Nanny for safe sleep. They were not aware, however, of its history of harness failure.

On July 26, 2010, 17 days too late for Juliette, the FDA and CPSC issued a warning about the use of sleep positioners, including the Nap Nanny. Despite its hazards, the product was still sold in stores, with new warning labels for use.

In 2012, after over 92 incident reports, including 5 infant deaths, the CPSC finally made an administrative complaint, resulting in the recall of this product in 2013.



It is now illegal to sell this product in the US. Despite the 2013 recall, the product continues to be used, as tragically evidenced by the sixth reported Nap Nanny infant death in May of this year.

"Every day we miss her smile, but her story is not over. She lives on through us, and in her honor, we must work to make consumer product safety more transparent and proactive, in hopes of preventing another infant death due to an unsafe product."

KID works tirelessly to increase awareness of unsafe products and recalls. Products such as the Nap Nanny are not subject to design testing because they don't fall in a major category of products such as cribs, bassinets or bouncers. KID is working to close this loophole to assure that all infant products are tested for safety before they are sold. Please share this information and check your own homes for recalled products to prevent the tragedy this family experienced.

TEACH EARLY SAFETY TESTING: REACHING TOMORROW'S DESIGNERS

KID has been bustling with activity surrounding our **Teach Early Safety Testing (TEST)** program, a curriculum which highlights the importance of designing for safety and safety testing. College students are tasked to redesign hazards out of children's products. It is KID's hope to give tomorrow's product designers the tools they need to bring safe products to market.

TEST will be reaching a new demographic this fall as Wheeling High School will be the first high school to integrate TEST into its curriculum. KID intern, Zuyi Chen, worked this summer to adapt TEST for high school engineering programs and in outreach efforts to find appropriate programs to integrate TEST. We here at KID look forward to this new collaboration.

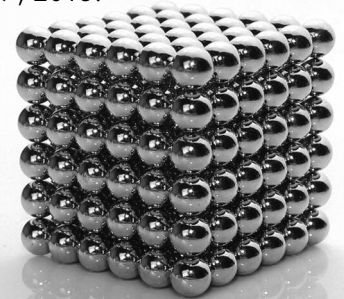
August proves a landmark for TEST, as the curriculum and materials are now public. Through the National Academy of Engineering's Office of Ethics for Engineering and Science (OEC) webpage, KID has electronically published TEST lesson plans and associated resources, at no charge to users. Visit the KID TEST webpage to find these materials and learn more.

With these new achievements, KID continues in our efforts to recruit new college engineering programs to incorporate TEST. This fall, The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) engineering professors Selvam Pillay and Haibin Ning will be offering the TEST project to students. Professor Ning was recently awarded ASTM International's 2013 Professor of the Year.

If you are interested in bringing TEST to your school, or want to volunteer to help build the program, please contact KID directly.



The dangers of small, powerful magnets have been well-documented after one death and countless injuries. The **US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)** just adopted a final rule to eliminate the hazard in magnet sets. It has also announced numerous recalls – all of which can be found at <http://cpsc.gov/magnets>. However, one needs special attention. BuckyBalls has agreed to a recall but with a very short window to participate. If you have BuckyBalls magnet sets, go to www.buckyballsrecall.com now to participate before January 17, 2015.



BEST FRIEND AWARD NIGHT

MAY 14, 2014

A big KID thank you goes out to more than 200 people who joined us at the Mid-America Club in Chicago to help honor KID's newest "Best Friend," CPSC Chairman Inez Tenenbaum. KID Co-Founder Linda Ginzel presented the award with grace and gratitude. **"We are honoring Chairman Tenenbaum, who oversaw the implementation of Congress' 2008 Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act which requires safety standards for durable infant and toddler products. The law often referred to as Danny's Law and all of our work through KID is Danny's legacy."**

While checking out the live auction and raffle prizes, our guests sampled small plates from Great Chicago Chefs including 312 Chicago, Smoque BBQ, South Water Kitchen, Vivo, Beatrix and the Mid-America Club. NBC5 morning news anchor Zoraida Sambolin emceed the event which raised over \$97,000 for KID. The profits from this event go directly to support KID's programs and advocacy efforts.

Thanks to our fabulous event committee, volunteers, participating chefs, auction prize donors, honoree and sponsors, for their generous support in making this event a huge success.



OUTREACH & EDUCATION

KID is always looking for ways to connect with more parents and caregivers in a meaningful way. Below are some of the initiatives we focused on this summer with the help of KID's volunteers and interns.

Initiative #1: Focus on Latino community outreach- KID volunteer Matthew Rice focused on translating more KID educational materials into Spanish and connecting KID with community organizations that serve the Latino community. As a result, KID is on track to provide these organizations with lifesaving Spanish language product safety information through our safety workshop and educational materials.

Initiative #2: Make product safety information more accessible- With the help of our University of Chicago Summer Links intern Lauren Daurizio, KID has developed an educational booklet that encompasses a range of product safety hazards. This comprehensive safety resource will allow KID to more easily disseminate vital product safety information to parents and caregivers of young children.

Initiative #3: To keep KID moving forward, two interns, Jordan Durrett and Asia Bey undertook a research project to review product safety in child care settings. This will allow KID to better focus both our educational efforts and advocate for resources for safety. (See the results on page 1)

All this, while at the same time we went to **12 community outreach events** and hosted **3 safety workshops** for professional caregivers throughout the Chicagoland area.

Summer efforts are coming to a close, but KID needs engaged supporters like you to take these initiatives to the next step – **implementation**. Please consider donating to KID and join us in the effort to keep children safe from unsafe products.



CHANGES IN KID BOARD OF DIRECTORS

KID welcomes new KID Board Member, **Dr. Kyran Quinlan**, Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Rush University Medical Center. Kyran brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and passion for children's safety. He trained at the CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control researching children's motor vehicle related injuries and programs to prevent such injuries. Additionally, Kyran is the Chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Council on Injury Violence and Poison Prevention. We are excited to have Kyran join in our mission.



During this time, KID Board says goodbye to **Dr. Robert Tanz** and **Boaz Keysar**, who both served since KID's founding in 1998. They now serve on our Advisory Board, continuing their involvement. Bob, 2007 recipient of KID's Best Friend Award, is an Attending Physician and Professor of Pediatrics at Northwestern University. Boaz, co-founder of KID, is a Professor of Psychology at the University of Chicago. We thank them both for their years of dedication and the tremendous impact they helped KID make in improving children's product safety.



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SAVE THE DATE: MAY 20, 2015

2015 Best Friend Award Night, KID is honoring

**Barbara Guthrie,
Vice President and Chief
Public Safety Officer
Underwriters**

Laboratories, for her
leadership in injury
prevention.



GET INVOLVED! Planning for the 2015 event is underway and we are looking for your help! We need sponsors, ads, raffle prizes, live auction items, airline miles, and lots of friends to help us celebrate.

Call us at 312-595-0649 for more information.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Since we were founded 16 years ago, over 73 donors have made gifts 16 times or more. One of those special donors is **Ginny Jones** from North Carolina. Ginny's late husband, Ned Jones, was KID founder Linda Ginzel's beloved PhD advisor. KID greatly appreciates all our donors who continue to choose KID for their charitable gifts.

Where does your money go?*

\$2 each pay period provides information to all 50 state licensing departments on protecting children in child care facilities from unsafe products.

\$5 each pay period provides training for over 100 childcare providers, protecting thousands of children from dangerous products.

\$10 each pay period allows KID to fully educate a whole community – parents, doctors, child care providers and others about safe cribs and other children's products.

*Based on a bi-monthly paycheck deduction to KID.

SUPPORT KID'S RUNNING AND WALKING TEAMS:

- October 12, supporters of KID gather for the third **Project Safe Child Walkathon** on New York's Long Island in memory of children who died in unsafe products and to fund KID's continuing work.
- November 10, KID has a team of 26 runners in the **Edwards Hospital Naperville Marathon**.

To make a donation in honor of our walkers or runners, **GO TO** <http://www.firstgiving.com/KidsInDanger> Are you a runner or walker who is interested in starting your own team? Call KID today to learn how.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT KID NOW?

Double the difference your donation makes

KID has received a generous challenge grant of \$10,000 from the Reva and David Logan Foundation. This will apply to all new and increased donations from now until December 31, 2014. If you have never donated to KID, there is no better time than the present. If you are already a donor, we thank you! Any contribution you make above your last year's total donation will count towards the challenge match. It's easy to do – just go to our website and click on the donate button or return the enclosed envelope.

When you give through your workplace, it helps KID throughout the year

It is the season for workplace giving campaigns, including the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), which gives federal employees the ability to donate a portion of their paycheck to nonprofit organizations, including KID. The money pledged to KID allows us to continue our lifesaving work. If you or someone you know works for an agency that participates in the program, consider making KID your charity of choice. KID's CFC number is 42080. Illinois State employees can contribute too. Just use our SECA number 911-0865.

Many companies allow you to make tax-deductible payroll contributions and some of them have matching gift programs. Does yours? When employers match your gift, it doubles the value of your contribution. Use KID's tax ID number: 36-4234906 to contribute this way. Questions? Email KID at email@kidsindanger.org.

