

## KID's annual report on recalls: 38 children died in children's products recalled in 2019

KID released *Seeking Safety: Children's Product Recalls in 2019*, our yearly report analyzing data and trends for the 58 children's products that were recalled in 2019. Our analysis showed that children's product recalls have seen a downward trend over the past 10 years. Although the number of recalls in 2019 is slightly higher than in 2018, the number of recalls is still lower than every other year that KID has collected data.

Major findings of the report include:

- **Infant inclined sleeper recalls led to the highest number of reported deaths in the 19 years KID has analyzed recall data.** Thirty-seven of the 38 deaths reported involved the **Fisher-Price Rock 'n Play** and **Kids II** rocking sleeper, recalled years after deaths were first reported.
- **Furniture tip-overs have been a serious hazard for years.** This year saw a spike in recalls of unstable dressers and other furniture. Six furniture products were recalled due to a tip-over hazard, after a year of no tip-over recalls in 2018.
- **CPSC is lagging in social media usage to publicize recalls.** In 2019, only 52% of children's product recalls were posted on CPSC's Facebook page, 59% were posted on Twitter, and a mere 5% were posted on Instagram.

KID recommends that policymakers ban and recall all inclined sleepers and to create a strong, mandatory dresser standard to prevent tip-overs. We urge the CPSC and recalling companies to better publicize recalls on social media to increase recall effectiveness. KID recommends that parents check [SaferProducts.gov](http://SaferProducts.gov) for product incident reports, and sign up for recall alerts at [CPSC.gov/recalls](http://CPSC.gov/recalls). Visit [KidsInDanger.org](http://KidsInDanger.org) to sign up for safety updates.



KID is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting children by fighting for product safety. Our mission is to save lives by enhancing transparency and accountability through safer product development, better education and stronger advocacy for children.



## 2020 KID Best Friend Award Night POSTPONED!

Each year, KID commemorates our progress, honors the memory of Danny Keysar and highlights the contributions of child safety champions. The KID Best Friend Award Night has always brought together community leaders, safety advocates, families and KID supporters. The funds raised at this event each year allow us to continue our valuable outreach and provide a strong voice for safety.

KID was so excited for our **Best Friend Award Night** on May 7, 2020 – for the first time at the iconic Chicago Cultural Center to honor **Anne & Danny Shapiro** for 20 years of commitment to KID and children's product safety. **Due to COVID-19 and public health concerns, we have postponed our annual Best Friend Award Night until the fall.** Watch for updates at [www.KidsInDanger.org/events](http://www.KidsInDanger.org/events) and in your mailbox.

We want to thank the restaurants and chefs who had stepped up to donate tastings including **Hampton Social, BOKA Group, Bub City, Summer House Santa Monica, Mon Ami Gabi, Café Ba-Ba-Reeba, NEAT Kitchen Westmont, Mercadito, Cake Chicago, Rooh Progressive Indian, Gene and Georgetti, and DineAmic Hospitality.** We so appreciate their commitment to KID and child safety and look forward to future events together.

And thank you to our early sponsors, Linda Ginzler and Boaz Keysar, GATX and Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital. As we regroup and develop our new plan, we ask that you consider a gift to KID during this time. You can make an online contribution at [www.KidsInDanger.org/donate](http://www.KidsInDanger.org/donate) or use the enclosed envelope. You can also go to [www.KidsInDanger.org/events](http://www.KidsInDanger.org/events) to sign up now as a sponsor of the 2020 Best Friend night in the fall! Your support now will help KID move forward on our work to keep kids safe from the everyday hazards of dangerous children's products.

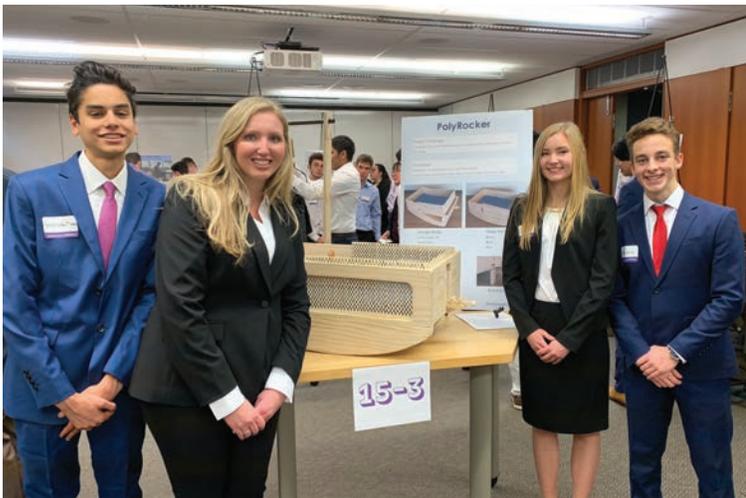
# Parents drive home the message on furniture stability: WE NEED A STRONG SAFETY STANDARD.

Preventing furniture tip-overs remains a priority for KID. The current voluntary dresser standard is too weak and doesn't prevent tip-overs. Last fall, the U.S. House [passed](#) the Stop Tip-overs of Unstable, Risky Dressers on Youth (STURDY) Act in a bipartisan vote. The **STURDY Act** would require the CPSC to create a strong, mandatory rule for dressers and other clothing storage units. The STURDY Act is now in the Senate and has co-sponsors from both sides of the aisle.

KID is honored to work with [Parents Against Tip-overs \(PAT\)](#), a group that was founded in 2018 by parents of young children who

lost their lives due to furniture tip-overs. PAT members have been zealous advocates both in Congress and at the CPSC to push for stronger regulations. Crystal Ellis of PAT said in her [testimony](#) before the U.S. House Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce in 2019, "I believe a mandatory standard that takes into account real world use by a child with dynamic testing would have saved my son and literally tens of thousands of children every year from injuries and death."

Until then, KID recommends anchoring furniture and televisions to prevent tip-overs. Learn how at the CPSC's website [AnchorIt.gov](#).



KID's Executive Director Nancy Cowles attended the annual **International Consumer Product Health & Safety Organization (ICPHSO) Symposium** and hosted a gathering for parent and consumer advocates before the conference started. This year saw the largest attendance ever of consumer advocacy organizations including **KID, Consumer Federation of America, Consumer Reports, Public Citizen** and **U.S. PIRG**. In addition, **Parents Against Tip-overs** and **Parents for Window Blind Safety** were joined by parents fighting for safe sleep, safer fuel containers and gas fireplaces. Consumer views were well represented throughout the week's sessions. In recognition of KID's 20 years working both to increase the consumer voices at ICPHSO and build this important organization, KID's Nancy Cowles (Top Left) was awarded the **Ross Koeser Achievement Award** at the Symposium.

Pictured above: KID assistant director Dev Gowda (Top Center) led a workshop to child care providers in Hazel Crest, Illinois, about safe sleep and children's product safety. KID led a workshop educating Rush University nursing students and high school students at Simpson Academy in Chicago about safe sleep and children's product safety (Top Right). KID had four teams represented at the **Segal Design Institute at Northwestern** (Bottom Left) presenting projects that looked to make infant sleep products safer. Once again, KID joined our partners at **Illinois PIRG** at their release of the annual **Trouble in Toyland** report (Bottom Right) with Senator Dick Durbin, U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky and Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul.

**SEEKING SAFETY**

**2019 CHILDREN'S PRODUCT RECALLS**

**MARCH 2020**

## CPSC and Congress work with advocates to remove deadly infant inclined sleepers from the market and homes

Following reports of infant deaths linked to inclined sleep products and advocacy by KID and other safe sleep experts, the U.S. House [passed](#) the **Safe Sleep for Babies Act of 2019** in December by a bipartisan vote and is now in the Senate. The bill would prohibit the sale of inclined sleepers, which have been linked to dozens of infant deaths. In 2020 alone, there have been 217,000 inclined sleep products recalled. KID recently released a [flyer](#) highlighting inclined sleeper recalls in 2019-2020.

A CPSC-commissioned [study](#) conducted by **Erin Mannen, Ph.D.** on the safety concerns of inclined sleepers showed that none of the products that were tested were found to be safe for infants to sleep. The study concluded that any sleep product that contained an incline above 10-degrees poses a serious health risk to infants. The CPSC has proposed a rule that would essentially ban inclined sleepers by mandating that they conform to the federal bassinet standard. Major retailers such as Amazon, Walmart, eBay, and BuyBuyBaby have decided to remove all inclined sleep products from their stores and websites, and KID calls on other retailers to follow suit.

**Please consider helping KID by making a donation or becoming a sponsor!**

## Fall Wine Tasting

In October 2019, KID's Executive Board and Young Professionals Board hosted our second annual fall wine tasting fundraising event. KID supporters mingled in the beautiful **Maya Romanoff Showroom** at the **Merchandise Mart** in Chicago, enjoyed wine samplings, and celebrated KID's achievements.



Young Professionals at the Annual Fall Wine Tasting



Past and present members of KID's Executive Board with co-founder Linda Ginzel in the center.

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## DONOR NOTES



For the third year, seventh grade students at **Jonas E. Salk Middle School** in Michele Witte's class paid it forward by selling colorful teddy bears as part of **Tyler's Teddies**. Named after Michele's son Tyler who died due to a defective juvenile product, the project raises money for KID, spreads awareness of children's product safety and encourages students and others to Pay It Forward by passing the bear on to a friend or family member. KID has worked with Michele to develop a kit for other interested schools. Reach out to [nancy@kidsindanger.org](mailto:nancy@kidsindanger.org) to learn more!

### Thank you to all the donors who made our year-end appeal successful –

KID raised over \$67,000! This includes gifts of \$5,000 to 10,000 from Linda Ginzel & Boaz Keysar, David Shpigler, and the Lester and Edna Shapiro Family Foundation and gifts of \$1,800 to \$4,000 from William Prinzmetal, France Leclerc & Richard Thaler, Eugene & Sally Fama, Susan Goldin-Meadow and Danny & Anne Shapiro.

KID received a \$5,000 grant from the Turano Foundation and a \$650 Samsung Community Impact Grant. We were nominated for the Samsung grant by our board member, Don Mays.

We received tribute donations in memory of Danny Keysar, Juliette Grace Thiel, Preston Maxwell, Andrew Harrison Sage, Ellie Davis, Patricia Turano, Harvey Saver, Tanielle Miller, Kathy Phillips, Janice Ierulli, Dorothy Dybas, Ken Burnett, David Ranney, H. Reed Harris, and Scott Magid and in honor of Linda Ginzel & Boaz Keysar, Dawn & Shawn Kasserman, the birth of Jack Sautter, Laura Maxwell's birthday and Andres Raymond-Flesch's first birthday.

Thanks to those who have their employers match their gifts and the employers that offer this program! KID received matching contributions from Mastercard, TransUnion, Intel Foundation, Samsung Electronics America, Inc, CDK Global, The Boeing Company, William Blair & Co, Google, and UL. We also want to thank those that give through their workplace giving program at UL, Deloitte, Hearst, City of Chicago and the Combined Federal Campaign.

KID was humbled to be named by the family of Jozef Dudek as one of three organizations (along with Consumer Reports and Consumer Federation of America) to share a \$1 million donation as part of the family's settlement with IKEA. Jozef died in 2017 when an IKEA dresser tipped over on him. The funds will support KID's advocacy work to prevent furniture tip-overs.