

### DEAR FRIENDS,

**Building a Bridge to Safety** is the cornerstone of all the work we do here at KID. For over 25 years, KID has built bridges to enhance child safety with several different stakeholders in the product safety community to save lives, including:

- Parents and caregiver groups through our **Safe from the Start** workshops,
- **Pediatricians and hospitals** to share our educational materials,
- Policymakers to **advocate for strong safety standards**,
- Professors and universities through our **TEST program** to educate the next generation of engineers about product safety,
- Product designers, providing them with safety information through the **KID Design Safety Toolkit**,
- And many more!

None of this would be possible without the **generous contributions of our supporters — you!** As you read through our Spring Newsletter, take a glimpse at how your support is saving lives.



The theme of this year's **Best Friend Award Night** is **Building a Bridge to Safety**. We are proud to **honor Trista Hamsmith of Reese's Purpose** for her tenacious advocacy to prevent button and coin cell battery ingestion. Trista lost her 18-month-old daughter Reese after she ingested a button cell battery in 2020. Trista became a fierce advocate, successfully getting Congress to pass **Reese's Law** in 2022 to strengthen safety standards for coin and button cell batteries.



Trista embodies our theme of Building a Bridge to Safety, having worked tirelessly to bring members of Congress from both sides of the aisle, medical and consumer groups, and businesses to the table to get Reese's Law passed to prevent other families from suffering similar tragedies. I hope you can join us at the event on **Thursday, April 25, from 6-9pm at the Gleacher Center in Chicago.**



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.

## KID BUILDING A BRIDGE TO SAFETY

### 2024 BEST FRIEND AWARD NIGHT HONORING TRISTA HAMSMITH

Thursday, April 25, 2024

6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Gleacher Center 450 N. Cityfront Plaza Dr., 6th floor, Chicago, IL

#### Will you join us in building a bridge to safety?

Scan the QR code or go to [kidsindanger.org/events](https://kidsindanger.org/events) to purchase tickets, raffle tickets, and sponsorships, start bidding on our silent auction prizes, and preview the live auction. The evening will feature appetizers from Wolfgang Puck Catering, drinks, wine toss, and more. We hope you will help us honor Trista for her amazing achievements.

Sincerely,

*Nancy A. Cowles*

Nancy Cowles, Executive Director



#### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS (TO DATE)

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Sonny Garg &  
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# SAFETY FIRST AT SECONDHAND MARKETPLACES

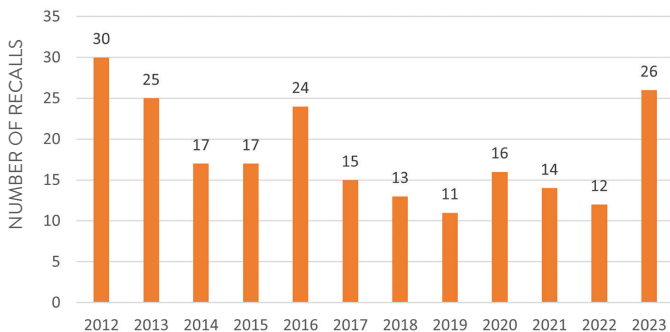
KID routinely finds **recalled children's products for sale on sites** like Facebook Marketplace –even products recalled in the 90s. Before you donate a product, or create a listing or buy secondhand, **check if the product has been recalled at [cpsc.gov/recalls](https://www.cpsc.gov/recalls)**. Nancy Cowles recently spoke about this at ICPHSO's annual symposium, on a panel titled **Protecting Consumers in an Expanding Secondhand Market** alongside James Andrews of Meta and Jen Sultan of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, moderated by Tracey Kelly of IKEA. The panelists discussed ideas to get recalled and unsafe products removed from online sites.



## RECALL RESEARCH

KID released our annual report analyzing children's product recalls, **Recall Radar: Nursery Product Recalls in 2023 Highest in Over a Decade**. The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) **recalled 101 children's products, the highest since 2013**, and issued dozens more warnings for hazardous products. The number of **nursery product recalls** (26) in 2023 is the highest since 2012 (30). Eleven of these recalls and 20 additional warnings were due to suffocation hazard because the products violated federal safety regulations for infant sleep products that went into effect recently.

NURSERY PRODUCT RECALLS HIGHEST IN 11 YEARS



### Additional findings from the report:

- The CPSC **recalled a water bead product for the first time since 2013**. The Chuckle & Roar Ultimate Water Beads Activity Kits were sold exclusively at Target and were recalled after an **infant death** was reported.
- The CPSC **released 35 warnings** without a recall regarding children's products or adult products that could hurt children in 2023, much higher than in 2022 (five warnings).
- This year, **84,054,411 units of children's products** were recalled, a large increase from the previous year (5,566,299 units). This was primarily due to one product accounting for 83% of units recalled, the Candy Dynamics Slime Licker Sour Rolling Liquid Candy (70,000,000 units). A similar product, the Cocco Candy and KGR Distribution Cocco's Candy Rolling Candy, caused a death due to choking hazard.
- The CPSC **translated 64% of children's product recalls to Spanish**, an increase from 2022 where zero children's product recalls were translated to Spanish. In last year's report, KID advised the CPSC to translate all recalls to Spanish.
- **Social media usage by the CPSC and recalling companies to alert consumers about recalled products remained low**. The CPSC posted 44% of children's product recalls on Facebook and 45% on Twitter. However, the CPSC has increased its Instagram use slightly from 34% to 46%.



KID calls on the CPSC and companies **to recall all water beads as they are not safe for children**. Additionally, policy makers should implement a strong mandatory safety standard governing **lithium-ion batteries in micro-mobility products** as they have caused fires and deaths last year. **Online platforms** should also strengthen efforts to ensure all products sold on their sites are safe, meet any required standards, and adequately warn consumers about product hazards. **Read the full report at [kidsindanger.org/research](https://kidsindanger.org/research)**.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

KID provided safety materials and information to a variety of organizations including Rush University Children's Hospital, La Rabida Children's Hospital, ReLoveMN, Derrick Stone Safe Sleep, ECHO-Family Enrichment Program, and the Birth Center of Chicago. KID Program Associate Sahiti Pidaparti led **Safe from the Start** workshops to the Michigan Infant Safe Sleep Program and the ECHO Family Enrichment Program. This winter, KID staff was alerted to **unsafe sleep conditions for infants** of migrant families living in shelters in Chicago. As shelters receive donations for infant sleep products, the products they use should be safe. **KID developed new materials in English and Spanish about safe sleep** and unsafe products to avoid for shelter staff who were working with migrants in our communities. KID partnered with Rush University Children's Hospital and the Chicago Department of Public Health to provide our new safety flyers to shelter staff.



## KID ADDS NEW CONTENT TO DESIGN SAFETY TOOLKIT



KID released **four new masterclass courses as part of the KID Design Safety Toolkit**. The new courses are designed for entrepreneurs and businesses that create children's products and provide information, insights and case studies around designing for safety from leading industry experts. The four new courses take a deeper dive into how to create and design products more safely in **Sleep, At Home, Play and Out & About categories**. KID announced the new masterclasses at ICPHSO's annual symposium in February.

The new courses enhance the original Toolkit which was released in 2022 and is a general design safety course. Original Toolkit topics include understanding consumer behavior in the real world, designing and manufacturing safety, the role of market research, marketing with an eye towards safety and age grading and developmental considerations. Both the original Toolkit and the new masterclasses are available free of charge at [kidsafetytoolkit.org](http://kidsafetytoolkit.org). Major funding for the Toolkit was provided by Amazon, and additional funding was provided by BreathableBaby, ASTM International, Etsy, and QIMA.

## KID IN THE NEWS

### CS★T Millions of safety kits to prevent furniture tip-overs are now being recalled

Consumers should check a manufacturer's label and make sure the furniture piece wasn't constructed before the new stability requirements took effect, says Nancy Cowles, executive director of Kids In Danger, a Chicago nonprofit focused on child product safety.

Parents also should make sure that TVs, wall units and other furniture are safely anchored, Cowles says.

Chicago Sun-Times, Jan. 19, 2024

### The Washington Post

#### Toy magnets linked to 7 deaths and 2,400 hospitalizations

If swallowed, the magnets can attract to one another and cause perforations, intestinal blockages and blood poisoning, federal safety regulators warn.



While the market for American-produced magnet sets is largely diminished, the CPSC has struggled to prevent foreign retailers from selling magnetic balls on sites like Amazon and Walmart, said Nancy Cowles, who sits on several voluntary standard committees as executive director of the advocacy group Kids in Danger.

Washington Post, Dec. 8, 2023

### INVESTIGATE TV

#### Defective: Colorful water beads remain for sale despite retailers' pledge to pull kids product



"The label 'nontoxic' isn't regulated by anyone – EPA, FDA, CPSC, so it doesn't necessarily mean a product meets a specific requirement or doesn't contain hazardous materials," said Nancy Cowles, executive director of Kids in Danger, a Chicago-based nonprofit that pushes for safety in children's products.

Investigate TV, Jan. 29, 2024



Fighting for Product Safety

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## DONOR NOTES

KID received a **general operating grant** from **The Turano Foundation** (\$6,400).

**KID raised over \$82,000 in year-end donations including for Giving Tuesday** (\$20,405). Special thanks to Linda Ginzel & Boaz Keysar and Dawn & Shawn Kasserman for each providing a \$10,000 match, encouraging others to give. Donations of \$1,000 and over came from Bill Prinzmetal, David Steel, Heather Mason & Perry Lentine, The Lineweaver Trust, Amy & Brian O'Connell, Sally Blount, Eugene & Sally Fama, Benjamin Hoffman, Bob & Jill Tanz, Susan Goldin-Meadow, Lisa Madigan, France Leclerc & Richard Thaler, and Marcia & Joseph Romano.



KID raised \$9,200 thanks to **Jasmine's 40th Birthday Bash: Jazz Concert & KID Fundraiser**. Special thanks to longtime KID friend and former YP Board Member Jasmine Kwong for organizing this amazing event. Thank you to event sponsors Shawn & Dawn Kasserman (\$1,000) and Syd Terry (\$500).

Special thanks to **Charleston Paint Masters** and its owner, Jason Bean, for donating a portion of their February sales (\$1,430) to KID!

**Matching gifts** are a great way to increase the impact your gift to KID has on our lifesaving work. KID received matching gifts from Allstate Giving Campaign, Takeda Pharmaceuticals, The Boeing Company, LEK Consulting, TransUnion, AbbVie, ICONIQ Capital, and Microsoft Matching Gifts Program.

KID received **tribute donations in loving memory of** Mary (Puts) Costigan, Roi Nahary, Andrew Lerner, Edith Smith, Milton Schroth, Saul H. Kay, Elliott Kieff, Bruce Levy, Jack Wasser, Oumy, Melvene Ida Stoller, Sharon Darleen Smith, Amit Zamir, Vittoria Surian, Sarit Shaanani Hassin, Antonius Maria van Doornik, Yael Ben-Shahar, Ellie Davis, and Jacqueline Reyes.

We also received **tribute donations in honor of** Linda Ginzel, Ely Keysar, Eli Ilan Cohen, Alice Fise, Henrik Koch, Judy Sage, Noam, Henry, Julian Joseph Rips Marshall, Robert Meadow, Mary Simmerling, Juliette Shapiro, and Selena Xu.

**Thank you to all our funders and donors. You make our work possible!**