

The cover features a vibrant, abstract background composed of various geometric shapes like triangles and polygons in shades of teal, yellow, red, and pink. Overlaid on this is the word 'KIND' in a large, bold, dark blue font with a thick white outline. In the top right corner, there is a teal circle containing the year '2019' and the words 'ANNUAL REPORT' below it.

2019

ANNUAL REPORT

KIND

KIDS IN NEW DIRECTIONS

Shaping Dayton's Inner-City Kids by building a foundation in Christianity
through education and life experiences

Who We Are

Since 1987, Kids In New Directions (KIND) has served Dayton with a faith-based youth program providing structured programs in academics, Bible study, emotional intelligence, health/exercise, life skills, and fun.

Our vision is to influence the trajectory of inner-city, refugee, and multi-cultural youth by offering after-school and summer learning programs that engage and sustain their spiritual, emotional, and intellectual well-being.

We collaborate with other area organizations to share ideas, challenges, and solutions that improve the self-confidence and academic achievement of our children.



Image Credit - STEMcentric

THIS IS KIND

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From the beginning...

One Sunday, a scruffy little boy scooted next to me in the pew. A little dirty under the collar and his aroma arrived before him. I was surprised, but as we continued, I couldn't help not to be drawn to him. I did not expect to see him again; but week after week he continued and I watched him flourish under the care of the people in our church. From elementary school to university, the guidance he received made a difference I had not anticipated. The difference of staying in school, learning the importance of being a person of integrity, and knowing there were people in his court who had his back and believed in him. Today, he is a highly successful professional, husband, father of two, and community leader.

Fifteen years later, his story continues to inspire me. He inspires me to be part of something that offers faith, love, care, education, security, and hope to children who need to know they matter. And, they have a community aware of them and focused on helping them succeed.

I am part of the Board of Directors for KIND – Kids in New Directions, to be part of the community making a difference in a child's life and to invite others to join us. KIND is more than "success" stories, it is about making an impact on children in need of more than their life currently offers. KIND provides a place where they feel safe to dream, explore who they are, and become confident they are being equipped to meet challenges successfully. KIND offers programs, teachers, volunteers, and other children, to pique their curiosity, broaden their perspective, and champion their faith. We invite you to join us and be part of transforming their everyday lives into a lifetime of possibilities.

Sincerely,

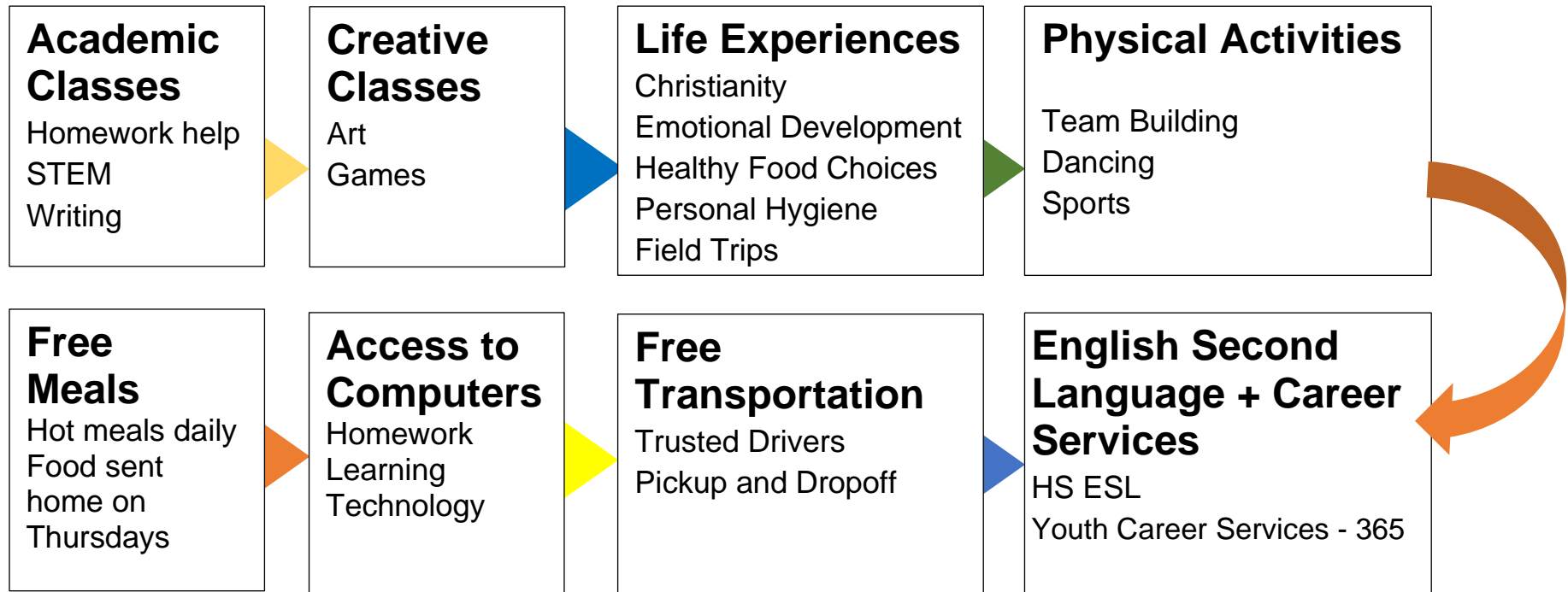
Keith Valiquette

President

KIND 2020 Governing Board

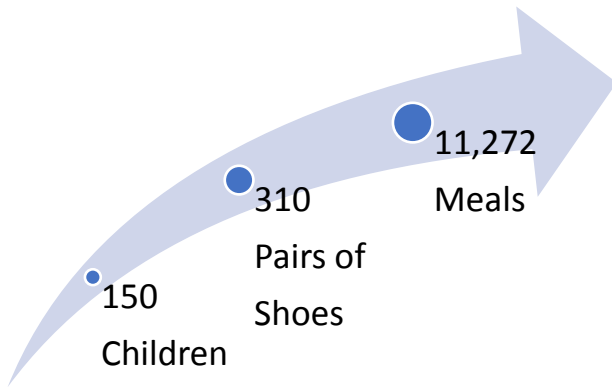
What We Offer

Each day at KIND offers something new and exciting. Whether it is help with academic classes, a chance to be creative, or any one of our life lessons – our kids are always learning. We inspire them to do better and always be kind.



What We Are Doing

Physical Needs



Healthy Meals

KIND continues to provide quality, healthy meals thanks to a wonderful staff and volunteers led by Joe Tindall and Peggy Fox. Kroger and the Food Bank provide food for the program and Grace United Methodist Church provides catered meals for the kids in our program.

The increased attendance over the summer drove our feeding numbers over expectations. We served 11,272 meals which was above our goal of 8,000. We provided 940 food backpacks in 2019 based on a goal of 1,000. Those numbers compare to 8,468 meals and 1,325 backpacks during 2018.

Backpacks from Catholic Social Services

In September, we received over 80 backpacks full of school supplies from Catholic Social Services and distributed all of them to kids in kindergarten through 8th grade. Picking out their new backpack was a highlight for our kids and helped them be ready to do their best at school!



Shoes for the Shoeless – S4TS

S4TS serves as our largest outreach for the year. On May 18th we hosted our first S4TS event where 310 children received a free pair of shoes and a bag of socks. S4TS, Memorial Church, Living Word Church, KIND board members, staff, and volunteers made the event a huge success. With all our community events, we fed the children and their families. Living Word Church brought their food truck to feed over 300 people at the event. We were unable to schedule the second S4TS event in 2019 but will schedule the next event in early 2020.

Transportation

Critical to addressing attendance is reliable transportation. KIND received support in late 2018 and early 2019 to purchase two used vans with funding from the Kettering Family Foundation, Physicians' Charitable Foundation, and Mark Kreusch Foundation. KIND is indebted to Jeff Miller and Miller Collision for putting graphics on our vans to identify ourselves in the neighborhood we serve.

Soon after these two vans were put into service, one older van experienced engine failure while transporting children. This situation reduced us to four vans which created quite a challenge during the summer program with 150 children registered. In early 2020, we received approval for the Mark A. Kreusch Foundation and the Kettering Family Foundation for monies to replace an older van with maintenance issues. We will have four newer vans and an older backup to safely and reliably transport the children.



Reading

We have made great strides in making sure reading is consistently emphasized and supported by staff. With a significant refugee population in our community, staff has to adjust our reading program to allow some children to listen to books.

During the 2019 summer program, students engaged in reading through the online RAZ (Reading A-Z) Kids program. In RAZ Kids, students are placed at an appropriate reading level to facilitate growth and lessen frustration. This is trial and error for KIND instructors because we lack a tool that will effectively give us the reading level of each student. Students read a book then complete a quiz at the end of their reading. This helps students practice their fluency and comprehension.

Students spent an hour and thirty minutes a week reading - nine hours over the summer. Overall, the children read 630 hours over the summer: 837 audio (refugee children) and 847 read. On average, each student listened to 11.96 books and read 12.1 books.

Science

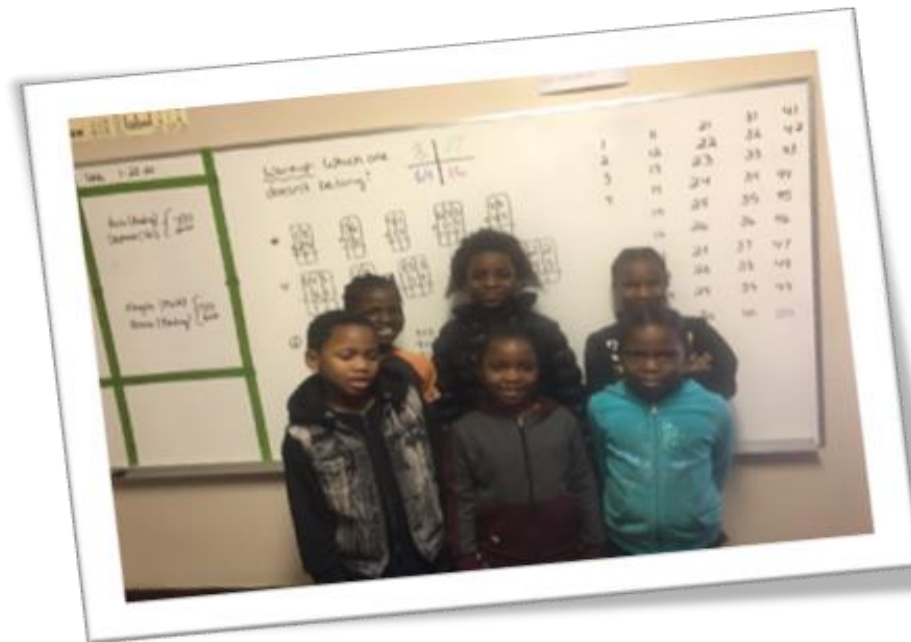
Providing STEM skills is critical to meeting the growing base of technical jobs. For many years, Ohio's tech-job sector grew slower than 38 other states. The tide is turning, with the pipeline of STEM-related jobs larger than the resource pipeline. At KIND, Science, Technology, Teamwork, Engineering, and Math (STTEM) is a cornerstone program, teaching students how to problem solve and work together. We will continue to develop and support these skills.



We believe teamwork is a major factor in STTEM and in life as well. 90% of the groups worked very well together as opposed to only 50% of groups working well together two years ago.

Math

One of our Dayton School teachers focused on developing math skills through classroom instruction. In January and May, students took an interactive online placement test through www.learnmathfastbooks.com as a pretest and post-test. Each time they take the test it determines at what grade level they perform. We had some really strong results. The Kindergarten through Second Grade increased test scores 78% from the pretest. The Third to Fifth Grade class increased pretest scores by 56%.



Play Impossible™



In 2019, the Iddings Foundation and the Reynolds Associates Foundation provided support to expand programming and materials for STTEM. The first program launched was the Play Impossible Ball Gameball™, a kinetic toy that integrates team-based physical activity and data analytics. Play Impossible has a built-in computer that reads different actions performed with the ball. As students participate in the various games, the ball gathers data which is then displayed on an app to show the height of a throw, reaction of a movement, or the rotation of the ball.

Students are always excited to participate in the Play Impossible games, and it has deepened their understanding on how data can be displayed and collected. A great example is a game where students need to throw the ball a certain height, not just as high as they can throw. When we introduced the game, students just threw it as high as they could. After a few tries they began understanding the need to throw the ball a certain height to collect a certain amount of data. They engaged in Play Impossible games two hours a day, two days a week over the summer. KIND's next step is to teach students how to navigate through the app so they are able to play with others independently.

Outdoor Classroom

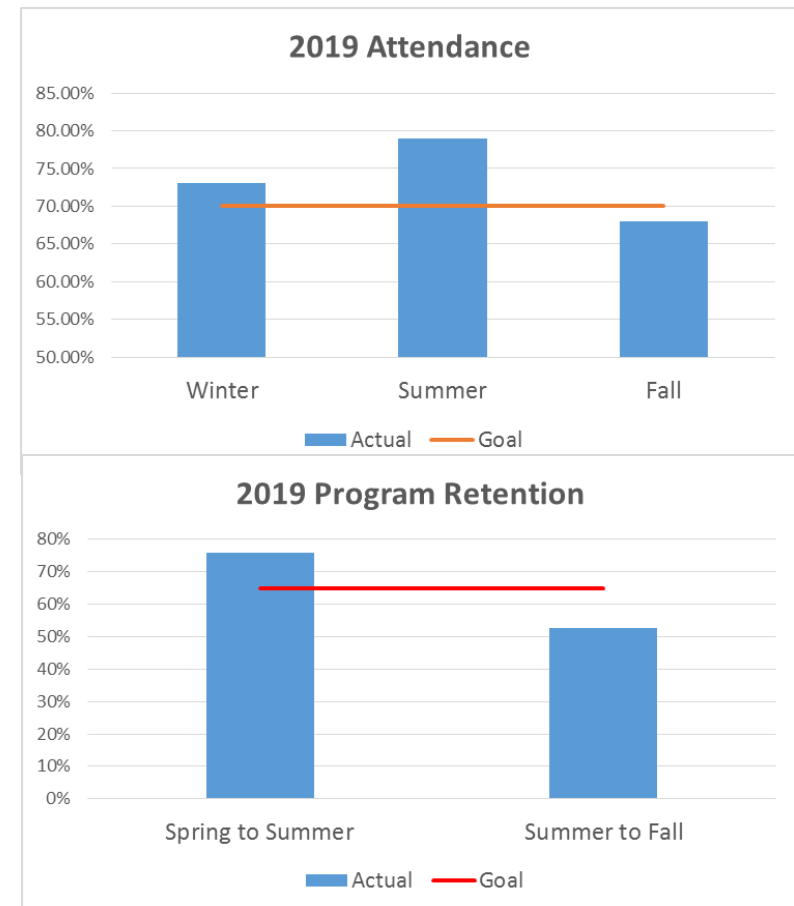
Our Outdoor Classroom is a key part of program results, since it is a gathering place for children and families as a neighborhood playground. It serves as the backdrop for STEM classes so our children can experiment in an outdoor environment. We also hold our exercise programs and games in this area. The Outdoor Classroom allows us to expand programs, the minds and bodies of children, and serve as the center of community events.

How We Are Doing

Attendance

KIND grew substantially over the summer. We increased students registered in the summer program by 26% over 2018. Our goal to maintain attendance also aligns with Dayton Public Schools, who is promoting attendance as the number one success factor. KIND experienced strong attendance to meet our goal for the year even though Fall was down slightly at 68%. In 2020, we are implementing new strategies to raise attendance rates while increasing retention.

Also critical is student retention for Spring to Summer and from Summer to Fall. Our retention was strong again this year, with Spring to Summer retention rates the strongest, and the transition to Fall lower. Reasons include the transition from summer break to the school year, illness, and the longer break between sessions.



Community Partnering

Christmas Party

The Dayton Masonic Lodge No. 147 once again honored us with a Christmas party invitation. We brought 17 kids from kindergarten to 2nd grade and were amazed at all the activities that had been planned. The kids made crafts, won prizes from Bingo, pinned the nose on a picture of Santa, threw rings onto reindeer antlers, ate lots of pizza, and received a gift from Santa himself. What a morning! It was truly moving to see what this meant to the kids.

Christmas Decorations

Through a connection with Day Yoga, Lululemon learned about KIND and wanted to do something special for the kids when they returned from Christmas break. Their team went

all out in decorating the KIND building and preparing individual gift bags for the children. It was quite the surprise on the first day back when we opened the doors for the big reveal!



Thank You Father
Murokoze Papa
Asante Baba
Gracias Padre
Shukran Papa

Praying In Every Language
Because they know that God speaks all of the languages, the kids taught each other (and the staff) how to say "Thank You Father" in our most common languages - Kinyarwanda, Swahili, Spanish, and Arabic

New for 2020

Programming

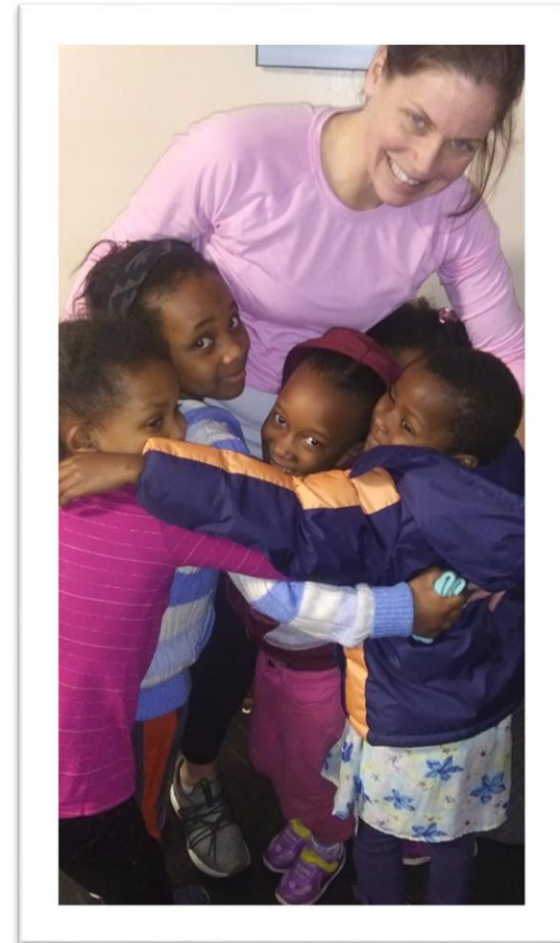
In 2020, KIND will be introducing three new programs:

- Cooking at Dayton Children's Hospital
- Yoga with DAY Yoga
- Nature Connect at The Glen

We will partner with the University of Dayton on a cooking/nutrition class at the new Community Kitchen at Dayton Children's Hospital. Cooking promotes healthy eating, develops life skills, applies reading and math skills, enhances fine motor skills, and encourages family time.

The Day Yoga Studios community outreach program partnered with us to bring yoga instructors to KIND for several weeks last fall and are back this winter! The kids have not only learned fun yoga poses (like elephant, tiger, and hippo!), they are learning principles and techniques for calmness, focus, and peace. As you can see in the photo, the kids love their teachers!

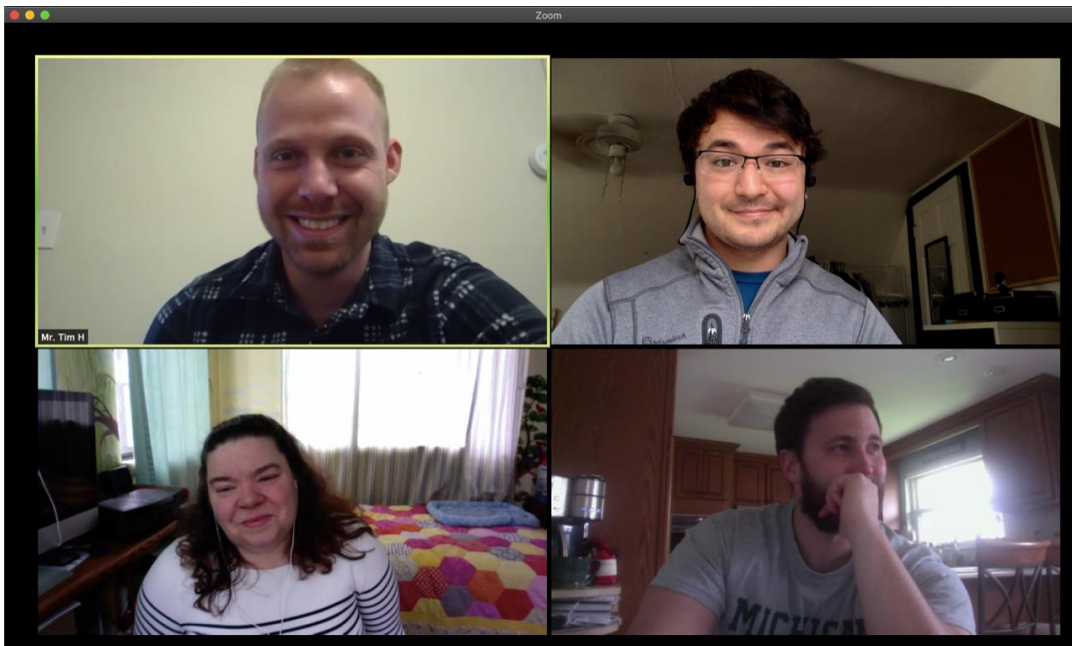
Children will connect with the natural world around them through Nature Connect at The Glen and the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery. Studies show that time spent in nature increases attention span, ability to concentrate, self-esteem, creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. Children who spend more time outdoors and participate in cooperative group activities also have healthier relationships with friends and family.



Leadership

Tim Honchel – Director

We are excited to announce Tim Honchel as the Director of KIND. Previously, Tim worked for KIND as a coordinator and brings extensive inner-city experience from his work with the Catholic Social Services' refugee resettlement program. He currently works part-time for Miami Valley Career Technology Center as an English as a Second Language teacher. Tim arrived thoroughly prepared and in December submitted his plan to the board to ensure alignment with our Strategic Plan. His approach leverages our partners while focusing our resources on ministering to the children within our greater neighborhood. He sees KIND as a key player in the story of Dayton's children and will do all he can to guide and empower our staff and volunteers in delivering the highest quality program possible. KIND can make a lasting difference in our children's academic performance, overall well-being, and inner character. Tim's leadership direction and impact with staff, volunteers, and students is a definite asset to the KIND team.



During COVID 19, Tim met with staff and children via Zoom to keep the momentum steady with consistent, effective, and caring conversations, prayer and programing.

2020 Governing Board

Memorial Church serves as the fiscal agent and driving force behind the KIND program. All board members contribute to the program.



Challenges

Vandals Strike

KIND has served East Dayton since 1987 without a lot of issues. However, East Fifth Street has been hit with significant vandalism in 2019. Unfortunately, the church and KIND were targeted twice which closed the program for one week. They broke out windows in the church, slashed tires on one of our four vans, and broke a \$700 window on one of the vans. Our heartfelt appreciation to Commercial Parts & Service, Key Chrysler, Mel's Auto Glass, Miller Collision, and Board Member Dave Scarberry for covering the cost of the van repairs.

Our KIND of Impact Takes Your Help

We invite you to share in our mission to shape Dayton's inner-city kids by providing a foundation in Christianity through education and life experiences. Our goal is to provide our children the skills to navigate life from being nurtured, educated, and empowered to enter life as trailblazers – prepared to meet life's demands with faith-filled, creative, and sophisticated skill sets.

Your interest and support of KIND is vital to sustaining and expanding its reach and impact on the inner-city children of Dayton, OH. A positive impact that expands beyond the children to their families, neighborhoods, and cultural network.

Beyond any organizational vision or mission, the direction and impact of KIND is woven into the lives of its children, along with their families, neighborhoods, and cultures – to establish cognitive practices of acceptance, care, faith, and learning so they in turn are prepared to make an impact now and in the future.

We invite you to join us in supporting KIND through donations, volunteering, or sharing us with your network. Visit our website to sign-up for the newsletter and visit us on Facebook to read more about – Our KIND of Impact!

Thank you for your support!



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