

KIDSBRIDGE PROGRAMS COME TO YOU

In-School Programs and Field Trips

Program facilitators come to your school and set-up in school classrooms, media center or gym. The mobile program uses the same small group interactive pedagogy as the Tolerance Center.

Sessions are customized to the needs of each class or grade, and educators receive post-visit activities. This trip can be used to satisfy NJ State requirements for bullying prevention and diversity.



In-Classroom Empathy and UPstander Presentations

Kidsbridge sends a trained facilitator to present interactive programs tailored for elementary or middle schoolers. Small group breakouts ensure face-to-face discussion, small group learning, and fun — which translates into improved social-emotional skills.



■ Elementary

Learn how working together can promote empathy and how to be an UPstander using the classic book, *The Terrible Things* by Eve Bunting.

■ Middle school

Create empathy and empowerment through a discussion of ongoing conflicts, genocides and the Holocaust. Using examples from history, students learn how to advocate to prevent bullying and genocide in the future.

Lunch 'N Learn Workplace Bullying Presentation

During the lunch hour in a small group setting, Kidsbridge will come to your organization to present strategies and helpful tips for dealing with bullying in the workplace and online. The program will also offer advice for parents to help children to be better prepared to deal with bullying. Participants will learn how to identify the qualities of bullies, victim targets, bystanders and UPstanders, and will share their thoughts in interactive discussions.



SUPPORT KIDSBRIDGE PROGRAMS



In spite of concerted efforts, bullying and intolerance persist. Cyberbullying is on the rise, and with recent racial/stereotype/bias incidents nationwide, the need for diversity appreciation education is compelling. Kidsbridge needs your support more than ever!

Individual Donations

Your contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law. Remember to ask if your (or your spouse's) employer has a matching gift program. Donating online is safe and easy at www.kidsbridgecenter.org.

Call for Volunteers

Volunteers — especially retirees and college undergraduates — are needed to make Kidsbridge programs happen. Come and observe while the Center is alive with kids! If the fit is right, you'll be trained as a program facilitator to lead activities and discussions with youth.



Since its beginning in 1996, Kidsbridge has been a leader in character education, diversity appreciation, and bullying prevention. For more than ten years, it has operated the **only** youth-dedicated tolerance center in the United States. It is a unique environment for pre-school through eighth grade students and youth groups/summer camps to increase empathy, empowerment, and social-emotional skills through games, role-play, puppetry, and small group discussions.



"I learned that one small voice can make a difference in someone's life. From offering a bus seat to telling someone to stop teasing, we can make the world a better place."
~Taquan, 5th grade

CONTACT US

KIDSBRIDGE Tolerance Center

999 Lower Ferry Rd
Ewing, NJ 08628-3228
609-771-0300

(Located in the Ewing Senior & Community Center)

Lynne Azarchi
Executive Director
lynne@kidsbridgecenter.org

www.kidsbridgecenter.org



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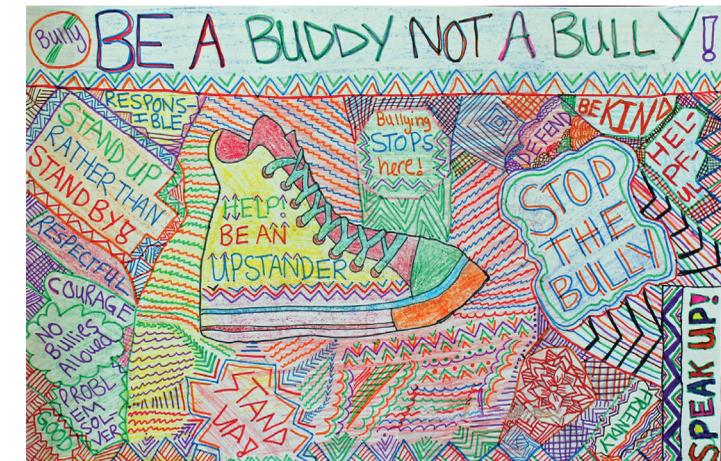


Featuring
THE KIDSBRIDGE TOLERANCE CENTER
in the Ewing Senior & Community Center

Bullying. Teasing. Name-calling. Exclusion. Meanness. Kids need a supportive, experience-rich environment where they can engage in discussions that will encourage kindness, inspire empathy, and help empower them to become UPstanders.

Kidsbridge is exactly the organization to help! Recognizing a need to enhance character education, the Kidsbridge Tolerance Center was created in 2006. It is the only youth-dedicated tolerance learning center in the U.S. Visiting youth and educators participate in interactive activities led by trained facilitators. In small group discussions, kids learn strategies for dealing with negative and difficult situations.

Empathy. Empowerment. Diversity Appreciation. Tolerance. Respect. Kids explore these topics at the Tolerance Center. Pro-social skills are practiced and reinforced to positively impact their behavior and better equip them as they face their next challenge.



www.kidsbridgecenter.org

ABOUT KIDSBRIDGE

Kidsbridge is a 501(c)3 nonprofit started in 1996. The Kidsbridge mission is to educate and empower children and youth through character education, diversity appreciation, and pro-social life skills training. The purpose is to create empathetic individuals and caring citizens who live their lives without prejudice or discrimination and who are positive advocates for themselves and others.

Kidsbridge programs are dynamic and continually evolving, incorporating the latest research that reflects the ever-changing challenges facing both educators and students. Developmentally appropriate programs are offered at the preschool through eighth grade levels and group visits are by appointment only.

Annually, more than 2,500 youth/educators/adult leaders from schools (public, private, charter), day camps, service organizations, faith-based groups, scout troops, and others learn about:

- Bias & Stereotype Awareness
- Bullying & Cyberbullying Prevention
- Creating a Support Team
- Disability & LGBT Issues
- Diversity Appreciation & Respect
- Empathy, UPstander Behavior, & Empowerment
- Genocide & Holocaust Education
- Media Literacy
- Personal Strengths & Problem-Solving
- Understanding Religious & Cultural Differences



KIDSBRIDGE PROGRAMS

Preschool/Kindergarten/1st Grade

Two-hour program at "Kidsbridge Town"

- Learning through games, music, and movement
- Students problem solve, embrace diversity, welcome and include others, identify feelings, and mindfulness
- "Kidsbridge Town" stations include a playhouse, labyrinth, and the Kidsbridge Diversity Doll Friends

Elementary and Middle School

Four-hour program of small group interactive activities (morning) and electives (afternoon)

- All facilitators are trained in age-appropriate curriculum
- Strategies practiced include how to: deal with conflicts; be an UPstander; appreciate diversity; build on personal and team strengths
- Visitors practice pro-social behaviors using their own Kidsbridge-made creations in arts, drama, music, and writing
- Elementary schoolers leave the Center with stick puppets for conflict resolution skits while middle schoolers return to school with action plans to carry their learning forward into accomplishment

5-6 small group rotations (see bulleted subject list on the ABOUT KIDSBRIDGE panel)

Lunch with a Q&A Panel of undergraduates from TCNJ/The College of New Jersey

Conflict Resolution Puppet Shows created and performed by students to demonstrate skills learned (grades 3-6)

Action Plans created in small groups to address a problem/challenge, either at school or in the community (grades 6-8)

"I knew bad things happened in the world, but this woke me up. Talking with other kids and not just reading about genocide really opened my eyes to a whole new world."
~Sam, 6th grade



PROOF OUR PROGRAM WORKS

Kidsbridge partners with TCNJ/The College of New Jersey's Psychology Department to measure improvements in social emotional skills through pre- and post-visit surveys.

After a four-hour visit to the Kidsbridge Tolerance Center, youth demonstrate statistically significant gains in: empathy, empowerment, moral reasoning, religious diversity, the awareness of the impact of negative stereotypes, and increased aspiration to attend college/trade school.

Kidsbridge is proud to have achieved 'evidence-based' status.

TESTIMONIALS

What Educators Say!

"Thank you for the opportunity to visit Kidsbridge. This is, by far, the best and most effective trip I have taken in my thirteen years of teaching."

~Teacher, Middle School

"As a result of their visit to Kidsbridge, our students have been equipped to practice the skills of cooperation, negotiation, empathy, and anger management. The qualities that they have obtained will help them educationally and socially." ~Counselor, Elementary School

What Kids Say!

"Thank you for teaching me the good things that I had to learn about not to bully people because it's not nice to bully or be mean to people. I should respect people and never hurt anyone." ~Tanisha, 4th grade

"It affected me a lot because all my life I have had problems with people making fun of me. And now I know that there are other people out there that are dealing with what I deal with. I don't feel so alone."

~David, 7th grade



ANNUAL KIDSBRIDGE EVENTS



WALK2STOP BULLYING

Since 2012, Kidsbridge has hosted an annual **WALK-2STOP BULLYING**, involving the community in an uplifting Walk and fun-filled activities to raise funds and awareness to help prevent bullying. The Walk in June is located on ETS's beautiful corporate campus.

Humanitarian Awards Celebration

For ten years, Kidsbridge has honored local business, corporate and educational leaders as part of our yearly fund-raising event. Honorees are individuals who have made significant contributions towards making our community a better place to live, thus embracing Kidsbridge's mission of tolerance, diversity appreciation and respect for all persons.

Educator Leadership in Character Education Awards

In 2007, Kidsbridge created an annual award to recognize Mercer County educators who were leaders in their schools in the areas of character education, diversity appreciation and/or bullying prevention. In 2015, this award was expanded to include statewide candidates, and to regale three winners for their excellence and leadership in character education.

Creative Character Education Youth Competition

This statewide competition engages youth through essays, posters and videos in three age categories. Youth submit entries from all over the State. In the inaugural 2015 Competition, elementary and middle school students in New Jersey answered the question, "What is an UPstander?" and the 2016 contest theme was: "STANDUP4 Diversity: How I Include and Respect Others."

Youth Holocaust and Genocide Awareness Award

Each year, the Holocaust and Genocide Awareness award is given to a youth/student who has shown commitment to generating awareness, empathy, and action for holocaust and/or genocide education. Eligibility is for New Jersey students in third to twelfth grade.