# Message from our Team





Our programs are growing and impacting more and more people every day. Our profile – nationwide – is rising, and we are seeing the real world results of our work. As Ben's Bells moves into its 11th year, the State of Kindness is strong.

The past several years have been marked by explosive growth. Our original Main Gate studio is humming along. The downtown studio,

housed in the historic Brown House, the oldest adobe building in Tucson, is a hub of activity, highlighted by our signature store, Shop KIND. Outside of Tucson our reach continues to expand with programming in Connecticut, Illinois, Idaho, North Carolina and a bustling operation in Phoenix, which is just starting to get off the ground.

Our biggest challenge remains meeting the demand. We run a very tight ship and strive to be excellent stewards of the support we receive. Our budget has steadily grown, allowing us to do more for more people. Kindness improves all of our lives, and it can be developed and practiced. Partnerships and philanthropic dollars are essential to delivering on the Ben's Bells mission. In the year ahead we will build upon the success and excitement of all of our programming. We will work hard to deepen our relationships with our community of supporters. Thank you for believing in the power of kindness, thank you for your generosity, and thank you for being kind.

Dev Sethi



#### Jeannette Maré - Founder/Executive Director/Ben's Mom

Something remarkable is happening. At the same time scientists from around the world are uncovering the myriad benefits of the practice of kindness, Ben's Bells programming is being embraced by tens of thousands of people across our nation. The 'be kind' message is being enthusiastically adopted in an organic, bottom-up way in diverse communities from coast to coast. We are thrilled

with the engagement and are committed to growing and improving our programs and services with your help!

The work we are doing together not only benefits us, but also contributes to the science of kindness and human connection. Our Scientific Advisory Council (SAC) ensures that sound scientific knowledge supports all Ben's Bells educational programming. Members of the SAC help develop, make recommendations for and review educational programming, monitor its effectiveness and create and oversee a research portfolio for Ben's Bells. We are so fortunate to have their support!

But the stories we hear from kids and adults, alike, are what inspire. Whether it's a third grader sharing how safe and secure she feels at her Kind Campus school, or a family whose day is brightened when it finds a Ben's Bell at just the right moment, the stories center on connectedness, kindness, and in the end, happiness.

The numbers are astonishing. More than 300 schools participate in the Kind Campus program. That is over 168.000 students! This number goes up every week, Over 25.000 community volunteers will visit our studios and outreach programs this year. Our business training program, Kind Colleagues, has proven immensely popular, and our weekly Bellings allow us to share the inspirational stories of our community. If you would like to learn more about any of these programs, please visit our website, www.bensbells.org.

There is no question - we are in this together. Thank you for your belief in this work and for supporting Ben's Bells programming with your time and your money.

With gratitude, Jeannette Maré

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# Ben's Bells

#### Ben's Bells Distributions

2013 - 6,545 **Bells Distributed** 

Total - 36,074 **Bells Distributed** 

The last couple of months have been particularly hard...and I have been very down, stressed and sad. I came out of work today, and there, on a tree, by my car, was a Ben's Bell! I read the card, and felt a magical feeling I haven't felt since I was little. My spirits lifted. Thanks for the magic and I will spread kindness. (Nancy - March 31, 2013)

### Weekly Bellings

Weekly Bellings honor those in the Greater Tucson community who spread kindness daily, making our community a better place to live.

## Murals



2013 20 Murals Installed The Radiate Kindness mural was created in partnership with program participants of Primavera, a Tucson non-profit that provides opportunities to help people transition from poverty to greater well-being and security.



The mission of Ben's Bells is to inspire, educate, and motivate people to realize the impact of intentional kindness, and to empower individuals to act according to that awareness, thereby strengthening ourselves, our relationships and our communities.







## Studio Locations

Tucson - Downtown • 40 W Broadway Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85701 Tucson - Main Gate • 816 E University Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85719 Newtown • 17 Church Hill Road, Newtown, CT 06470

# Kindness Education

Ben's Bells kind Campus is a unique outreach program provided free-of-charge to elementary, middle, and high

- Kind Campus is a universal, whole-school approach.
- Kind Campus is a strengths-based intervention with a focus on proactively creating positive interactions and reinforces rather than punishing problems.
- When implemented in elementary schools, Kind Campus reaches students from a young age on. Promoting the development of social-emotional skills among the youngest of students provides a crucial foundation of skills to build on throughout the school years.
- Kind Campus is integrated into the fabric of the school. The Kind Campus materials are not a stand-alone curriculum, but rather a series of approaches and skills that can be integrated into all of the ongoing activities of a productive classroom.

The Kind Campus program includes individual, classroom, and school-wide exercises in practicing kindness recognition, active gratitude, and intentional kindness towards oneself, one's peers, one's community, and one's overall environment.



The core evaluation team, headed by Dr. Michele Walsh, has worked together for seven years, and has expertise in data management, coordinating web-based surveys, qualitative data collection and analysis (in both English and Spanish), mixed method projects, sophisticated multi-level and structural equations modeling.



What happend

In order to

need to be Miss

#### 2013-2014 School Year Students: 168,104 Schools: 303

Southern Arizon 170 schools 92,756 students

CT/NY area: 61 schools 31,383 students

Phoenix area: 17 schools 12.691 students

Other areas: 55 schools 31.274 students



This program is extremely positive! Instead of the negative, "no bullying," it encourages children to be kind and make good choices in a positive way. The program encourages them to stop and think about what a kind choice would be - so if they were about to be mean they might look at a poster or just remember what their teacher has gone over with them and choose a kinder direction.

- Sahuarita Intermediate School teacher, Sahuarita AZ

Individuals Thank you to all of our donors who support Ben's Bells during 2013. Below is a special acknowledgement of individuals who made a charitable contribution of \$100 or more during

Debra Drysdale

Iennie Ellen

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**Jane Evans** 

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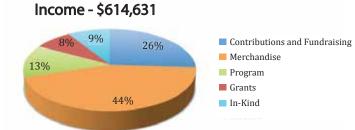
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Tina Yslas

Mark Rubin Chris Russell

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# Financials







# Community Engagement

Tucson Volunteer Stats:



# of Volunteers 27,260

# of Groups 972



Dear Ben's Bells, Thank you so much for makeing us a kinder school. It has helped us alot. So thank you. Love, Samantha

San Cayetano Elementary





We are grateful to all of our corporate, foundation, and non-profit organization supporters. Below is a special acknowledgement of those who supported Ben's Bells with a contribution at \$300 or more during the year with in-kind and cash gifts. Please consider supporting these businesses as they have committed to kindness in our communities.

Brooke Rosania

Clifford Rowley

Cathy Rosen

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Schaefer Present

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