

The Kids First Fund

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Do wealthy nations do a better job of protecting children from gods and monsters?

The 2011 scandal associated with Pennsylvania State University provides a tragic lesson on child protection in America, in which systems and people completely failed to protect kids. Among US colleges, Penn State had an enviable reputation for having a great football team and for winning with integrity. Joe Paterno, the team's head coach for 46 seasons, was a god of college football and was held in the highest esteem by players, alumni, school administrators, and the media. Coach Paterno was also a "big man on campus" due to this financial contribution of football to the university's budget. His football program generated \$72 million annually for the school; its activities helped move the school's endowment past \$1 billion.

The story may have ended here with a tale of motivated instructors, engaged athletes, supportive fans, and financial acumen. But the balance between success and failure is sometimes fragile and easily blurred. Penn State football became corrupted by the very reasons it was successful. The coaching staff took on the persona of Greek gods with little need for a higher authority. The annual windfall of cash . . . in the cash-starved world of public education . . . gave the football program unmatched power. It was an environment begging for an opportunist, and unfortunately the circumstances favored a sexual predator and monster.

Jerry Sandusky was on the Penn State coaching staff for 32 years. Ironically, Sandusky is a kindly looking man having the appearance of being everyone's favorite uncle. In 1997 he started "The Second Mile" which grew into a statewide children's charity. Sandusky retired from Penn State in 1999 but kept an "emeritus" title that provided lifelong access to campus facilities including team locker and shower rooms. His easy-going personality, connections to powerful people, and ready access to children allowed him to operate as an undetected child molester for 14 years.

The façade began to crumble in 1998. The parent of an 11-year old boy called university police after her son complained of Sandusky "hugging" him while showering after an on-campus activity. Other cases of Sandusky showering with boys were also disclosed. After a short investigation, the

Sources: "Case Shatters Penn State's 'Happy Valley' Image" article dated 09 November 2011 at National Public Radio and "Penn State Abuse Scandal: A Guide And Timeline, article dated 08 January 2012 at National Public Radio".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

INSIDE:

Numbers Help Tell Our Story	3
Family Shelter to Expand	4
Students Prevent Child Abuse	7
Award Added to Travel Auction	9
airBaltic Frequent Flier Program	11
Thanks to US Bank	11
Hamid Ladjevardi Joins the Board	12
Board Member Snapshot	13
Board of Directors	14
About the Kids First Fund	15



FROM THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED

university police chief closed the case. As the primary punishment, Sandusky was asked to promise not to shower with young boys again.

The promise didn't last long. Sandusky was seen having sex with young boys in college locker rooms in 2000 and 2002. Janitorial staff didn't file a report because they feared for their jobs. One report made by a member of the coaching staff eventually reached Coach Paterno. The police were not advised and as punishment, Sandusky's locker room keys are taken from him. Eventually Sandusky was banned from taking children to campus by university administration.

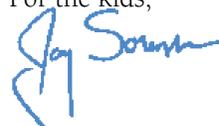
Finally, in 2009 a parent reported to local police that her son was sexually abused by Sandusky. The wheels of American justice slowly began to turn with a grand jury investigation that eventually documents 40 criminal counts involving 10 children over a 14-year period. Upon learning of this, Sandusky boldly attempted contact with his victims during 2010. The grand jury announces its findings 06 November 2011.

By the end of 2011 more victims had come forward, Coach Paterno (who died 22 January 2012) and the president of the University were fired, numerous university officials quit or were fired, the leader of the Second Mile charity resigned, and a civil lawsuit was filed against Sandusky, Second Mile, and the University. Sandusky was arrested and charged with a total of 52 counts – 12 of which were added after the case went public.

Rules, regulations, and policies did not fail these children – people did. It began with parents who may have ignored the hints provided by a victimized child. Sandusky's reign of terror continued when adult witnesses failed to stop the abuse and report it to police. How someone could see a young boy sodomized and not personally stop the rape (or at the very least call the police) is tragic and sad. The cult of personality of the football program – and the millions it contributed – corrupted how a civil society must function. Intentional neglect allowed these gods and monsters to thrive.

For the victims of Sandusky, the answer posed at the beginning of my missive is “perhaps.” Wealthy nations dedicate vast resources to child welfare, and as a result, children receive better protection. The Penn State scandal demonstrates failures most certainly can occur. But imagine what happens in places where resources and systems are virtually nonexistent. This is where your support is vital and our presence is needed. The work accomplished through our partners in Latvia and Moldova prevents child abuse from occurring while helping victims. But the first line of defense in this battle is you. Please, please, never look the other way when children are abused.

For the kids,



Jay Sorensen
President and Volunteer



The University is located in State College, Pennsylvania, which is also called “Happy Valley.” But for the children abused here, it was a place of misery, pain, and betrayal.

**KIDS FIRST FUND, INC.
2011 & 2010 INCOME STATEMENT**

CONTRIBUTIONS	2011	2010
Cash donations	\$8,023.29	\$14,396.57
Interest from savings account	\$247.84	\$558.92
Dividends/change in market value securities	\$9.85	\$0.00
In-kind items (see note a)	\$0.00	\$136.00
Online Travel Auction for Kids (see note b)	\$15,607.19	\$27,860.82
Total Contributions	\$23,888.17	\$42,952.31
EXPENDITURES AND DISTRIBUTIONS		
Grants made to support mission	\$75,000.00	\$27,636.00
Salaries, compensation & benefits	\$0.00	\$0.00
Professional fees & fundraising	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses & Distributions	\$75,000.00	\$27,636.00
Excess Funds	(\$51,111.83)	\$15,316.31

Results are not audited, but reflect amounts reported to the IRS.

(a) Items were donated that support the mission of the Kids First Fund.

(b) Net results from the annual online travel auction. All items are 100% donated. Selling expenses associated with eBay auctions were 11-12% of the gross amount raised.

**KIDS FIRST FUND, INC.
2011 & 2010 BALANCE SHEET**

	DEC. 31, 2011	DEC. 31, 2010
ASSETS		
Cash and investments	\$87,082.50	\$138,194.33
Other assets	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Assets	\$87,082.50	\$138,194.33
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00
Net Assets & Fund Balance	\$87,082.50	\$138,194.33

Results are not audited, but reflect amounts reported to the IRS.

NUMBERS HELP TELL OUR STORY

The 2011 annual report represents a continuous commitment to donor disclosure by including the annual financial statements for the Kids First Fund. In addition, filings made with government regulators, such as the US Internal Revenue Service, are available for download at KidsFirstFund.org.



Bob Bahlman has been treasurer of the Kids First Fund since its inception in 1999.

Unfortunately, 2011 financial results demonstrate deterioration in the Fund's financial health. But this is combined with our continuing commitment to actively make grants.

Cash donations were down by more than 44 percent from 2010 and results from the annual online travel auction decreased by more than \$12,000. Donations for 2010 did benefit from a one-time hockey-related event with a \$3,880 contribution from the San Jose Sharks Foundation. The average cash donation was \$185, which represents a decrease of 35.5 percent below the 2010 average of \$287.

Contributions received through online sources were \$4,489 for 2011 with record activity generated by Google Wallet and Network for Good. Google Wallet is an especially attractive donor channel because Google pays all administrative and merchant fees; this saves donors an expense that typically ranges from 3 to 5 percent.

Two significant cash distributions were made to fund program initiatives in Latvia and Moldova. The board authorized a \$60,000 contribution to co-fund an expansion of the Latgale Regional Support Center during 2011. The facility, also known as the family shelter in Rugaji, will add a new structure to provide overnight accommodations for family members, activity area and workshop for teens, vegetable storage, and an equipment garage. Funding continued for the child abuse prevention project operated by the Child Rights Information Center in Moldova. The Kids First Fund provided \$15,000 during 2011 for spring and fall programs in rural regions of the country. Additional details for the Latvia and Moldova projects are provided in this report.

The Kids First Fund continued its tradition of operating on a zero-overhead budget and did not incur expenses related to salaries, fundraising fees, and travel. Our cash and investments balance at year end was \$87,082. The Kids First Fund anticipates it will provide \$15,000 to support a full year of work in Moldova during 2012 in addition to financial support that may be provided to Latvia. The financial statements were drafted by Bob Bahlman, treasurer of the Kids First Fund.



REPORT FROM LATVIA

“...through all these challenges, our family shelter continues to succeed in its mission to support abused children and their mothers.”

LATVIA FAMILY SHELTER TO EXPAND

The **Latgale Regional Support Center** completed its second full year of family shelter services for children in the eastern half of Latvia with service provided to a record number of children and mothers. The level of activity is surprising because the shelter relies upon government support for operating expenses and child placement. Total government spending in Latvia has been cut every year since 2008 due to plummeting tax receipts and recession. An unfortunate concurrent circumstance is a high demand for shelter services. This is always greatest during periods of economic difficulty when society and families are stretched beyond the breaking point.

According to a report published by the International Monetary Fund, “Latvia suffered one of the deepest recessions in the world” during 2009. Spending by the government on child and family services has been cut by more than 16% since 2007. Yet, through all these challenges, our family shelter continues to succeed in its mission to support abused children and their mothers. One positive outcome is the dramatic drop in construction costs during the recession. Thus, the timing seems right to complete the facility as was originally planned. The board of the Kids First Fund approved a grant request for \$60,000 during 2011. This is our share of a \$320,000 capital project led by the Latvia Children’s Fund to complete the family shelter.

Family Shelter Statistics – Latvia		
	2011	2010
Children served in shelter	199	142
Total days of care	6,119 days	6,200 days
Mothers served in shelter	34	31
Total days of care	822 days	900 days

In recognition of government cuts to operating funds, the Kids First Fund created a \$10,000 “Gap Fund” in 2010 to ensure no child

is denied access to shelter services. The shelter spent \$4,500 of the funds during an initial 18-month period to provide emergency shelter support for children. Our shelter partner, the Latvia Children’s Fund, described two of the children served during 2011 benefits from the Gap Fund.

Family Shelter – Primary Referral Reasons	
Emotional abuse	98%
Abandoned and neglected	53%
Physical abuse	30%
Sexual abuse	16%

2011 statistics provided by Latgale Regional Support Center for all children served with multiple referral reasons possible for individual children.

Seventeen-year-old Alise (all names have been changed to protect identities) was referred to the shelter by social workers after she accused her father of sexually abusing her for a year. The father had a strong position in the community and was believed by many to be not guilty. As a result, Alise was alienated and her relatives did not want to help her.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

FAMILY SHELTER FROM PAGE 4

Government support for her shelter stay was granted for the customary 30 days; this stinginess reflects the government's budget difficulties. Shelter staff quickly realized more time would be required for her to continue recovery. The Gap Fund provided support for an additional 3 months until she could be placed with a willing relative.

Eduards, age 12, stabbed and killed his father. They were drunk at the time, which was something that had been occurring frequently during a two-year period. The boy was also mentally handicapped, and when this condition was combined with alcohol, Eduards was unable to control himself. Professionals agreed the boy would not be a danger to others within the controlled environment of the shelter. Unfortunately, the referral only allowed 30 days of shelter care.

The Gap Fund provided an additional two months until a long-term solution was developed by placing the boy in a boarding school facility. Eduards showed dramatic improvement during his stay in the shelter. However, the ghosts of his past continued to haunt him as he would sleep with a light on and ask the houseparent to leave his door open at night.

These are just two stories associated with the nearly 200 children served by the Latgale Regional Support Center during 2011. The success of this facility is confirmed by districts from all over Latvia that have referred children and mothers for care. But after two years of operating experience, the Latvia Children's Fund determined it was time to place the finishing

touches on the family shelter as originally envisioned.

Ground will be broken during the winter of 2012 on a new building



adjacent to the current structure. The building, which will match the design of the primary shelter, will offer overnight rooms for companions of children (such as mothers), long-term storage for vegetables (grown in the garden), indoor sport and play areas, a kid's workbench, indoor vehicle storage (for garden equipment), and a Latvian sauna.

The overnight guest rooms can also accommodate a family that wishes to make a visit to a child in the care of the shelter. Vegetable storage will replace the current practice of storage in the heating plant room of the main shelter. The workbench is intended to give teenage kids a place to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

“The success of this facility is confirmed by districts from all over Latvia that have referred children and mothers for care.”

FAMILY SHELTER FROM PAGE 5

experiment with mechanical and woodworking projects. The sauna may appear as an extravagant luxury. Saunas are an important part of Latvian culture and are tied to the healing process. It's a feature of the shelter that will get regular use, especially during the cold Latvian winters. The addition was scrutinized by the Kids First Fund board and was subsequently endorsed after our Latvian members assured the full board it was an intelligent inclusion in the plans and not an extravagance.



Adrians Davis is the chairman of Latvia's only gas distribution company and an obvious fan of helping kids in need.

The project represents the first time the majority of funds have come from Latvian sources. The Kids First Fund acknowledges the grant partners participating in the family shelter expansion project: ChildFund Germany, Latvijas Gāze (Latvia Gas), Latvijas Dzelzceļš (Latvia Railways) and the Latvia Children's Fund. Of these, Latvijas Gāze deserves special mention because its \$240,000 donation represents the largest grant among the partners. Charitable donations, especially one of this size, are a relatively new practice among Latvian corporations.



It's a delightful development and the Kids First Fund and Latvia Children's Fund truly applaud the decision by the board of Latvijas Gāze for the substantial investment in the future of Latvia's children.

“This project represents the first time the majority of funds have come from Latvian sources.”



REPORT FROM MOLDOVA

“It’s obvious this project is touching many lives.”

ENGAGING STUDENTS TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE IN MOLDOVA

The Kids First Fund and its Moldova-based partner, the Child Rights Information Center Moldova (CRIC), began its second year of cooperation during 2011. CRIC operated the Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Project with 100 percent of grant support provided by the Kids First Fund. The project operated in six rural districts: Orhei, Leova, and Rezina (during the spring) and Edinet, Drochia, Rascani (during the fall).

The project takes an innovative 3-tier approach by reaching three crucial groups involved in the child abuse issue: teachers, parents, and children. The process begins with a 3-day seminar to equip educators and other school professionals with knowledge and tools to address sexual and physical abuse and bullying. The following is a sampling of the topics included in the agenda:

- Exploring personal attitudes and values related to the phenomenon of violence.
- What are the types and consequences of abuse and neglect?
- Risk and protection factors related to abuse and neglect.
- Moldovan and international legislation to protect children from violence.
- How to identify cases of abuse and refer to authorities.
- Prevention of the abuse and neglect in family, school, and community.
- How schools can respond to the problem of the child abuse and neglect.



Training is supported with materials created by CRIC and partner organizations.

A core group of educators from each district, such as primary and high school teachers, school inspectors, deputy directors of education, and school psychologists, are trained to lead sessions with students, parents, and other teachers. These educators are encouraged to train others to expand the roster of trainers.

It’s obvious this project is touching many lives. During 2011, the project reached 3,700 persons in six rural districts. Results from the fall period

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Project – Moldova			
Participant Groups	Spring 2011	Fall 2011	2011 Totals
District representatives trained	27	29	56
Children receiving abuse awareness training	374	2,042	2,416
Parents/caregivers involved in effective parenting curriculum	153	605	758
Teachers benefiting from sessions organized by colleagues	194	275	469

“Most importantly, the participants recognize the school environment is crucial in the prevention of violence.”

ENGAGING STUDENTS FROM PAGE 7

indicate a far larger audience was reached. This reflects more effective reporting of activity, the change to an in-house trainer, higher levels of teacher commitment, more practical approach to training, and better scheduling to place parent and student events during holiday periods. The sessions rely upon a number of methods to teach the curriculum such as PowerPoint presentations, small groups, individual reflections, art therapy, and SWOT (strengths, weakness, opportunities, threats) analysis. Participants receive materials developed by CRIC staff, UNICEF, and Moldova’s Ministry of Education.

The project focuses on engaging students of all ages. Kids First board members Jay Sorensen and Roger Grigulis participated in a student session at Peresecina High School. After a period of shyness and hesitation (universal traits among teenagers all over the world) the students became actively engaged in a conversation about violence and abuse. The discussion leader readily created an environment in which the teens developed strategies to overcome conflict solutions and recognized the need to stop violence so it is not passed to the next generation.

For the majority of teachers, the sessions provided their first occasion to learn about child abuse. Teachers reported there are no strategies and action plans to prevent violence in schools; all attention is focused on dealing with abuse after it is discovered. Awareness of legal protections provided to children is virtually non-existent prior to the sessions. Educators were surprised to learn about the long-term consequences of child abuse. And yes, they admitted that teachers are a source of violence against children; stories of teachers physically abusing students are unfortunately common.

Most importantly, the participants recognize the school environment is crucial in the prevention of violence. A collaborative effort involving other professionals, parents, and children is key. The project will continue with seminars planned for six more regions during 2012. Three regions have already been chosen: Cantemir, Stefan Voda, and Criuleni.



Students from a Peresecina High School in Orhei, Moldova participate in a session to learn how to protect themselves, friends, and siblings from abuse and bullying.

FAMILY FRIENDLY AIRLINE AWARD ADDED TO THE TRAVEL AUCTION

The Family Friendly Airline

Award kicked off this year's auction. The award recognizes airlines that serve the needs of children and parents. Plus, it provides a larger audience for the auction and creates more media exposure. Six airlines were chosen by a panel of travel industry judges as finalists: Air Transat, Emirates, Jetstar, Kingfisher, Qatar, and TAM. Of these, Air Transat received the most votes from consumers on the the Kids



First Fund Facebook page. The page was “liked” by nearly 2,500 Facebook users while the poll was conducted. As shown below, wall postings became an instant method to promote the auction to new fans:

Posts were also made at donor Facebook pages to highlight items donated by individual airlines and hotel companies. This is something donors are encouraged to do for next year. These posts reach a target audience of socially aware consumers. The messages provide positive exposure for donors and highlight the concern these companies have for social issues.

Kids First Fund
Current bargains: AirAsia X premium sleeper seat Mumbai - Kuala Lumpur US\$0.99 and Flybe Airlines in Europe return ticket \$0.99.
2,767 Impressions · 0% Feedback
April 7 at 10:09am · Like · Comment

Kids First Fund
Week two of the auction is underway. <http://kidsfirstauction.com/>
Kids First Auction Travel Auction on eBay by AuctionJAM
kidsfirstauction.com
2,621 Impressions · 0% Feedback
April 7 at 10:07am · Like · Comment · Share

Facebook fans viewed stories regarding the award nearly 42,000 times during the voting process. Users came from Canada, Brazil, India, United States, Australia, United Kingdom, and Singapore. The event reached a largely female audience, and most likely was comprised of mothers.

The 2011 auction raised \$15,607 which was less than last year. More effort was put into the Family Friendly Airline Award during 2011.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

TRAVEL AUCTION FROM PAGE 9

Unfortunately, less time was spent on soliciting airline and hotel donations. New donors for 2011 were Air Transat, Allegiant, Flybe Airlines, and Tiger Airways. Auction items at the eBay page attracted more than 15,700 page views and 1,343 bids.

Once again, AirTran earned the auction's Platinum Partner Award for the most money raised by a single donor company (the airline is now

 AirTran
AIRWAYS



owned by Southwest Airlines). The airline tickets donated by the carrier generated nearly

\$4,000. AirAsia X was designated as the Worldwide Partner Award recipient for donating eight business class tickets and raising \$1,500. This award is given for the biggest auction effort by a donor company based outside the USA.

Visit the website to participate in the 2012 travel auction:
KidsFirstAuction.com



Andrew Chang, Director of Marketing Strategy and Loyalty for AirTran Airways, poses with an award painted by a Latvian child.





























AIRBALTIC FREQUENT FLIERS CONVERT POINTS TO CASH

BalticMiles is the frequent flier program associated with Latvia's airBaltic. Members of the program may spend points on airline travel, merchandise, hotel stays, and more. But the most kid-friendly members donate points to the airline, and airBaltic converts these points into cash. During 2011 the Kids First Fund received \$365 due to the generosity of program members and the airline. Thank you, travelers, for thinking of children in Latvia and Moldova!



TRIPLE THANKS FOR THE US BANK FLEXPERKS CARD

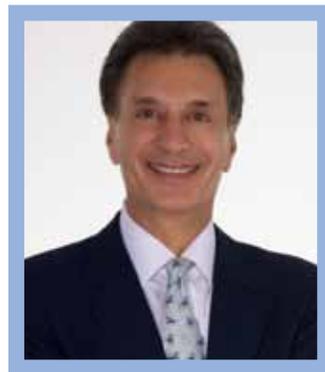
US Bank FlexPerks Visa cardholders accrue points when they use their card. Bob Daly, senior vice president of marketing, and the US Bank team generously offered triple points for cardholders making donations to the Kids First Fund. During the 4th quarter of 2011 approximately 335,000 cardholders received a brochure which included news of the special offer (see image). As noted earlier in the financial section of this report, online donations reached a record level this year. Triple thanks to Bob Daly and the US Bank team for including the Kids First Fund as charity partner . . . and we should add this was done at zero expense to us.



“He believes the Kids First Fund fills a crucial role to help disadvantaged and abused children in Latvia.”

HAMID LADJEVARDI JOINS THE BOARD

Hamid Ladjevardi, a resident of the US and Latvia, joined the board of directors during 2011. He was introduced to the organization by Latvia-based board member Irma Kalnina who recognized Hamid as an exceptional candidate for board membership. The board agreed and unanimously elected him as a director in September.



Hamid brings abundant skills, contacts, and passion to the Kids First Fund.

He is an international finance expert and was a former vice president with Morgan Stanley & Company. His roots are in Iran where the family business was banking and insurance, real estate development, construction and building materials, textiles, consumer goods, mining, distribution, and global trading operations. He was an early advocate for the Baltic region through investment projects that began in 1991. Hamid was the co-founder and the manager of the general partner of Baltic Fund 1 LP – the first and longest running private equity fund in the Baltics, which was established in 1994. Currently he is the manager of American Baltic Investment. The firm identifies sources of capital and develops investment projects in Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania. Hamid is also co-chair of the US-Baltic Foundation, which promotes democracy, free markets, and cultural exchanges.

The convergence of these interests, along with the importance he places on child development, made Hamid a natural choice for the Kids First Fund board. He believes the future of a civilization is tied to caring for children and instilling values that will carry them throughout their lives. He believes the Kids First Fund fills a crucial role to help disadvantaged and abused children in Latvia. Hamid sees a future for the organization that has it helping even more children in a fundamental and long-lasting way. You could say he's a long-term investor.

The arts are a continuous presence in his life. His daughter Adella is the grants manager at Cinereach, a N.Y. based non-profit production company and foundation that champions vital stories, artfully told, while daughter Lilly is the founder of MuseRadio.fm. The website creates custom music soundtracks for the hospitality industry, and curates live and programmed music for the art and entertainment world.

Hamid is very involved with art and culture in Latvia and in the US. He was a trustee of the Zimmerli Art Museum in New Jersey. Currently he is organizing the US premiere exhibition of the paintings of “Important Contemporary Artists of Latvia” which will be held at the National Arts Club in New York City, the Latvian Embassy in Washington DC and the Driehaus Museum in Chicago.

Hamid, thank you for making children a priority and for joining the board of the Kids First Fund.

“My involvement with Kids First quickly connects me to those in need.”

BOARD MEMBER SNAPSHOT: JEFF PATRIAS

This report introduces what will become an annual tradition – the board member snapshot. Jeff is pictured below with his son Jeffrey.

Joined board: 2000

Family: Tressa (wife) and kids Jeffrey (age 15), TJ (age 18), and Brittany (age 20).

Residence: Eagan, Minnesota, USA

Current profession: Vice President, Marketing Services for Thomson Reuters – the world’s leading source of intelligent information for businesses and professionals.

Favorite activity or destination: Skiing out west (where I’m writing these answers) and being with family and friends at our lake cottage in Wisconsin.

What interests you about the KFF mission? Fulfilling the need to help kids . . . if not for Kids First, it would go unsupported. The countries we support lack these basic needs. My involvement with Kids First quickly connects me to those in need.

Where do you see us 5 years from now? I see the Kids First Fund focusing on its core mission of supporting education on sexual abuse and molestation in a broader manner to the core communities we serve. This includes establishing additional ways to support or operate facilities for young people in need.

What is the most important thing we do? Creating awareness through education.

What is your 3 sentence pitch to a friend about why they should donate? The Kids First Fund is an organization that supports those who need protection and helps to educate those who can protect them. It’s an incredible organization in that the money raised and efforts made go directly to support our shelter facility in Latvia and to education programs. Your money has a direct impact. On top of it all, Jay Sorensen is a silver tongued, handsome devil.



YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Bahlman, Treasurer (Neenah, Wisconsin)

Stuart Benzal, Director (Chicago, Illinois)

Nicolae Besliu, Director (Chisinau, Moldova)

Rogers Grigulis, Director (Riga, Latvia)

Jason Handal, Vice President (Mequon, Wisconsin)

Arturs Irbe, Director (Washington, DC)

Irma Kalnina, Director (Riga, Latvia)

Hamid Lakjevardi, Director (New York City and Latvia)

Jeff Patrias, Director (Eagan, Minnesota)

Sharon Polk, Director (Lenexa, Kansas)

Jay Sorensen, President (Shorewood, Wisconsin)

United Nations Representatives

Jay Sorensen and Stuart Benzal are designated representatives to the Economic and Social Council at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

Rogers Grigulis, Irma Kalnina, and Nicolae Besliu are the designated representatives to the Economic and Social Council at the United Nations headquarters in Geneva and Vienna.



About the Kids First Fund

The Kids First Fund helps abused and abandoned children.

We protect children from abuse. We empower young adults with a positive future. We strengthen families. We build awareness of child abuse. We operate in countries where resources are very limited. Current projects provide support for children in Latvia and Moldova. The Kids First Fund supports programs to educate child welfare professionals such as police officers, judges, social workers and prosecutors on child abuse issues. Direct assistance is also given to centers providing care for abused children. The Kids First Fund does not incur any expenses since all staffing and services are donated. The organization has been granted special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

SPECIAL THANKS

This annual report is courtesy of the services contributed by Amy Thomas, who operates field|works, a graphic design firm in Shorewood, Wisconsin.

Hosting and updating of the KidsFirstFund.org website is donated by Matthew Frederick, who operates DigitalPerceptions.com, an interactive web media development firm in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

SWISS International Air Lines and airBaltic generously donate travel for board member trips to Latvia and Moldova. Parking is provided by the **Hilton Garden Inn Chicago O'Hare Airport**. All official trips rely on corporate donations and are otherwise self-funded by board members.

LEARN MORE AND DONATE ONLINE

KidsFirstFund.org

Write to us at:

The Kids First Fund
1916 E. Kensington Blvd.
Shorewood, WI 53211, USA

Telephone:

414/961-1939

