

Week of September 21st - September 25th



Be Kind Online launches September 28th!

In partnership with [iKeepSafe](#), Beyond Differences is proud to offer **BeKindOnline**, a technology campaign for kids that teaches them how to build and maintain healthy relationships online and in person! Go to WeAreKindOnline.com to learn more!



Our 2015 Teen Board Retreat was a great success! Our 50-member Teen Board of Directors learned even more about leadership and mentoring during a weekend in the Marin Headlands!

Guest speakers included **Christina Harbridge**, CEO of Allegory Inc, who led the students through a FANTASTIC public speaking workshop. **Maura Vaughn**, Branson School Theater Director taught storytelling skills for our popular assembly program. Terra Linda High School teacher **Keith Fleming** spoke on the importance of taking a stand for something you believe in and workshops by Beyond Differences Staff **Naomi Elvoe**, **John Finefrock** and **Chrissy Hight** made for an educational weekend that has prepared our Teen Board for the year ahead!



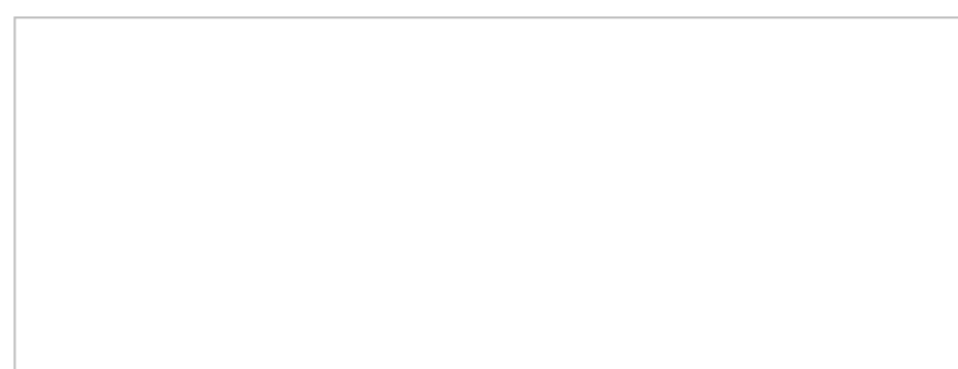
Kiara, Rose, & Andrew



Teens Leading Teens

Tyler and **Kelly** from our Teen Board led Miller Creek Middle School's first Leadership Academy Training Program (LATP) meeting!

In addition to leading icebreakers, helping students get to know each other, Tyler and Kelly also prepared Miller Creek students to lead our upcoming **Be Kind Online** initiative on their campus!



Beyond Differences on KTVU-TV!

Watch members of our Teen Board of Directors as they plan for Be Kind Online and talk about their work in local middle schools!



The Teen Board is fundraising! We are teaching our kids to become philanthropists and representatives so we can continue to offer schools our programs **free of charge**.

For our parents: We listened to feedback from last year's fundraiser and moved this campaign to raise \$12,500 earlier in the school year. It has a few new twists: Each Teen Board member is asked to raise \$250 with no single contribution higher than \$50. **The golden rule is and they can't ask their parents!**

Specifically, these funds will go towards paying for materials for our **Be Kind Online** initiative which is always offered free of charge! If you have any questions, [please contact our co-founder & Executive Director Laura Talmus](#).

A Brave Heart: The Lizzie Velasquez Story

Beyond Differences is highlighting this film, soon to be released by [Roco films](#).

A Brave Heart follows the inspiring journey of 26 year old, 58 pound Lizzie from cyber-bullying victim to anti-bullying activist. Born with a rare syndrome that prevents her from gaining weight, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Velasquez was first bullied as a child in school for looking different and, later online, as a teenager when she discovered a YouTube video labeling her "The World's Ugliest Woman." [Click here for showtimes in your area.](#)



Upcoming Events

- Sunday, October 4, 4:00pm - 6:00pm **Monthly Teen Board Meeting** (mandatory attendance) 711 Grand Ave Suite 200 (Bay Building) San Rafael, CA
- Wednesday, October 7, 6:00pm - 8:00pm, **Young Authors Showcase**, Book Passage of Corte Madera, 51 Tamal Vista Blvd, Corte Madera, CA [Click here for flyer](#)
- Saturday, October 10, 6:00pm - 10:00pm **Shifting Gears Gala & Auction**, benefiting Beyond Differences, [Click here to learn more](#)

Thank you!

We would love to host parent volunteers in the office! If you have any feedback for us, please email me directly.

With deep respect,

John Finefrock

Director of Student Programs, Beyond Differences

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