

BEYOND DIFFERENCES™

Our Mission

Inspire students nationwide to end social isolation and create cultures of belonging for everyone.

Student-Led

Young people have the power to change the world & believe that we should celebrate our differences instead of allowing them to divide us.



Our Inspiration

Founded by Laura Talmus and Ace Smith. The organization began in 2010 to honor the life and memory of their daughter, Lili Rachel Smith (1994-2009).

National Programs

KNOW
YOUR
CLASSMATES™

Fostering inclusion based on identity, culture, and diversity

NO
ONE
EATS ALONE®

Eliminating social isolation at lunchtime in 2700+ schools

BE KIND
N
LINE™

Teaching students about how online behavior impacts them



OUR REACH

8500+
schools in the US

50
across all 50 states

3.5
MILLION
students globally



IT WORKS!

2019 Research Study Results at 10 NYC Public Schools

88%
of students said Beyond Differences had either a substantial or huge effect on their campus

84%
of students said they were more aware of the consequences of their actions due to Beyond Differences

85%
of students said they felt like more of a leader as a result of Beyond Differences

87%
of school administrators said Beyond Differences contributed substantially to youth voice, leadership, & awareness of social isolation