

## **Acts of Kindness Day Message: A Kinder, Gentler Rio Rancho**

In a world where discourtesy, confrontation, and bullying are becoming the norm in public discourse, there is a better way – and Rio Rancho can become part of the solution by choosing to be a welcoming, kind, and courteous community.

That’s the message of the fifth annual Acts of Kindness Day, co-sponsored by the Rio Rancho Public Schools Anti-Bullying Committee and City of Rio Rancho. The event will be held Saturday, October 27, 12 PM to 3 PM at Haynes Park on NM 528 across from Intel. Lots of fun and informative family activities are in store, including:

- An opportunity for businesses and organizations to promote ways in which their employees/ members have given back to the community
- Booths from all Rio Rancho public schools where they demonstrate how they are contributing to the community
- Musical performances by a variety of RRPS performing groups
- Children’s games and activities
- Food booth with hamburgers and hot dogs for sale at a very reasonable rate
- A “chain of kindness” where participants can write down something kind they did for someone on a strip of paper which will become a link in the chain
- A pledge booth where participants can write down a pledge of something kind they plan to do for someone else
- Guest speakers, and more!

The goal of Acts of Kindness Day is simple: to get people to think about how they treat one another, to reject violence, bullying, and discourtesy, and to encourage a culture of civility in our community. The event draws its inspiration from Rachel’s Challenge, a program which urges teens to reject mean and bullying behavior and strive for an atmosphere of kindness, inclusion, and compassion in schools. Rachel’s Challenge is named in honor of Rachel Scott, one of the students killed in the Columbine High School shootings in 1999.

For further information contact the Rio Rancho Public Schools Office of Student Services at 896-0667 ext. 51129.