



Prevent Together Newsletter

September 2024

Leadership

Susan Kennedy, *President*

Pam Clasgens, *Vice President*

Katie Hanna, *Immediate Past President*

Together We Can Prevent Child Sexual Abuse



SEATTLE OR BUST...

We are so excited to see so many of you in Seattle in just a couple of weeks!

Here's what to look forward to:

Two full days packed with great presentations from top experts and researchers on a wide range of topics related to CSA prevention. Additionally, we have time planned for strategic planning for the Coalition's near future and a deeper dive into the National Plan and how we can all further impact the field by utilizing the plan more. We also have some fun time built in and plenty of opportunities to network with fellow members!

Breakfast and lunch will be provided both days thanks to the generosity of two of our members, Committee for Children and the Children's Trust Fund Alliance. Also, Committee for Children will be hosting a reception at the end of Day 1 at their office, and after Day 2, you are all welcome to join for a group dinner outing (location TBD) if you'd like.

You can expect an email soon with the full agenda and other details about the annual meeting. If you have any questions about the email, agenda, or meeting, please reach out to our Operations Manager, Stacy Vaughan at admin@preventtogether.org.

For those who can't join us, please know that we will miss you all. But, we are going to livestream the presentations, so watch your email for more information about Zoom links and times!

The purpose of this eNewsletter is to provide members of the National Coalition to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse & Exploitation with quarterly updates on trends, issues, studies, and work being done in the field of child sexual exploitation prevention. The material highlighted in the eNewsletter is for information purposes only and does not constitute our endorsement of the content or any person or entity identified therein. Although we use reasonable efforts to provide accurate information, we do not make any warranties, express or implied, or representations as to the accuracy of content in this newsletter. If you believe you are receiving this email in error or would like to unsubscribe from this service, please email: PreventTogether@gmail.com.

Symbols of the National Plan!

Throughout the Prevent Together Newsletter, the National Plan Pillar icons are featured in the top right corner of each post. Use this key to help you get more familiar with the National Plan and the work of our members!



PILLAR 1:
Advocacy &
Policy



PILLAR 2:
Awareness &
Education



PILLAR 3:
Collaborative
Practices



PILLAR 4:
Funding &
Capacity



PILLAR 5:
Organizational
Policies &
Practices



PILLAR 6:
Research

Help Spread the Word About the Coalition!

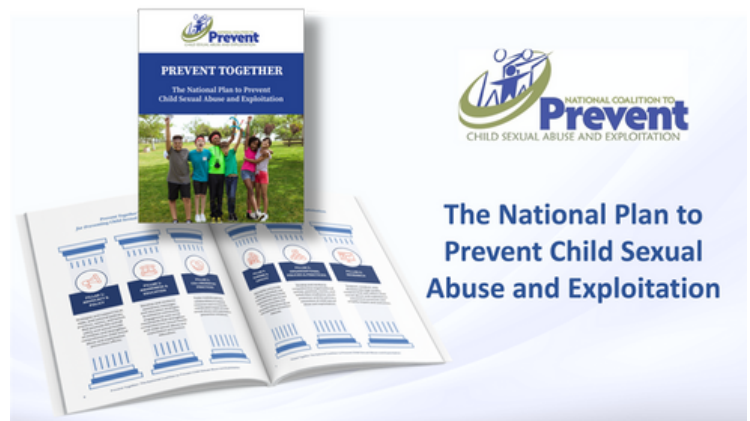
Now that our new website is LIVE (www.preventtogether.org), there are a couple things members can do to help raise awareness about the Prevent Together Coalition and the National Plan.

1 – Help expand our LinkedIn presence.

- Follow us on LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com/company/preventtogether. Like and share our page, posts, and National Plan with your own LinkedIn network (organizational and personal).
- Add your Coalition membership/affiliation to your organization and/or personal LinkedIn profile(s).

2 – Share your Coalition affiliation on your website.

Share your membership status on your personal or organizational website using this graphic and this (or similar) text.



Proud member of Prevent Together – The National Coalition to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation. Visit www.preventtogether.org to view and download The National Plan to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation.

*"True prevention is not waiting for bad things to happen, it's preventing things from happening in the first place."
—Don McPherson*

Darkness to Light Actively Seeking Spanish Facilitators

Darkness to Light will be piloting the Spanish version of Stewards of Children, our flagship prevention training, later this fall and then preparing to roll it out nationally in 2025.



If you or your organization are interested in learning more about what it means to be a facilitator of our Stewards of Children curriculum, please reach out to *Tracy Leonard* at tleonard@d2l.org. If you are interested in learning more about the Spanish version of the training and potentially being a pilot organization, please reach out to *Rhonda Newton* at rnewton@d2l.org.



The Spanish version of Stewards of Children is based on our 5 Steps to Protecting Children and our Three Empowerment Skills, but it is culturally relevant to the Latine community. It focuses on cultural considerations that drive Hispanic parents, caregivers and providers to make prevention-based decisions.

Help Us Identify Gaps in Child Sexual Abuse Prevention

Connect to Protect Kids is a nonprofit focused on developing programs and resources to protect children and youth from sexual abuse, exploitation, and trafficking, as well as online, peer, and other types of interpersonal violence.



We are seeking input from prevention professionals across the U.S. to determine where gaps may exist in the field and determine the need for prevention resources and strategies to help support organizations and communities in their efforts to safeguard children.



We invite National Coalition members to participate in our survey, which will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. Your responses will remain confidential and will be used solely for the purpose of improving prevention efforts and addressing critical gaps.



Survey Link: https://oregon.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aahleRsdRpXcdlq. Please feel free to share the survey link with your wider professional network.

Thanks so much for sharing your time and expertise. It's very much appreciated.

From Coalition members: Stacy Vaughan, Connect to Protect Kids; Tiffany Sawyer, Georgia Center for Child Advocacy; Mary Ratliff, Protect Our Children; Melissa Bright, Center for Violence Prevention Research



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Catching Up with NSVRC

Relevant Blogs:

- [In-Flights Sexual Assault is on the Rise](#)
- [National award honors Dr. Alissa Ackerman and Casey Ballinger](#) for outstanding contributions to preventing sexual abuse, assault, and harassment



respect
together

Not A Number: An Anti-Trafficking Curriculum for Youth

[Not a Number](#) is an interactive, five-module prevention curriculum designed to equip youth, ages 12-18, with the knowledge and skills to safeguard themselves from human trafficking and exploitation. The curriculum provides a space for youth to learn the various ways people exploit and traffick others while emphasizing healthy boundaries, potential red flags for trafficking, and the importance of reducing risky behaviors.



Not a Number also discusses the importance of digital safety, including the potential harms AI can have in developing relationships with people online, and helps youth find local resources. The curriculum was developed with diversity, equity, and inclusion in mind to help youth understand how certain marginalized populations are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking and exploitation and is highly informed by those with lived experience.

Youth-serving professionals can be trained to use the curriculum in a 3-day facilitator certification training (FCT) hosted by Love146.

To find upcoming trainings, go to our website [HERE](#) or email us at notanumber@love146.org.

LOVE146
END CHILD TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION

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It's Time To Do More For Wanda

At the Democratic National Convention last month, we learned about a girl named Wanda.

Vice President Kamala Harris addressed the issue of child sexual abuse in her acceptance speech and how it was instrumental in her desire to fight for justice and to become a prosecutor. She shared a story about her best friend in high school, Wanda, and how her friend found the courage as a teenager to share that she was being sexually assaulted in her home by a family member. This was the first time ever that the ugly issue of child sexual abuse has ever found its way into a presidential acceptance speech.

Thousands of child advocates across the country know about Wanda, too. And so do the estimated 39 million Americans living today who have experienced childhood sexual abuse. Research forewarns us that without serious policies to prevent child sexual abuse and to hold abusers accountable, an estimated 10% of all children may experience some form of sexual misconduct or abuse before their 18th birthday. Many will suffer from the traumatic and often lifelong physical, emotional, and social consequences.

Highlighting the problem in a nationally-televised political speech was well overdue. But as we know, the power of words—whether in a campaign speech, by corporate executives, or promises from lawmakers—is hollow without real action. The story of Wanda cannot die after the applause of a passionate acceptance speech and the closing of a presidential national convention. Without the muscle of intentional action, Wanda's message will fade. We cannot let it. Real change must happen at every level of our civil society—from national and state government leaders to concerned parents and citizens in every community.

So, what can we do? [Click here to learn more!](#)

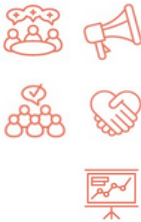


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Important Updates from Zero Abuse Project

Zero Abuse Project is a national non-profit organization dedicated to creating a world where all children are free from abuse and sexual assault. We use an approach of education, training, prevention, and response to affect societal, organizational, and individual change by working with a diverse group of prosecutors, law enforcement, social workers, forensic investigators, k-12 schools, colleges, faith communities, parents and, of course, children.

In our continued efforts to bridge the faith and child protection communities, Zero Abuse Project is honored to announce the launch of our new Center for Faith and Child Protection (CFCP) program this September! CFCP will serve as a resource to both religious and secular communities alike by providing a trauma-informed response to the spiritual impact of abuse, and offer assistance to investigators and prosecutors, promote continuing research, implement spiritual care services, and so much more. Learn more at www.zeroabuseproject.org/CFCP



In addition, we are thrilled to have been chosen as the recipient of federal funding from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services to measure the effectiveness of the body safety curriculums that we provide to schools in Minnesota. Offered through our Jacob Wetterling Resource Center, the “Expanding Child Abuse Prevention” (ECAP) project will test the impact of K-12 curricula through real-world delivery in classrooms, followed by student evaluations to measure the effectiveness of the information. ECAP will begin later this year and run through summer of 2025, with the ultimate goal of providing crucial prevention education to students across Minnesota, and ensuring school is always a safe place for learning.

Learn more about all our programs and events at www.zeroabuseproject.org/events, and follow us on social media and our mailing list at www.zeroabuseproject.org/join for all the Zero Abuse Project updates you need to know!

Prevention Global Points the Way to Scalability (ft. WhatsOK)

Over the last decade, we’ve seen a major uptick in efforts to prevent child sexual abuse before it happens. But we’re still not moving far enough, fast enough—which means there is vast potential to boost our impact at scale. To do this, we need to know on which risk factors to intervene. We need to assess the best ways to prevent abuse at scale. And we need to act with speed.

Prevention Global has partnered with a team of scalability experts from MSI to assess 13 different perpetration prevention programs— in schools, in clinics, or online, and targeting children or adults.

The Scalability Report contains over two dozen findings and recommendations that show how we can redouble our efforts and present a direct challenge to leaders in policy, practice, and funding.



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New research on school-based prevention education for children with IDD

Abstract: Youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) are at significantly higher risk of experiencing multiple types of interpersonal victimization across their lifespan compared to their peers without IDD. Despite the extensive literature on efficacy of prevention education programs for children without IDD, very little is known about comparable programs for children with IDD. In this scoping review, we synthesized the literature on existing programs for children with IDD. We identified thirteen programs which we critically assessed against established best practice criteria for prevention and special education and evaluation. The current literature on prevention education programs for children with IDD exhibits significant limitations, such as weak research designs and poor measurement of outcomes.



Contact us for a copy of the full study or download a free summary of the paper (and others) here:
<https://www.scienceofviolence.org/research-portfolio/idd>



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