Child Sexual Abuse Prevention

Sexual abuse can be prevented.

It is the responsibility of all adults in our communities to protect children from CSA.

Change the focus to **safeguarding** children and the **prevention** of child sexual abuse by adults, institutions and organizations rather than reacting to incidents when they occur.

HOW: Organizations providing and mandating:

- safe child policies and practices in child-serving organizations
- training of employees and volunteers
- developing codes of conduct
- screening prospective employees and volunteers
- reporting and responding appropriately to boundary violations and suspected or disclosed cases of child sexual abuse.

What North Carolina can do:

- Create protective environments for children by improving safety and monitoring in schools, youth-serving organizations, family serving organizations, and sports organizations
- Mandate and fund the prevention of institutional CSA through safeguarding policies in organizations that serve children.
- Provide and require evidence-informed CSA prevention education.

North Carolina can prevent CSA through funded initiatives rather than unfunded mandates. With funding, we can implement initiatives that provide evidence-informed CSA prevention education.

- Prevention in Youth Serving Organizations (a2awisconsin.org)
- Preventing Child Sexual Abuse in Youth-Serving Organizations: Creating Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships and Environments |Violence Prevention|Injury Center|CDC
- preventingchildsexualabuse-a.pdf (cdc.gov)
- Abel GG, Jordan A, Harlow N, Hsu YS. Preventing Child Sexual Abuse: Screening for Hidden Child Molesters Seeking Jobs in Organizations That Care for Children. Sex Abuse. 2019 Sep;31(6):662-683. doi: 10.1177/1079063218793634. Epub 2018 Aug 16. PMID: 30112969.
- Kaufman KL, Erooga M, Mathews B, McConnell E. Recommendations for Preventing Child Sexual Abuse in Youth-Serving Organizations: Implications From an Australian Royal Commission Review of the Literature. J Interpers Violence. 2019 Oct;34(20):4199-4224. doi: 10.1177/0886260519869239. PMID: 31488027.
- https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2022-058879

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