

# DARKNESS to LIGHT

### **ABOUT DARKNESS TO LIGHT**

Darkness to Light (D2L) is a national nonprofit organization that provides individuals, organizations, and communities with the tools to protect children from sexual abuse. Using an evidence-informed platform, D2L programs teach adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.



#### WHO WE SERVE

Children are the ultimate beneficiary of what we do. We seek to provide all children with the opportunity to grow up healthy and happy, with their sexual boundaries intact. In this endeavor, D2L enlists the support and assistance of concerned adults in communities across the nation and globe, including:

- Educators in public and private school settings
- Staff and volunteers in youth serving organizations
- Staff and infant/youth workers in faith centers
- Students enrolled in youth serving degree plans at higher learning institutions
- Parents and caregivers

#### WHAT WE DO

Darkness to Light offers a variety of child-protective programs, including:

- 5 Steps to Protecting Our Children™, a blueprint for preventing child sexual abuse.
- Stewards of Children\*, a prevention program for adults that increases knowledge, improves attitudes, and changes child-protective behaviors. This program is available online or through a facilitator-led session.
- *Partner in Prevention*, a designation available to organizations that implement child protective policies and provide Stewards of Children training to all volunteers and staff who work with children.
- *Prevent Now!*, a model of community engagement that provides the tools for building and sustaining community prevention efforts.
- 866-FOR-LIGHT, a help line supported by a network of trained information and referral systems throughout
  the country. This crisis line routes callers to a referral service in their community where they can get
  information and support services.

#### WHY WE DO IT

We believe that learning the facts about child sexual abuse helps prevent it. Talking about it helps prevent it.

Getting involved helps prevent it. The truth is, if child sexual abuse can be prevented, it can be stopped.

By joining forces as communities, by choosing to actively protect children, by working together —

we can end child sexual abuse.

#### ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

D2L's *Stewards of Children* child sexual abuse prevention program continues to help communities achieve breakthroughs in child protection. Notable achievements and awards include:

- Nearly 6,000 authorized program facilitators in all 50 U.S. states and 16 additional countries.
- Over 500,000 adults trained in *Stewards of Children* prevention education.
- Recognition as a model program by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).
- A \$300,000 fund established by The Redwoods Group, the primary insurer of YMCAs throughout the nation, to integrate *Stewards of Children* training within Ys and the communities they serve.
- A USA Gymnastics initiative using D2L resources to promote a safe environment for young athletes.
- Over 25,000 teachers trained in 2009-2010 in cooperation with the South Carolina Department of Education
   — the first state-wide educator focused prevention program in the country.
- 600 Texas teachers trained on August 21, 2013, as part of an ongoing initiative spearheaded by The Children's Assessment Center of Houston, YMCA of Greater Houston, and the City of Houston Mayor's Office, representing the largest single-day training of its kind.

#### LEARN MORE ABOUT D2L

For more information about D2L programs and education, visit www.D2L.org, or e-mail Stewards@D2L.org.

Join the movement to end child sexual abuse! Visit www.D2L.org/Join for more information.







## THE 5 STEPS

WHAT IT TAKES TO PROTECT CHILDREN

- 1. Learn the Facts
- 2. Minimize Opportunity
  - 3. Talk About It
- 4. Recognize the Signs
- 5. React Responsibly

#### THE FOUNDATION

Making Choices - Taking Risks - Supporting Each Other