Guided by the vision of a world where children can grow up happy, healthy, and safe, Darkness to Light is committed to empowering people to prevent child sexual abuse. We believe that protecting children is an adult’s responsibility, and that through education and training, adults will be empowered to act.

WHAT IS STEWARDS OF CHILDREN®

Stewards of Children® is an evidence-informed, award-winning two-hour training that teaches adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. Through interviews with child sexual abuse survivors, experts, and treatment providers, Stewards of Children® teaches adults practical actions they can take to reduce instances of child sexual abuse in their organizations, families, and communities.

RESEARCH

Stewards of Children® is the only evidence-informed, adult-focused child sexual abuse prevention training in the United States proven to increase knowledge and change behavior. Numerous studies have shown that Darkness to Light’s prevention education works and evidence-informed training can change child protective behaviors. Studies include:

- A Center for Disease Control funded study conducted by the National Crime Victims Research Center that found that Darkness to Light’s training changes and strengthens adult child-protective behaviors.

- Data compiled in South Carolina by noted researcher Dr. Elizabeth Letourneau of Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, suggesting citizens trained in the Stewards of Children® program report previously unrecognized abuse at a higher rate than in other communities

- A study conducted in Texas that found educators trained using the Stewards of Children® program increased their reporting of previously unrecognized abuse by 82% in the year following training.

GET INVOLVED

Visit www.D2L.org or email Stewards@D2L.org to learn more about Stewards of Children®, see where it is being offered in your state, or find out how you can offer training to your organization or community.

If you are a victim or survivor seeking resources or information, please call our nationwide helpline at 866-FOR-LIGHT or text LIGHT to 741741 to talk to a trained counselor 24/7.