



# BUILDING HOPE TODAY

We are a nonprofit preventing child sexual abuse (CSA).

Our six core values are :

Awareness – Education – Collaboration – Justice – Safety – Hope

## OUR WHY

- 1/4 girls and 1/13 boys are sexually abused.
- 93% are abused by someone they know.
- Stranger danger is **not** the main issue.
- 86% of children will **never** tell anyone.
- Of those who tell- **94%** of offenders walk free to offend again with **no accountability**.
- 70% of offenders harm 1-9 children, 20% harm 10-40 children, and 10% harm more.
- The average age of disclosing abuse is 52.

## IMPACTS OF CSA

- An Inability to trust, low-self esteem, self-blaming, inability to problem solve and cope with stress, impulsivity, and self-harm.
- A higher risk of depression and PTSD, plus anxiety, eating, and personality disorders.
- A greater risk of misusing alcohol and drugs.
- And more likely to misuse substances from a young age as ways of coping.
- 2-3 times more likely to be revictimized.

## WHY DO SO MANY OFFENDERS WALK FREE?

- 94% of offenders walk free by using grooming tactics to control victims' silence. Grooming is deliberately establishing an emotional connection with a child to prepare the child for sexual abuse. The resulting shame and fear of not being believed causes victims' delayed disclosure.
- When 14% of people (young and old) share that they were abused as a child, law enforcement and prosecutors usually say there's no "hard" physical evidence, no eyewitnesses, no crime scene, no confession, and no offender cooperation. "We believe you, but there's no case."
- Some even ask, "Why did you wait so long to report?" as they don't understand grooming.

## KEYS TO CONVICTION

- We provide tactical training and technical assistance to multidisciplinary teams who identify, investigate, and prosecute child sexual abuse crimes. We focus on rural jurisdictions with no Special Victims Units.
- Our approach is a shift in mindset for teams to see corroborative "soft" evidence exists in the seven stages of grooming.
- This squashes "delayed disclosure" and "he-said-she-said" defenses to secure conviction "beyond a reasonable doubt."

## WHAT'S NEXT?

- We're adapting our nationally-renowned training on grooming and delayed disclosure for community members to keep children safe. Every child deserves this.
- We'll continue to teach our methodology to multidisciplinary teams. More children are reporting and more offenders are being held accountable - so they can't harm again.
- We're developing an online, on-demand platform to train as many as possible.
- We're making a difference - please join us.