

1 in 10 children will be sexually abused before age 18. Join us – together we can protect children!



## PARTNERS IN PREVENTION

Welcome to the Partners in Prevention E-Newsletter, the official newsletter of the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Coalition of Northeast Florida (CSAPC). Our goal is to educate members, facilitators, and concerned community members with information about events, resources, articles and more. Together we can protect the children of Northeast Florida. Thank you for your support!

[Visit our Website](#)

### Mission: Possible a Big Success!

Our inaugural Mission: Possible awareness event was held on February 4th at the duPont Center in downtown Jacksonville. Individuals and organizations from all over Northeast Florida gathered to support our mission of protecting children by preventing child sex abuse. Dena Thompson, founder of The Somer Sunshine Foundation, told her heart-breaking and inspiring story and spoke about the importance of spreading awareness and learning about child sexual abuse. Facilitators were also recognized for their efforts to prevent child sex abuse by facilitating Darkness to Light, *Stewards of Children*, trainings.

Our goal to train 50,000 adults in Northeast Florida, to protect children with the *Stewards of Children* prevention program was also announced.

Thank you to Children's Safe Passage and the Monique Burr Foundation for Children for sponsoring the event! And thank you to YMCA of Florida's First Coast for hosting the event!



*Coalition members: Dena Thompson of the Somer Sunshine Foundation, Stacy Pendarvis of the Monique Burr Foundation, and Mike Williams of Children's Safe Passage*



*Amanda Sheroff, Coalition Facilitator*

### Upcoming Events

#### Facilitator Training, March 11

If you are interested in becoming a facilitator for the Darkness to Light, *Stewards of Children*, prevention training program, please join us on March

11th at the duPont Center, downtown Jacksonville for an all-day training! [Click here](#) to register online. The fee to become a facilitator is \$450 payable to Darkness to Light, a national non-profit organization.



## Community-wide, Darkness to Light, Training Sessions

First Coast YMCA and Jacksonville Children's Commission are hosting several Darkness to Light, *Stewards of Children*, training sessions open to the community. The fee is only \$10/person for a workbook. For a list of trainings at Jacksonville Children's Commission, [click here](#). For a list of trainings at YMCA, [click here](#). Register online and join our mission to protect children!

## Connecting the Dots Child Abuse Prevention Luncheon & Conference, April 20

Join us at this educational conference hosted by the Exchange Club Family Center of Northeast Florida. CSAPC will have a vendor table at this event to spread awareness about our mission as we gather with the others in the community in an effort to end all types of child abuse. For more information about this powerful event, or to attend, go to [www.exchangeclubfamilycenter.com](http://www.exchangeclubfamilycenter.com).



**YMCA OF  
FLORIDA'S  
FIRST COAST**

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## Facilitator Spotlight

Facilitators are dedicated individuals who volunteer their time to train adults to prevent child sexual abuse using the Darkness to Light, *Stewards of Children*, program. Every facilitator is essential for the CSAPC and our mission to protect children, by training others to prevent child sex abuse. We'd like to recognize our Facilitator of the Month, Diena Thompson, for training over 300 people with the *Stewards of Children* program!



*Diena Thompson, facilitator and founder of The Somer Sunshine Foundation*

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## Welcome to our new Program Manager!

A big welcome to our new Program Manager, Mercede New! Mercede was recently hired to oversee and expand CSAPC's efforts and effectiveness. A graduate from the University of Florida, she has worked in the non-profit field for over 10 years, with a focus on youth development. "Helping youth grow in a positive environment, not one filled with hurt or pain, is a mission I take very seriously." says New.

We are excited to have Mercede on our team to help bring awareness to our mission of protecting children from sexual abuse!



## Learn More About CSAPC

The mission of the CSAPC is to prevent child sexual abuse with an unprecedented prevention movement using the Darkness to Light, *Stewards of Children* program to empower adults in Northeast Florida with the awareness and knowledge to protect children.

Darkness to Light (D2L) is a national, nonprofit organization whose mission is to end child sexual abuse. *Stewards of Children* is a 2-hour prevention program created by D2L, that teaches adults how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.

CSAPC consists of coalition members, facilitators, and concerned citizens advocating to prevent child sex abuse. For more information on how to become a member, or to host a *Stewards of Children* training led by one of our facilitators, visit [www.csapc.org](http://www.csapc.org)

DID YOU KNOW?

**ONE IN 10** CHILDREN  
WILL BE SEXUALLY ABUSED  
BEFORE AGE 18.

LIKE AND SHARE

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THE CHILD SAFETY CENTER

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