An Ounce of Prevention

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The key to preventing (the) exploitation and victimization of children... is education.

-Don Wood, Founder of Child Watch North America

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

-Benjamin Franklin
My Background

- 1990-1996  Various children's programs (during high school and college)
- 1996-2000  Creek View Elementary (1, 2)
- 2000-2004  Family Connection (ages 12-17)
- 2004-2006  Upward Bound/University of Montevallo (10-college)
- 2006-2010  Helena, Calera, and Valley elementary schools (1, 2; 1-5)
- 2010-2012  Mountain Brook Junior High (8, 9)
- 2012-2014  Pelham High School (11; 9-12)
- 2014-Present Helena Elementary & Intermediate schools (2-4; 2-5)
Observations

The issue of bullying has grown in concern and awareness. “Mean girls” are now present in elementary schools. The methods and vehicles for bullying have changed over the years. Social media has created a platform for anonymous bullying, revenge bullying, etc., by some who might not otherwise act in this manner.

This age of technology and entitlement has created a generation of children whose babysitters and playmates include YouTube, Instagram, and online gaming. Children are more exposed and parents are often less connected due to various factors.

The prevalence, accessibility, and ever-changing variations of drugs heighten this issue.

Sexuality is embedded in pop culture (language, commercials, music, fashion, social media, etc.) and has assisted in the decline of self-worth in girls of all ages.
My personal experiences with victims of human trafficking...
"That doesn't happen here."
"They are too young to understand."
Not so...

Guntersville soccer coach accused of sexual abuse, human trafficking waives preliminary hearing

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (WHNT) – Guntersville High School volunteer soccer coach David Barrow has waived his preliminary hearing, sending his case to the grand jury.

David Barrow was arrested on May 9, shortly after coaching the Guntersville High School girls’ varsity team at the State soccer semifinals in John Hunt Park.

Barrow faces three counts of sexual abuse 1st degree and one count of human trafficking 1st degree, according to jail records obtained by WHNT. Kristian Griffin was also arrested in connection to this case, and is facing charges for conspiracy to commit sexual abuse of a child less than 12.

Another suspect arrested in Homewood human trafficking case

HOMEWOOD, Ala. (WHNT) - Another suspect has been arrested in connection to a case of human trafficking at a Homewood hotel, according to the Homewood Police Department. The victim in the case was the daughter of the two female suspects. Homewood police arrested Krystal Austin on Tuesday, March 11, 2014, and charged her with human trafficking.

Homewood police arrested Kimber Anderson, 25, and her mother, Adriana Anderson, 51, both of Birmingham, on Thursday, March 13. The Homewood Police Department sent out a warrant that was served on Tuesday and Thursday, when the women returned to Homewood. Anderson and Austin were both charged with two counts of trafficking and one count each of sexual abuse of a child under 12 human trafficking, promoting prostitution and facilitating travel of a child for purposes of prostitution.

The arrests come as a result of an investigation into a complaint of possible child abuse reported by the relationships, a group of human trafficking victims in Homewood. During the investigation, Homewood Police Department discovered that a child under 12 was sexually molested by a 25-year-old Homewood resident. The victim was drug addicted, according to the police, and it culminated in the arrest of the child's mother and grandmother.

March 11, the police obtained a warrant for the arrest of Kimber Anderson, 25, of Birmingham. He was arrested on March 11 and charged with two counts of trafficking, sexual abuse of a child under 12 human trafficking and trafficking in a child for an overlaid sex act. The US Attorney's Office is currently considering the case.

Greenville Woman Arrested In Federal Sex Trafficking Case

By Robert Cox
Published: October 30, 2015, 3:43 pm

29 people in 13 cities in eight states were arrested, including one woman in Greenville, during a sex trafficking sweep at a network of illegal brothels. 46-year-old Amanda Landeros Garcia is currently being held at the Greenville County Detention Center. She was arrested during ‘Operation Safe Haven.’ Thursday. 15 potential human trafficking victims from across the southeast United States were identified.
What is needed for schools to join the fight of prevention and rescue?

- Awareness
- Support
- Time
- Resources
- Additional legislation (?)
- Clear guidelines for reporting
SUPPORT
## Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance State Model for Alabama Public Schools (State Plan) - 2003

### Guidance Curriculum Scope and Sequence Chart (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERSONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN</th>
<th>K-2</th>
<th>3-5</th>
<th>6-8</th>
<th>9-12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>STANDARD B:</strong> Students will make decisions, set goals and take necessary action to achieve goals.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Competency PS: B1 Self-knowledge Application</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS:B1.1</td>
<td>use a decision-making and problem-solving model</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS:B1.2</td>
<td>understand consequences of decisions and choices</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS:B1.3</td>
<td>identify alternative solutions to a problem</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS:B1.4</td>
<td>develop effective coping skills for dealing with problems</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS:B1.5</td>
<td>demonstrate when, where and how to seek help for solving problems and making decisions</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS:B1.6</td>
<td>know how to apply conflict-resolution skills</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS:B1.7</td>
<td>demonstrate a respect and appreciation for individual and cultural differences</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS:B1.8</td>
<td>know when peer pressure is influencing a decision</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS:B1.9</td>
<td>identify long- and short-term goals</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS:B1.10</td>
<td>identify alternative ways of achieving goals</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS:B1.11</td>
<td>use persistence and perseverance in acquiring knowledge and skills</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS:B1.12</td>
<td>develop an action plan to set and achieve realistic goals</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>○</td>
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</table>

**STANDARD C:** Students will understand safety and survival skills.

| Competency PS: C1 Acquire Personal Safety Skills | | | | |
| PS:C1.1 | demonstrate knowledge of personal information (telephone number, home address, emergency contact) | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| PS:C1.2 | learn about the relationship between rules, laws, safety and the protection of rights of the individual | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| PS:C1.3 | learn about the differences between appropriate and inappropriate physical contact | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| PS:C1.4 | demonstrate the ability to set boundaries, rights and personal privacy | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| PS:C1.5 | differentiate between situations requiring peer support and situations requiring adult professional help | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| PS:C1.6 | identify resources people in the school and community, and know how to seek their help | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| PS:C1.7 | apply effective problem-solving and decision-making skills to make safe and healthy choices | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| PS:C1.8 | learn about the emotional and physical dangers of substance use and abuse | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| PS:C1.9 | learn how to cope with peer pressure | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| PS:C1.10 | learn techniques for managing stress and conflict | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| PS:C1.11 | learn coping skills for managing life events | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ |
Erin’s Law

Governor Robert Bentley signed the enactment on June 11, 2015.

"Erin's Law requires local school boards to adopt guidelines for a child sexual abuse prevention instructional policy, training for Grades K-12 educators on recognizing and avoiding child sexual abuse, and an age-appropriate curriculum in public schools on child sexual abuse prevention education."

Dr. Thomas R. Bice,
State Superintendent of Education
January 22, 2016

http://www.erinslaw.org
http://www.erinmerryn.net/
AWARENESS
Professional Development

- Alabama Human Trafficking Summit (January/February)
- ALSCA workshop: Critical Issues for Alabama Schools (September)
- Presentations around the state by members of The Alabama Human Trafficking Task Force, local task forces, The WellHouse, etc.
- Presentations by local or state Department of Human Resources staff - Examples:
  - DHR staff at school counselor training sessions
  - ALSCA workshop (John James and Freida Baker-state office)
  - Mandatory reporter interactive training: http://training.dhr.alabama.gov/
Online Resources

- www.sharedhope.org
- www.polarisproject.org
- www.endslaverytn.org
- www.slaverymap.org
- www.doctorsatwar.org
- www.acf.hhs.gov
- www.fbi.gov
- www.dhs.gov
- www.notforsalecampaign.org
- www.soroptimist.org/
- www.stoptrafficking.in/
- www.thea21campaign.org
- www.humantrafficking.com
- www.humantraffickingsearch.net
- www.stopenslavement.org/
Empowering (and educating) them from early ages

Establishing and maintaining trust

Establishing and maintaining open lines of communication

Helping them find and use their voice

Modeling and expecting respect/value for others and self

Expressing value that is not limited to physical attractiveness

Using language that is respectful; removing disrespectful and desensitizing words and activities from language and culture
Children's Advocacy Centers

- Great example: Shelby County Children's Advocacy Center-Owens House
  - Provide safety instruction for K-3
  - Program can be an enhancement of an elementary school's safety lessons
- Other programs and resources may be available through your local CAC
Personal safety

"Scooper": Scoops up kids, takes them away from their families, and tries to hurt them; can look like anyone

Intro to cyber safety

Encourages conversations with parents/guardians

http://www.juliacookonline.com/
Elementary/Intermediate

* Personal safety
  "Kid trapper": Traps kids into doing things they don't want to do

* Addresses CSA; students' reflections may bring up recent news reports related to HT

* Encourages conversations with parents/guardians

http://www.juliacookonline.com/
Middle/High/Adults

- Shared Hope website has many resources
- *Chosen* is a complete program (documentary, session plans, discussion questions, PPPs, handouts, etc.)
- Materials for student and adult groups, separated or co-ed groups
- Available in English, Spanish, and Gang Edition versions

http://sharedhope.org
Blanket Fort Hope

- **Vision:** BFH is a fortress of safety for child victims of human trafficking, forging a path of purpose and hope for our children.

- **Mission:** Our mission is to love and care for child trafficking victims through housing, services, and long-term commitment, and to prevent children from becoming victims by educating children, and professionals who work with children, about human trafficking.

- BFH is currently assisting with resources and developing a free awareness video (to be posted on website), supported by Leadership Shelby County, Shelby County DA Jill Lee, and others.

- **Short-term projection:** To offer first intake by the end of 2016

- **Long-term projection:** To offer long-term housing for children with a family by 2017

The WellHouse

http://the-wellhouse.org

YouTube: WellHouse Saves

Google search: Tajuan McCarty
America’s Daughters (Video)

April, 2014

Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery where people profit from the control and exploitation of an estimated 21 million men, women, and children globally. Victims of sex or labor trafficking in the United States include individuals coerced into the commercial sex trade, domestic workers threatened with severe abuse in a home, agricultural workers held by violence or debt, and more. Each one of these victims deserves our support. And each one has a different story to tell.

America’s Daughters is a powerful piece of spoken word written and performed by a female survivor of sex trafficking. Through her words, we gain a brief glimpse into the unbelievable exploitation so many people have endured while yearning for what we all need: love. This woman’s brave decision to speak out also demonstrates the remarkable resilience of the survivors Polaris Project

http://polarisproject.org
Google search: Theresa Flores

TEDxColumbus 2011 - Theresa Flores - Find a Voice with Soap
23,885 views
Uploaded on Nov 18, 2011 - Theresa's passionate advocacy for one of the most vulnerable segments of our society is inspired by her own horrifying experience. As she introduces you to a world far beyond your mind's reach, she'll show it can really be found next door. And how one answer to it all might be found in a tiny bar of soap.

Category  Nonprofits & Activism
License  Standard YouTube License
Alabama Human Trafficking Task Force

GET HELP. Report a Tip.
Call: 1-888-373-7888
Text: HELP to BeFree (233733)

http://www.enditalabama.org/
GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING
(Per consult with DHR)

- If there is a concern regarding trafficking of a minor, contact DHR or law enforcement. DHR and law enforcement have a working agreement known as the Multi-Disciplinary Team Protocol which outlines a partnership and coordinated response to these type cases.
  - If DHR receives the call first, DHR will contact law enforcement.
  - If law enforcement receives the report first, law enforcement will contact DHR.

- Typically, the Director of the Child Advocacy Center is the Coordinator of the County Multi-Disciplinary Team.

- DHR issued policy in February 2016, stating that each County MDT is to include minor sex trafficking in the current MDT protocol.