



Safe Kids Thrive

A website of the Massachusetts Legislative Task Force on the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse

In many cases, child sexual abuse is preventable. With the right tools, we can stop abuse before it happens. The Massachusetts Legislative Task Force on the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, a public-private collaboration of 28 offices, agencies, and child-and-youth-serving organizations, released a report with guidelines to help child-and-youth-serving organizations develop and implement prevention-focused policies and programs that stop abuse before it happens.

What is SafeKidsThrive.org?

A website that builds on the report and a series of statewide community forums to bring those child sexual abuse prevention guidelines to life in a user-friendly way, including customizable planning tools and learning modules. The Task Force's combined years of experience, extensive outreach, and consultation with child-and-youth-serving organizations led to the development of this site, which is intended to make it easier for YSOs to prevent child sexual abuse.

Who should use it?

All organizations that serve children and youth should use this website to develop a child sexual abuse prevention plan. The flexibility of the website allows different types of organizations to find guidance and resources appropriate for their organization. For example, a small, locally-owned dance studio will need different policies and procedures than a multi-site after school program.



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Child sexual abuse prevention is not one size fits all. Each organization is unique, and their safety needs are unique. This website is designed with this in mind.

Learn more at safekidsthive.org



How does it work?

In addition to customizable planning tools, SafeKidsThrive.org brings to life digestible learning modules, including:

- **Policies and Procedures:** a comprehensive framework that builds and maintains an environment in which the safety of children and youth is primary
- **Code of Conduct and Monitoring:** guidelines and policies defining the expected behaviors, actions, and interactions of all adults who interact with minors
- **Recognizing, Responding, and Reporting:** strategies and tools to ensure that all adults working with children and youth can identify and report instances of abuse
- **Safe Physical Environments and Technology:** strategies that ensure interactions with children and youth are monitored, and guidelines regarding the use of social media and technology
- **Screening and Hiring:** guidance regarding background screenings to recruit qualified staff and volunteers and screen out those who have or are at risk to abuse minors
- **Training:** clear and attainable goals and essential elements for child sexual abuse prevention trainings
- **Sustainability:** organizational, cultural, and leadership strategies to enhance implementation, oversight, and long-term success



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