

Sex Trafficking of Minors in Florida's Schools

Hillsborough Community College Dale Mabry Campus, Tampa, FL.

Sept. 14, 2018 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

8:30 – 9:00 WELCOME REMARKS

Introductions by **Dr. Allen A. Witt**, HCC Campus President.

Hillsborough County Sheriff Chad Chronister and **Hillsborough County Schools Superintendent Jeff Eakins** will welcome attendees, represent a unified voice for CSEC victims by stressing the need for awareness and prevention in all communities and among all professions but particularly in schools. Children attend school an average of 6 to 7 hours a day and for 175-180 days a year, making educators frontline caregivers, but victims of commercial sexual exploitation who attend school often go undetected.

Hear from students **Makayla Hildebrand**, Founder of the Priceless Youth Movement and **Grace Ramos**, with the Girls Scout of West Florida on their initiatives at fighting human trafficking.

9:00 – 9:45 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Since 1984, **National Center for Missing & Exploited Children**[®] has served as the national clearinghouse and resource center for families, victims, private organizations, law enforcement and the public on issues relating to missing and sexually exploited children. **Megan Clark** joined NCMEC's Child Sex Trafficking Team nearly six years ago and has worked as an analyst and case manager. She has provided specialized technical assistance, analysis and recovery services on child sex trafficking cases; as well as worked with law enforcement, families, and social services on missing child cases, specifically those that involve child sex trafficking. Megan will speak on ***Child Sex Trafficking: Scope of the issue, NCMEC resources and Role of Educators.***

9:45 – 10:45 IDENTIFYING VICTIMS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

Erin Wirsing, Devereux Delta Program. According to [Shared Hope](#), the #5 venue where pimps find their victims is in schools. While explaining the connection between **Sex Trafficking, Pornography and Demand**, speaker will teach attendees how to recognize potential trafficking situations, identify victims, advocate for their return to safety, and refer them to appropriate resources for healing.

(Break: 10:45 – 11:00)

11:00-12:15 PREVENTION PROGRAMMING: WHAT IT CAN LOOK LIKE IN THE CLASSROOM

Michelle L. Gaines, DOE Student Support and Academic Enrichment Director will discuss existing tools and resources being used to help educate school personnel, students and other stakeholders. Florida districts and schools have elected to tackle this important subject although the legislation did not pass. This session will spotlight some of the initiatives spearheaded by school-based anti-trafficking advocates statewide. A few of the onsite exhibitors will be showcased.

12:15 – 1:15 LUNCH & LEARN (Lunch Sponsored by Devereux, FL.)

Anti-trafficking organizations will occupy exhibitor tables to share their prevention programs for elementary, middle, and public high schools. Speak with the experts and understand that teen sex trafficking prevention programs are not sex education courses; rather, curricula that empowers students and teaches them how to stay safe from the predatory and deceitful tactics of sex traffickers. "I AM A LITTLE RED" will screen in the Cafeteria during lunch.

1:15 – 1:45 THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PROTECTING FLORIDA'S YOUTH

The 2014 HB 7141, current and other past anti trafficking legislation and statutes that protect our youth will be shared. **Bethany Gilot**, DCF Statewide Human Trafficking Prevention Director, **Katherine Gomez**, DJJ Human Trafficking Director and **Dotti Groover Skipper**, Anti Trafficking Director for the Salvation Army, will discuss **Florida's Human Trafficking Statewide Council** and the importance of collaboration and prevention and how all agencies have a responsibility in protecting our youth.

1:45 – 2:30 PREVALENCE

Over the past decade, FBI agents around the United States have partnered with state and local law enforcement to recover thousands of children who have been forced into prostitution through the **National Human Trafficking Initiative**. FBI Special Agent, **Greg Christopher**, and Pasco County Sheriff's Office Corporal **Alan Wilkett**, will explain the Initiative, the Florida statistics, the collaboration involved and the much needed victim centered approach to recover these victims.

2:30 – 3:30 UNDERSTANDING THE VICTIM MINDSET - A victim's incredible story of survival

"Stolen Youth: When Sex Trafficking Comes to School." **Diena Cannavino**, a survivor of child sex trafficking, is a passionate advocate for freedom. She is the Vice-President of Bikers Against Trafficking.org and is also the Business Manager and Primary Addiction Therapist at Sojourners Recovery and Wellness Center located in Lake Mary, Florida. Diena will share her personal journey of resiliency and transformation from years of childhood sexual exploitation that started in elementary school and continued through high school. **Edie Rhea**, founder of Healing Root Ministries and a conqueror of childhood sexual abuse and human trafficking, will be joining Diena following her presentation to form a panel and answer your questions on "How does sex trafficking come to school?"

(Break: 3:30 - 3:45)

3:45 – 4:45 UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND VIDEO GAMES IN SEX TRAFFICKING

Detective **Andrea Hughes**, Major Crimes Division- Sex Crimes Unit, Tampa Police Department will discuss how innocent young people are being targeted, recruited, and groomed through social media sites like Facebook, KIK, Instagram and Snapchat. The #4 venue where pimps find their victims is on the internet. Even with parents closely monitoring their children's computer activity, youth have access to smartphones that seamlessly connect to hidden apps where sex traffickers lurk. Marketers, pimps, and predators understand this is fertile ground for recruitment of vulnerable youth into a life of commercial sexual exploitation. Learn their tactics.