Stewards of Children

TARGET AUDIENCE

This program is delivered to staff and volunteers at schools and other youth organizations, parents, and concerned adults and is designed to impact providers, parents, adults, and youth.

SUMMARY

Stewards of Children®, a community-based program, is designed to train and empower participants to prevent, identify, and respond to child sexual abuse.

EVIDENCE

Short-term results from a randomized trial delivering the in-person and online versions of the program indicate that the intervention group demonstrated greater gains in knowledge and greater increases in preventive behaviors, compared to the wait-list group, with no differences between modes of delivery.

COMPONENTS

Stewards of Children intends to increase the proficiency and confidence of participants to prevent child sexual abuse and respond with skill if they encounter abuse and change child protective behaviors over the long-term. The program is based on Darkness to Light's 5 Steps to Protecting Our Children™:

- Learn the Facts - Recognize that 1 in 10 children will be sexually abused before they turn 18, and more than 90% of sexually abused children are abused by someone the child or family knows.
- Minimize Opportunity - Understand that over 80% of child sexual abuse occurs when children are alone with adults or other youth.
- Talk About It - Hold open conversations with children about sex, boundaries, and staying safe.
- Recognize the Signs - Learn the emotional and behavioral changes that are common signs of child sexual abuse.
- React Responsibly - Report suspected abuse and intervene when boundary violations occur.

The program is available in English and Spanish and can be implemented using an in-person or online format. A trained facilitator delivers the program curriculum in a group setting using a DVD and leads discussions to highlight program content from the video. Participants receive a workbook that contains the curriculum. The online version of the program includes the video and workbook and allows participants to proceed through the material at their own pace.

PREVIOUS USE

The program has been delivered to more than 1,000,000 adults.
Stewards of Children

TRAINING

The in-person version of this program is led by certified facilitators who must complete a 1-day, off-site training workshop. An on-site workshop may also be arranged. Cost for both training options is $450 per person. Please use details in the Contact section for more information.

CONSIDERATIONS

Considerations for implementing this program include recruiting facilitators and ensuring they receive training, acquiring participant buy-in, understanding that this program addresses sensitive topics, locating space to hold the session and technology to play the DVD, and ensuring that participants have access to a computer if completing the online version of the program.

The Clearinghouse can help address these considerations. Please call 1-877-382-9185 or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu

IMPLEMENTATION

If you are interested in implementing Stewards of Children, the Clearinghouse is interested in helping you! Please call 1-877-382-9185 or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu

This program is conducted as a single 2-hour group session or as a self-paced online intervention.

Information on implementation costs was not located.

EVALUATION PLAN

To move the Stewards of Children program to the Promising category on the Clearinghouse Continuum of Evidence, at least one evaluation should be performed demonstrating positive effects lasting at least one year from the beginning of the program of at least six months from program completion.

The Clearinghouse can help you develop an evaluation plan to ensure the program components are meeting your goals. Please call 1-877-382-9185 or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu

CONTACT

Contact the Clearinghouse with any questions regarding this program.
Phone: 1-877-382-9185 Email: Clearinghouse@psu.edu

You may also contact Darkness to Light by mail 1064 Gardner Road, Suite 210, Charleston, SC 29407, phone 1-843-965-5444, fax 1-843-571-0902, email Stewards@D2L.org, or visit https://www.d2l.org/about/contact/

SOURCE