

Project Safe Childhood

How to get involved

Project Safe Childhood (PSC) works to stop sexual exploitation crimes against children through the internet.

PSC calls for a comprehensive effort—by law enforcement and non-law enforcement partners—to increase awareness about these dangers to children, to educate parents and children about Internet safety, to identify and help children who may have been victimized, and to build communities in which America's youth can thrive without parental fear of sexual abuse and exploitation.

Clubs also can work with the 46 Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Forces, made up of state and local law enforcement agencies. The ICAC Task Forces investigate offenders who use computer technology to sexually exploit children. Find a state contact at www.icactraining.org or <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/about/icac.html>.



Below is a list of ways your club can get involved. Clubs can get more details on any of these ideas at www.nationalexchangeclub.org; under Program of Service, Child Abuse Prevention. You can also visit the PSC website: www.projectsafefchildhood.gov.

Parents

Parents can be the eyes and ears of law enforcement by reporting any suspected illegal activity or behavior against children. Parents can also educate themselves on the dangers their children face and in maintaining a safe home internet environment.

Schools

While the internet is a valuable educational tool, schools must also teach children about online dangers. Many schools have developed or adopted educational programs focusing on internet safety for their students, however, many have not. Local PSC partners can identify areas and schools that do not currently have programs in place and assist these schools in creating or adopting programs.

Youth organizations

In many instances, children and teens respond better to messages received from peers. PSC partnerships can provide resources to youth organizations, such as Boys and Girls Clubs, and Boy and Girl Scouts.



Community organizations

Community-based organizations are, by their nature, established to provide a public service to the community. They provide a variety of resources through community outreach programs. They are a good resource for law enforcement in their effort to educate children and parents on dangers the internet can pose to children in the community.

Local businesses and business organizations

Local businesses are important partners in any community. Many businesses serve as good stewards to their community by investing in community programs and initiatives. It is a natural partnership for businesses and law enforcement to work together to invest in the safety of the children in the community.

Faith-based organizations

A faith-based organization is in a unique position when dealing with a child victim, as well as with the families of those victims. PSC partners should consider providing relevant information to these organizations.

Media

PSC partnerships should seek ways to engage media outlets in furthering the goals of PSC, such as through public service announcements.



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