



APRIL 2023

PATH EDUCATION

Internet Safety and Sexting

Carrying on our education feature from the March newsletter regarding internet safety, this month we've chosen to focus on sexting, particularly among teens.

According to the Cyberbullying Research Center - "As of July 1, 2022, 23 states in the U.S. do not have laws specific to teen sexting. Our research shows that approximately 14% of middle and high school students have sent explicit images to others, while about 23% have received similar images from others. Likewise, a 2022 meta-analysis of 28 studies published between 2016 and 2020 found that 19% of youth had sent and 35% had received explicit messages (some of these studies broadly defined sexting to include images and text). Taken together, this shows that a non-negligible number of teens are participating in sexting." [Cyberbullying Research Center](#)

While teens may consider sexting harmless, Culture Reframed is concerned with sexting in the bigger context of introducing pornography into teens' everyday lives because pornography has become so mainstream in recent years. Read the full article here: [Culture Reframed](#)

Do you know what your teens are viewing or sending on the internet? Our friends at Enough is Enough offer tips to help parents.

5 Tips to Help Parents Protect Kids from Sexting:

1. Talk to your kids about what they are doing online and outline the risks. Talk to your kids about sex and relationships in the offline and online world.
2. Make sure your kids understand that messages or pictures they send over the Internet or on their cell phones are not truly private or anonymous. Also make sure they know anyone can--and often will--forward their pictures of messages to others. (Ask your daughter what her boyfriend will do with those pictures once they break up). And check up on what your kids are posting online.
3. Know who your kids are communicating with online and via cell phones: Do your best to learn who your kids are spending time with online and on the phone by checking their IM buddy lists, social networking friends and

mobile device address/contact list.

4. Consider placing limits on electronic communication. Check out the parental controls offered by your mobile provider. Many mobile carriers offer family plans that allow you to limit the amount and type of text messages your kids can send. Also disable attachments on text messages.
5. Set expectations: Make sure you are clear with your teen about what you consider appropriate behavior online and through text.

[Enough Is Enough](#)

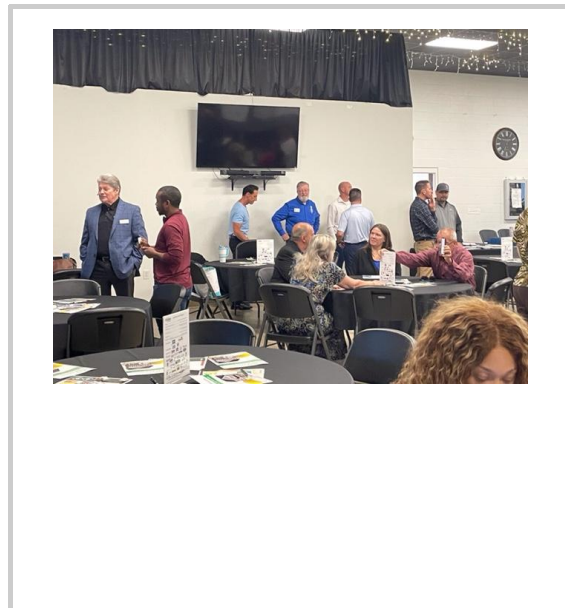
PATH IN THE FIELD

Visit [PATH's website to schedule your FREE training today!](#)



PATH Treasurer, Dr. Theresa Hayden, was privileged to be the program speaker at the April 2023 luncheon of the Bullitt County Chamber of Commerce. There were over 120 business owners and government officials in attendance. This is the 2nd year PATH has been invited to participate in a monthly chamber luncheon.

Dr. Hayden had the opportunity to educate the business community on human trafficking and how to recognize it during their daily business dealings.



PATH AND YOU

Did you know the public health emergency declaration surrounding COVID19 ends on May 11, 2023? For those of you who work for organizations which

support underserved populations, getting any of your clients vaccinated or tested will most likely result in a cost for those clients.

In Louisville, Family Health Centers, in conjunction with the Kentucky Nurses Association, is offering COVID vaccination clinics through May 30 **FREE OF CHARGE**.

The Kentucky Nurses Association, in conjunction with Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness, offers **FREE OF CHARGE** COVID testing through June 30, 2023.

Please help us spread the word. If you or anyone you know needs a vaccine or test please check out the schedule of FREE events [HERE](#)

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[PATH Coalition of Kentucky | Website](#)

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