



May 2024

PATH EDUCATION

KIDS ONLINE SAFETY ACT (KOSA) AND SUNSETTING SECTION 230 OF THE COMMUNICATIONS DECENCY ACT

With Mental Health Awareness Month behind us, there is the opportunity to make progress on protecting our children online. You may be familiar with a number of studies which link social media use to a decline in mental health as well as how online activity is used as a predatory practice by trafficking groomers, peer bullies and even family members or close friends.

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation shared some potential good news on this front and asks for the public's help in getting national legislation removed and the KOSA passed.

Section 230, Communications Decency Act:

In 1996, Section 230 of The Communications Decency Act was passed by Congress to help provide an innovation-friendly environment on the internet by shielding tech from liability for the actions of its users. But the law has been exploited by Big Tech companies, who have used it to avoid accountability and guard their profits at the expense of our children. Section 230 has transmuted into a cancer that has plagued the online ecosystem—it has become the greatest enabler of sexual exploitation.

This outdated, harmful law urgently needs to be revisited, and now Congress has come to recognize it. This is why Hon. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) and Ranking Member Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) have introduced bipartisan draft legislation to sunset Section 230.

If this sunset bill is passed, Section 230 would be rendered inactive after December 31, 2025, which would allow victims to hold Big Tech accountable for the spread of illegal CSAM on their platforms.

As Reps. McMorris Rodgers and Pallone wrote in a WSJ OpEd "Meaningful changes will ensure these companies are no longer able to hide behind a broadly interpreted law while they manipulate and profit from Americans' free-speech protections. Updating Section 230 will empower parents, children and others who have been exploited by criminals, drug dealers and others on social-media platform."

If you have a Wall Street Journal subscription, read the full story [HERE](#)

Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA):

The Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA) has taken the next big step forward in the House of Representatives, advancing out of the House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce by a voice vote! Now, the bill will advance to the full Energy & Commerce committee for a vote.

This is unprecedented progress for legislation governing online child protection—Congress has not passed legislation to keep children safe online in 25 years!

But now, both Democrats and Republicans are standing united on the Kids Online Safety Act, which now boasts 69 co-sponsors in the Senate and 15 co-sponsors in the House.

Read more about KOSA [HERE](#)

Use the button below to make your voice heard in Washington!

Contact your Representative NOW

May was another busy month with PATH out in the community educating a group of meeting professionals and two groups of young people looking to make a change for their communities.



On Monday, May 20, current board secretary, Dr. Deb Young and incoming board vice chair, Dr. Theresa Hayden presented to meeting and event planning professionals at **Meeting Professional International's World Education Congress**.

Their session was entitled **Myth**



PATH was invited to table at **502 Change Fest: an Event by Youth, for Youth**, held at the Beechwood Community Center. Incoming board vice chair, Dr. Theresa Hayden and board member, Dra. Patricia Bautista-Cervera met with over 100 young change makers to educate them on the dangers youth today face which makes them susceptible to trafficking in all its forms.

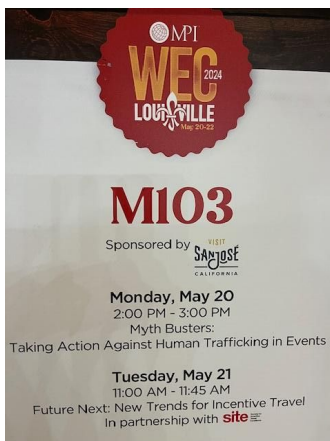
The members of the Neighborhood Youth Board (NYB) at The Book Works designed and implemented 502 Change Fest. According to

Busters: Taking Action Against Human Trafficking in Events. A group of approximately 40 meeting planners and meeting industry suppliers leaned in to learn about the depths of trafficking in the hospitality industry.

We appreciate Meeting Professional International's Anti-Trafficking Committee inviting PATH to participate in this industry leading conference and allowing us to have a table in the Marketplace in order to spread the word to those who were unable to attend the session.

Mychia Walker, NYB member, "this mission started after our Neighborhood Youth Board team of eleven young people (age 13 to 21 years) received Narcan training. Our team was left very intrigued and activated to figure out how we could share this resource with more youth and address other issues that young people experience in their communities. At the end of that meeting, an idea was sparked about having an event for youth that would focus on the different things they felt like youth may need regarding their safety, health, and awareness around issues they may be experiencing."

The 502 Change Fest was designed to connect all youth in the community with resources and youth serving organizations that focus on harm reduction, youth safety, and youth mental health, while also making all youth aware of some of the types of issues they may see in their community.



Assumption High School students' service project wins \$1000 grant for PATH

A group of 4 Assumption High School students wanted to create a service project which would help educate their fellow students on human trafficking. The students reached out last December with the following message: "The Lead4Change project is a service project to bring awareness to an issue we are passionate about. We are working on an educational

campaign to bring awareness to human trafficking and we would like to highlight your agency."

Incoming board vice chair, Dr. Theresa Hayden and project lead contractor, Jaime Thompson, met with the student group and their leader to assist the project. PATH was informed in mid-May that the students' efforts received a grant from Lead4Change and PATH would be the beneficiary of that grant.

PATH is very grateful to these Assumption High School students. We appreciate your support and your investment in educating your peers!

PATH IN THE BOARDROOM

PATH took the opportunity to meet in person for our May board meeting since Dr. Debra Young was in town to speak at the MPI Conference. You may remember the board has been working on strategic planning for the last few months.

We are excited about the opportunities ahead and making sure PATH is ready for the future. Our new slate of officers will take over on July 1.

One opportunity the board has been working towards is building the membership of this valuable organization to encompass different backgrounds, life experiences and educational interests in human trafficking. Look for some new board members to join our ranks this summer and be on the lookout for more information on our upcoming projects.



PATH AND YOU



Save The Date

Give For Good, sponsored by the Community Foundation of Louisville, will be held on **Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024**. PATH will once again be participating in this day long fundraising event. You don't have to be

local to Louisville to participate so tell your friends and colleagues to save the date as well. More information to come over the next few months.



PATH is pleased to announce we are a beneficiary of the Kroger Community Rewards program. Please consider selecting PATH Coalition of KY as your community rewards recipient and PATH will receive a % of your shopping purchases over the course of the year. It's easy to set up and costs you nothing more than a few minutes of time.

Follow instructions here: [Kroger Community Rewards Instructions](#)

or

Sign in to your account at kroger.com, go to My Account, Select Community Rewards from the left hand menu, search for PATH Coalition of KY, click Enroll.

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