



SEPTEMBER 2023

PATH EDUCATION

Jefferson Juvenile Summit, Aug. 30

by Naomi Deeds, MSSW student

At the end of August, Jefferson District Court Chief Judge Jessica Moore and Judge Anthony Jones, presiding over the juvenile court in Jefferson County, hosted the first Jefferson Juvenile Summit. Court partners, mental health providers, juvenile-based community programs, and more, were invited to introduce themselves and their programs or services. Having witnessed the positive impact that such organizations can have in the life of at-risk youth, the judges' goal was to facilitate conversations of what can be done to ensure a safe and healthy life for every child that encounters Jefferson County courts.

Judge Jones expressed gratitude to attendees for their commitment to the children of the community and his anticipation for continued efforts to collaborate, communicate, and make Louisville a safer city and a better place for everyone to live. Representatives then introduced their organizations and the programs or services they had to offer. Organizations who were represented included Aetna, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Home of the Innocents, Jewish Family and Career Services, Job Corps, Metro United Way, Seven Counties Services, The Book Works, The Brook Hospital, UofL Peace Hospital, Volunteers of America, YMCA, and more, including PATH.

PATH was represented by Naomi Deeds, MSSW candidate at the University of Louisville and PATH practicum student under supervision of Dr. Theresa Hayden. In addition to informing attendees about the educational opportunities PATH offers, Naomi highlighted the vulnerability of all youth, particularly those in the juvenile justice system or foster care, to human trafficking and exploitation. Youth are also vulnerable to the power and control systems and organizations have over them. As figures of authority, individuals involved in those systems and organizations can model healthy relationships and communication to the youth they serve.

Youth want genuine care and concern for their well-being, something that can be easily forgotten in the systems they are involved in. Part of genuinely caring for youth includes knowing what human trafficking and sexploitation look like and how to talk about it with youth. PATH shared this message with attendees and

encouraged everyone to be educated on the reality of human trafficking.

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's Into the Cloud series in Spanish

"Into the Cloud" is an innovative online resource designed to empower children, families, and educators with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate the digital world safely and responsibly. In addition to this engaging animated series developed as part of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's NetSmartz program, educators and families can access interactive activities and resources that cover a range of online safety topics.

With the new Spanish version, the NCMEC aim to extend its reach and impact within Spanish-speaking communities, enabling more families and educators to have open conversations about online safety in their native language.

Families and educators can look forward to:

- **Comprehensive Content:** Just like the original version, the Spanish version covers essential topics such as cyberbullying, online privacy, social media, and more.
- **Interactive Learning:** Engaging activities and videos make learning about online safety both informative and fun for children and adolescents.
- **Educator Resources:** Teachers and parents can access supplemental materials, lesson plans, and discussion guides to facilitate meaningful conversations about online safety.
- **Parental Guidance:** A dedicated section for parents provides tips, advice, and resources to help them navigate the digital world alongside their children.
- **Customizable Workshops:** The Spanish version offers the flexibility to organize workshops and presentations for schools, community centers, and other organizations focused on Spanish-speaking audiences.

You are encouraged to explore the Spanish version of ["Into the Cloud"](#). We are confident that this resource will be an invaluable tool in promoting online safety awareness among your community.

Community Policing Dispatch Highlights Importance of School Resource Officers

In a recent edition of its e-newsletter, The Community Policing Dispatch, The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) discussed the critical role school resource officers (SROs) play in combating human trafficking. The article included information about what human trafficking is and what it looks like, how SROs are uniquely positioned to help combat the crime, and how the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign is educating the public, law enforcement, and other industry partners to recognize and respond. COPS also provided a list of additional anti-human trafficking awareness resources.

Read "DHS Blue Campaign: SROs Play a Critical Role in Combating Human Trafficking" [here](#).

PATH IN THE FIELD



PATH's treasurer and secretary, Dr. Theresa Hayden and Debra Young, presented Human Trafficking 101 to over 100 educators at the WV Adult Education Association Conference in Charleston, WV, Sept. 13-15, 2023. The WVAEAC provides professional development opportunities for adult educators and their partners.



On September 27th, PATH was again asked to present to WellCare employees. WellCare is a health plan provider throughout the Commonwealth and this was PATH's third presentation to them since 2021. We appreciate WellCare having PATH treasurer, Dr. Theresa Hayden, present Human Trafficking 101 to over 25 employees in Lexington at its Fall Conference.



PATH AND YOU

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



THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who donated to PATH during Give for Good on Sept. 14th. This is our largest fundraiser during the year and thanks to your generosity we raised over \$2300. Special thanks to former board member, Mariela Ramirez, who provided \$1000 in matching funds so that everyone's donation was doubled.

We appreciate you and we can't thank you enough!

A special thanks to the Community Foundation of Louisville for having PATH on its Facebook livestream during Give for Good day on the 14th. Kim Becker, PATH social media/marketing coordinator, was interviewed by Community Foundation of Louisville staff about PATH's goals for Give For Good day exposing PATH to a large audience during the day.



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