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Child Abuse Prevention Program (CAPP)

The Child Abuse Prevention Program is offered to schools, daycare facilities, camps, community organizations and others to teach child safety, abuse recognition and abuse prevention. Its lessons are available to children, parents, educators and other professionals free of charge.

Children, ages three to nineteen, are taught in a safe and non-threatening manner designed to entertain and inform. Programs are presented using a sensitive, developmentally-appropriate approach. Children receive certificates, coloring books or activity books to take home. The interactive multi-media presentations last from 20 to 45 minutes and offer opportunities to learn and practice safety skills which aid in safe guarding children from potentially dangerous situations. These presentations have the following objectives:

Safe Touch Plus Program (20 minutes) - Preschool (Age three+) and Children with Special Needs

- To show the private body parts using dolls
- To distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate touch
- To learn and practice response skills

Safe-Touch Program (30 minutes) - Kindergarten – First Grade (Ages four to six)

- To distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate touch
- To learn and practice response skills
- To identify tricks of potential abusers
- To understand that there are no good secrets about abuse
- To introduce the concept that sexual abuse is not their fault

Safe-T Program (45 minutes) - Second – Third Grade (Ages seven to nine)

- To identify and trust instincts and feelings
- To assure children that sexual abuse is not their fault
- To distinguish between a happy secret and a secret about abuse
- To understand that sexual abuse can occur even with people they know and trust
- To promote assertive responses when safety is in question
- To reinforce their right to body safety.
- To learn effective communication skills with which to report unwanted touching
- To identify people who can help

Safe-Teen Program (45 minutes) - Fourth – Sixth Grade (Ages ten to twelve)

- To listen to their feelings and act on them
- To recognize physiological responses when in danger
- To identify tricks and secrets that abusers may use
- To understand that sexual abuse can occur even with people they know and trust
- To learn effective communication skills with which to report unwanted touching
- To continue to reinforce the concept that sexual abuse is not their fault
- To identify people who can help

Parent Forum (45 minutes) – For parents who have children participating in CAP Programs

- To preview the programs their children will be seeing
- To seek a deeper understanding of the children's programs curriculum
- To learn more about the sexual development of children
- To know how to respond to a disclosure of abuse
- To enhance their general child safety content knowledge

The Child Abuse Prevention Program to date has served over 300,000 children, parents, educators, and other professionals. With the support of the Children's Service Fund, the Child Abuse Prevention Program will continue to serve children ages three to nineteen, their parents, educators, and professionals throughout Saint Louis County.

