Victim
Services
Toronto

YOUTH SYMPOSIUM

IMPACT REPORT

2023

151

Schools In Total

15,280

Students In Total

TORONTO REGION

47	Schools from Toronto District School Board
2	Schools from Toronto Catholic District School Board
1	Private School

DURHAM REGION

37	Schools from Durham District School Board
19	Schools from Durham Catholic School Board
29	Schools from Peterborough Victoria Northumberland & Clarington Catholic School Board
18	Schools from Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

STATS PER GRADE:

7

- **97.4%** of Grade 7 students felt that the symposium was helpful and really important to learn about.
- **93%** of Grade 7 students reported they now confidently know the risks of social media and online communication as well as how to keep themselves safe online.
- After the symposium, **91%** of Grade 7 students feel more confident in their abilities to recognize the risks or warning signs of trafficking in themselves or a peer.

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- **93%** of Grade 8 students reported they now confidently know the risks of social media and online communication as well as how to keep themselves safe online.
- **84%** of Grade 8 students are aware of how to actively practice consent.
- **82%** of Grade 8 students feel they have a strong understanding of human trafficking.
- **82%** of Grade 8 students feel assured in terms of what a healthy relationship looks like.

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- **100%** of Grade 9 students reported feeling more confident in their abilities to recognize the risks or warning signs of trafficking in themselves or a peer.
- **100%** of Grade 9 students are aware of how to actively practice consent.
- **100%** of Grade 9 students reported they now confidently know the risks of social media and online communication as well as how to keep themselves safe online.
- **100%** of Grade 9 students feel assured in terms of what a healthy relationship looks like.
- 100% of Grade 9 students found it helpful to hear from survivors themselves.

EDUCATORS

- **86%** of educators learned something about domestic sex trafficking that they were not aware of before the symposium.
- **85%** of educators now feel more comfortable discussing these topics with their students after learning about human trafficking throughout the symposium.
- Educators appreciated the Awareness modules which focused on teaching youth about the commercial exploitation process, dispelled myths about human trafficking, showcased risks and red flags for traffickers, and featured survivor stories.

EDUCATOR TESTIMONIALS:

"Thank you for this opportunity. I feel it is very important to put tools in the hands of young people for them to use to keep themselves safe. I know a lot of work would have gone into preparing this symposium. Efforts are appreciated and valued. Thank you so much."

"Seeing the students engaged and getting important/helpful information from the symposium. Also, learning more about human trafficking and most importantly prevention."

"Great workshop overall. My students learned a lot and we had great conversations."

"Was great and easy to discuss difficult topics. Thanks for providing the support!"

"The symposium was extremely successful and was valuable learning for both our students and staff. Thank you for offering this to schools."

"Thank you! Very easy to use as a teacher without having to stress about planning it."

YOUTH TESTIMONIALS:

"I love how you did not leave any important information out and how you were able to communicate to us about this important topic. Knowing that there are so many people that can help us if we feel unsafe in these situations makes us all feel very safe."

"My favorite thing about the symposium was how we got to listen to a survivor's story. It helped me visualize what human trafficking could look like."

"I love how you guys are spreading this awareness because I feel like it doesn't get awarded enough and recognized. Listening to all these people talk made me realize how dangerous the world can be and how we have to be very aware. Thank you so much for spreading this awareness, I loved this so much!"

"My favourite thing about the symposium was when one of the [speakers] shared her experience of what happened when she was being trafficked because it is good to know what happens when you are being trafficked and how to prevent it."

"My favourite thing about the symposium was hearing the stories from the speakers. I never knew such things could happen, until hearing the story. They have helped me be careful of what I do in real life and online."

"Learning about the risks of human trafficking, it was really interesting to learn about the risks of relationships, and what unhealthy relationships could lead up to."

"Great Symposium! Was my first one and would recommend to a friend!"

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Toronto Catholic District School Board

Durham District School Board

Durham Catholic District School Board

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Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

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WE THANK YOU

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