In Case You Missed It!

The NYSPCC’s Executive Director, Dr. Mary L. Pulido, has been selected as one of City & State New York’s Responsible 100 for 2022!

Each year, City & State NY puts a spotlight on 100 exceptional individuals who are putting in the time and effort to help address many of this challenges and to assist their most vulnerable neighbors. These business, government, nonprofit and advocacy leaders (carefully selected from hundreds of nominations) display both the idealism that change is possible, and an understanding of the dedication required to effectuate real and enduring change. Congratulations Dr. Pulido!

Board of Director Spotlight

The NYSPCC welcomes three new Board of Director members: Tom Califano, Esq.—a partner in the New York office of Sidley Austin LLP; Seth Rosensweig—a Partner at PwC where he leads an Integrated Risk Technology & Enterprise GRC practice; and Owen May—an investment banking executive and CEO of MD Global Partners, LLC, a boutique investment bank in New York.

Upcoming NYSPCC Presentations and Abstracts

• Presenting abstract on Crisis Debriefing at the APSAC’s 30th Annual Colloquium, in May in Denver, CO.
• Presenting “Implicit Bias in Mandated Reporting in the US” at the APSAC’s 30th Annual Colloquium, in May in Denver, CO.
• Presenting “Addressing the Impact of Domestic Violence in the Visit Room: Key Considerations for Safety and Healing” at the 2023 Supervised Visitation Network’s Annual Conference in Newport Beach, CA.
Internet Crimes: The Fastest Growing Type of Child Abuse

By Mary L. Pulido, Ph.D.

Growing Type of Child Abuse

Parents also held strong concerns about potential harms to their children related to internet use, including 55% indicating they are "extremely" or "very" concerned about their children interacting with strangers online through popular websites and apps, 45% who are deeply concerned about their children developing "screen-time" addictions, and 45% also concerned about the impact of "screen-time" on development of their children's social skills.

Some other important points include:

- 46% of parents are aware that many popular apps used by children are equipped with the information and tools they need to report abuse and keep children safe.
- 64% of parents are aware that many popular apps used by children allow people and companies to track the location of their children.
- 32% of parents have taught their children to gain a better understanding of their perception of how safe their children are while online.
- More than seven-in-10 parents want schools to educate students about the risks of "sextortion" (76%) and "sexting" (72%), while 69% also want students educated about the risks of providing or owning sexual content and videos (including pornography).
- Two-thirds (66%) think knowing "how to block others from knowing your location" and "email and texting scams" are important topics to be addressed by schools with students.
- A majority of parents also would like schools to include discussions about "internet and screen time addiction" (56%) and "how to block messages from others" (57%) on an annual session on internet safety.

Our schools have an inherent responsibility to teach children about internet safety, and it’s clear that parents want schools to play a bigger role in helping keep students safe. The NYSPCC is working to help prevent child abuse through our work with parents, teachers, children, and foster care agencies and we hope this research will emphasize the importance of teaching children how to stay safe online. The NYSPCC has added this to our public policy agenda for 2023.

For more information about keeping children safe online visit www.nyspcc.org.
The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

Events with a Purpose

The Fall Gala 2022

The NYSPCC held their annual Fall Gala on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, raising over $1,020,000 for child abuse prevention and treatment services. Held at the iconic Rainbow Room at Rockefeller Center, the Gala was hosted by Deborah Norville, Anchor, Inside Edition and NYSPCC Children’s Council member, and honored NYSPCC Board member and longtime child welfare advocate, Maarit Glocer, with The Strength of Our Society Award.

Spring Luncheon 2022

The NYSPCC held their annual Spring Luncheon at Tavern on the Green on Wednesday, April 27, 2022. The Luncheon featured a conversation with Audry Nafziger, California Sex Crimes Prosecutor and Sex Assault Survivor, and was hosted by Judy Woodruff, Anchor and Managing Editor of the PBS NewsHour. The event raised over $325,000 for The NYSPCC’s Trauma Recovery and Therapeutic Supervised Visitation Programs.

Upcoming Events

- The United Airlines NYC Half
- Spring Luncheon
  Thursday, April 27, 2023 at The Pierre Hotel
  Featuring FBI agents Laura Riso, M.A. and Erica Bell, LMSW, and James Marsh, Esq. on the topic of Sextortion.
- Fall Gala
  Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at The Rainbow Room.

From left to right—Mary G. Fields, Ph.D., Executive Director, Maarit Glocer, NYSPCC Board Member and Dan Healy, NYSPCC Board President

Audry Nafziger and Judy Woodruff

From left to right—Thomas Glocer, Mariana Glocer, Maarit Glocer, NYSPCC Board Member and Walter Glocer

Deborah Norville, NYSPCC Children’s Council member

From left to right—Holly Kelly, NYSPCC Board Member, Judy Woodruff, Audry Nafziger and Elizabeth Mayhew, NYSPCC Board Member

Audry Nafziger (left) and Judy Woodruff (right)
Helping Children Heal

Trauma Recovery Program—
*Marissa’s Story*

The start of the COVID-19 pandemic was only one life-changing experience in an 8-year-old Marissa had to endure in 2020. She was also removed from her biological parents due to domestic violence exposure and parental neglect. Sadly, Marissa experi-
enced several foster care placements, before finding a permanent home with her adult half-brother and his wife. These traumatic experiences negatively impacted Marissa's emotional and physical well-being. She suffered from anxiety, was prone to panic attacks, and often bit her lower lip until it bled. She also lacked self-worth, which caused her to neglect her hygiene and even avoided clothes to hide her body.

Marissa was referred to The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children’s (The NYSPCC) Trauma Recovery Program—
Through its evidence-based program, Safe Touches, The NYSPCC is seeking to reduce the incidence and effects of this harmful health problem with devastating impact. Child sexual abuse is a widespread public health problem with devastating impact. It is the responsibility of all of us to learn how to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to support those who have been harmed,

The NYSPCC Trauma Therapist also worked with Marissa's half-brother and wife, who were very committed to Marissa's recovery. They were eager to understand how domestic violence and parental neglect had affected Marissa's emotions and behaviors. They were open to guidance from the therapist about how to communicate with Marissa and parent in a way that would help her feel supported.

After two years of therapy, all of which took place virtually during the pandemic, Marissa’s trauma symptoms were greatly reduced. Even now, 10 years old, Marissa is more thoughtful and reflective. She is emotionally self-regu-
late and avoid panic attacks. She engages in self-care and better personal hygiene. During her last therapy session, the therapist asked Marissa to reflect on how she has come to understand the complexities of a really dif-
ficult process. Marissa told her therapist: “I’m glad I came to therapy. I feel so much better. I can enjoy my family more.” It’s a vit-
al stage in trauma therapy when a child gets to experience a feeling of accomplish-
ment. The therapist remarked, “It’s empowering for Marissa to know that she can take care of herself and is loved by a supportive caregiver in a safe, stable home. She has a great start for the future.”

More information on reporting child abuse and neglect, please visit our website www.nyspcc.org

Safe Touches

Child sexual abuse is a widespread public health problem with devastating impact. It is the responsibility of all of us to learn how to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to support those who have been harmed. Safe Touches, The NYSPCC is working to reduce the incidence and effects of this harmful experience. Safe Touches workshops use interactive pop-up stories about children being侵害 through role play to educate people in safe Touches workshops to their colleagues. Safe Touches workshops are also being replicated in other cities and states through The NYSPCC’s Training Institute. Last year, the organization provided training and resources to the National Trust (NYCT) to adapt its Safe Touches curriculum and pilot it in New York City and nearby districts, including special education and District 75 schools. This curriculum will fit 10th graders and current need to more effectively teach the most vulnerable children how to protect themselves from sexual abuse.

In November 2022, The NYSPCC received a generous grant from the New York Community Trust (NYCT) to adapt its Safe Touches curriculum for children with autism-spectrum disorder (ASD) and similar disabilities. Currently, there is no child sexual abuse pre-
vention program designed to target children with ASD. Children with disabilities are less likely than their peers without disabilities to receive sexual abuse prevention education and to experience abuse. As a result, they are more vulnerable to abuse. The FYSPCC will work with other experts to adapt the curriculum to address special needs and provide specialized content and intervention.

The current curriculum will fit 10th graders and current need to more effectively teach the most vulnerable children how to protect themselves from sexual abuse.

The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

www.nyspcc.org
We are grateful to the following supporters who have made gifts of $1,000 or more since March 2022* to help support our work with NYC’s children.

*Textnotes made from March 2022 through January 2023.
The NYSPCC Archives has exciting news!

• There is now a public Archives portal for generating annual reports and sharing reference requests with The NYSPCC Archives.

• The agency’s earliest Annual Reports have revealed some prominent NYSPCC Board members: Theodore Roosevelt, Augustus D. Juilliard, and JP Morgan.

• The Archives created a monthly newsletter called The Spotlight, which can be located on the Archives portal landing page.

• The Archives Department has recently digitized historical photos of prominent NYSPCC figures such as Etta Wheeler, Henry Bergh, John D. Wright, Elbridge T. Gerry, and agency headquarters buildings.

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Miriam Valero, LMSSW
Bilingual Trauma Therapist

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month
Visit our social media pages to see how you can support our work in April! 

@NYSPCC
@NYSPCC
@TheNYSPCC

The NYSPCC Welcomes New Staff!

The NYSPCC’s First President—John D. Wright

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