Child sexual abuse is a silent epidemic throughout the world, creating social havoc.
It can be prevented and it can be treated with a conscious and sustained effort. Stop the Silence® provides that effort.

Current Programming

Our current programming focuses on the development and implementation of programming in various locations, known as the "Stop the Silence® Comprehensive Child Sexual Abuse Training, Prevention, Mitigation, and Care Model (also known as Speak-Up-Stop the Silence®). The focus of the work follows on from work done in advocacy, education, training, and policy development in the U.S. and elsewhere for 20 years. Our Theory of Change has evolved from those years of activism, testing, and global partnerships and draws from a deep evidence base on: CSA/childhood trauma; behavior change; service demand, usage, and coordination; training; and social mobilization regarding children and adults. The Model's parts have previously been tested in Cyprus, Zambia, the UK/EU (e.g., poorer Central European areas), the US, and New Zealand.

The model work in Cyprus involved advising the Cypriot government and organizations on policy, program, and service focus and components. We carried out trainings for administrators, teachers, school psychologists and counselors, and members of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The work was substantial and enormously impactful and continues today led by those in Cyprus. While Cyprus is a small nation, it provided an ideal place to carry out and test a comprehensive prevention, treatment, and mitigation model. We aim to scale the work through a global collaboration effort.

Speak-Up-Stop the Silence Model®

The vision and framework for the Model reflects and promotes a community-led social movement through a widening audience of community members and trained professionals with the goal of reaching key policymakers, stakeholders, service providers (e.g., educators, police, social service workers) and societal members, to ultimately impact members of society overall and the outcomes and impact of CSA. The framework focuses on the planned expansion of the targeted "spheres of influence" that directly impact children's well-being. In partnership with Trust MYRIVR (https://www.trustmyrivr.co.nz/) in New Zealand and now others elsewhere, we are expanding trainings and related programming and evaluating the outcomes. We aim to improve child and adolescent, as well as adult and societal, health and well-being, including the prevention of long-term disability and improved functioning.

Recent work in New Zealand allowed us to expand the integration of data analytics and mobile technologies into our existing social change programming, leading to the incorporation of the Trust MYRIVR App—a unique electronic referral and information system developed by our partner consultant, Trust MYRIVR (TMR)—into our existing Model. The App has been used primarily to increase CSA prevention, treatment, and mitigation

efforts geared toward the poor and underserved populations (i.e., Māori, Samoan, Pacific Islanders). It enables poor individuals to identify and connect to vital services, and it tracks service requests as well as performance, response time, and social media traffic for services provided to more effectively direct focus and funding to areas of need. It will be tailored for use in other areas.

The Stop the Silence® Global Collaboration plan for each new location (our current focus is on obtaining support for work in Peru, South Africa, and Indonesia) will include conducting CSA prevention, treatment, and mitigation efforts for very low-income populations through culturally appropriate advocacy, education, training, policy development and reform. The model expands "spheres of influence" including the public, relevant service providers, and policymakers. Our intersectional approach aims at increased collaboration, reduced costs from less duplication, institutionalized knowledge sharing across stakeholders, and cultural humility.