SCARS®

SAVING CHILDREN
AND REVEALING SECRETS

BERMUDA

Impact
Report 2024

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SCARS
SAVING CHILDREN AND REVEALING SECRETS
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CHAIR'S REPORT

FROM THE CHAIR

Allan Doughty

I am happy to again write to you in my capacity as Chair of SCARS to update you all as to our mission, in Bermuda, and what was accomplished in the year 2024.

As for the work that SCARS has carried out, again Debi, Brittany Ray, and Helen Ponte worked tirelessly through 2024 to hammer home our message that it is the responsibility of every adult in Bermuda to protect our children from sexual predators. For many, this is an uncomfortable subject, but ignoring reality will not make the evil of sexually exploiting children go away. We at SCARS are convinced that the most effective means to accomplish our goal of protecting children from sexual abuse is to shine as much light as we can on this curse, so that it can hide no longer.

To meet this end, SCARS continued its advertising campaign with our community partner, the Public Transportation Board, which displayed our ads on the back of their buses throughout 2024. Debi and Dr. Alicia Hancock, a valued volunteer board member of SCARS, delivered their expertise on both Power 95 FM, appearing on the Survivor Hour Radio Programme and Survivor Hour Cable TV Channel 82, which shares the stories of those who suffered child sexual abuse and the vital information on how to prevent it. On our YouTube channel, we received over 175,000 views which included our rebroadcast of Survivor Hour promo ads as well as our Kayak for Kids annual fundraising event in June 2024 and our Child Abuse Awareness Month initiative in April 2024. Through our social media sites such as Facebook and Instagram SCARS regularly spreads awareness and prevention information.

It is for that reason that the staff at SCARS conducted 96 separate training sessions in 2024, leading to the certification of 929 more individuals, who are now educated as to the warning signs of child sexual abuse. This means that as of the end of 2024, SCARS has trained 13,766 individuals since we first began our education programme in May 2012. Because SCARS recommends that every adult stay up to date in ensuring their skills on saving a child, (Similar to CPR in saving lives), a SCARS recertification is recommended every 3 years; especially for those that work with children.

While I am humbled by the number of people that are now SCARS certified, we as a Board are more determined than ever to see that more of our residents receive such training. Recent press reports, highlighting the dangers posed by sexual offenders living in our community, only add to the urgency of the work that remains to be done and underscores the need for an organization, such as SCARS, to deliver this message.

Going into 2025, we again ask you to join us in our mission. Too many people in Bermuda had their innocence stolen as children and then had to experience the consequences of those actions for the rest of their lives. SCARS has accomplished much this year, but as a nation we must do better. Any assistance that you as our community partners can offer us, in this fight, is needed. Please, continue to ally yourself with SCARS and aid us towards our goal of eradicating child sexual abuse in Bermuda.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

FROM THE FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Debi Ray-Rivers

It is my honor to present **SCARS' 2024 Impact Report** which describes many advancements in our mission to protect children from sexual abuse. Children were never meant to be used for sexual pleasure by perpetrators; whether to exert power and control, sexual deviancy, or unaddressed trauma. Quite the opposite, children were meant to grow up trusting adults to keep them safe and secure. That should never change!

Sadly, we have a broken world where child sexual abuse exits and predators are plentiful. SCARS will continue to work tirelessly for our precious children. We must be their voice and fight for their rights, protection and innocence. Silence is not an option when it comes to child protection!!

Organizations responsible for children have an obligation to equip their staff and volunteers with prevention education training and implement safe policies to reduce risk. We are thrilled to see that happening. We recognize that many institutions attend our training programs. Beginning on page 19 you will find —- the numerous youth serving organizations that were trained in child protection. They have taken an important step to keep the children in their care safe.

How do we generate such a large volume of trained people in order to make an impact in Bermuda? We do so through awareness and promotion of our prevention training curriculums. As of year end 2024, 13,766 adult Bermudian residents have now been educated in child sexual abuse prevention; nearly 25% of the population. In addition, there was a 30% increase in adults trained in 2024 compared to 2023.

THAT'S IMPACT!

The power of social media allows SCARS to raise more awareness and communicate the importance of prevention using platforms like Facebook and Instagram. In 2024, we increased our messaging, boosted more posts, and consistently saw an increase in engagement and followers. This digital form of awareness allows the message to stay alive, stay strong, and stay bold. We will do whatever it takes to keep children safe and put predators on notice that SCARS is not going away.

5,200 followers on Facebook **1,480 followers on Instagram** **4,586 website visits in 2024**

During 2024, we advanced our "Survivor Hour" education and awareness program. SCARS, together with Crimson Multimedia, produced and aired six TV programs on Cable TV Channel 82. Through "Survivor Hour", we endeavor to educate, advocate and empower adults in child sexual abuse prevention and revitalize hope and promote healing of our Bermudian survivors. https://www.scarsbermuda.com/scars-survivor-hour-cable-tv-show/. Some of the promo videos and shows reached over 10,000 viewers. We are grateful to the QBE Foundation for their financial support for this important initiative.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

We also launched a "Survivor Hour" radio program in 2024, which is aired monthly on Power 95 FM Radio. The aim of the program is similar to our TV program with an opportunity for the community to phone into the program with any questions or comments.

www.scarsbermuda.com/scars-survivor-hour-power-95fm-radio-show/

Our donors play a significant role in SCARS' ability to be impactful. Without their financial support we would not be able to deliver our training and awareness initiatives. Their generous funding keeps our team employed, training available, awareness visible, message heard, and our children safe!

We are making a huge impact in Bermuda. Let me finish my message with a couple of quotes from attendees of our training sessions in 2024:

"Excellent training this morning. Truly your work is changing how the country approaches this issue… and you are changing lives. Your tireless efforts are truly impactful, with ripples that will go far beyond what you will ever truly know."

"I became a parent since attending my first training in 2012 and this information hits differently. I feel equipped to better engage with the organizations that care for my child and feel empowered to challenge and ensure her protection/boundaries are in place."

Prevention education saves children. **THAT'S IMPACT!!!**

I am extremely grateful for the support from the hard working SCARS team, faithful volunteers, committed donors, and our passionate and wise volunteer Board of Directors. It is a privilege to lead such an important cause.

Debi Ray-Rivers
Founder and Executive Director, SCARS

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

SCARS
SAVING CHILDREN AND REVEALING SECRETS
BERMUDA

Registered Charity # 922

Annual Impact Report: January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

SCARS' MISSION is to reduce the risk of child sexual abuse and to be an advocate and voice for children who have been sexually molested as well as their affected family.

SCARS AIMS to reduce the risk of child sexual abuse by raising awareness and advocating to key decision makers to put policies and procedures in place that best protect children from the crime of child sexual abuse.

SCARS' INTENT is to provide awareness information and prevention education to all adults including, caregivers, parents, guardians, youth-serving organizations including schools, sports programs, faith-based groups, camps, clubs and all other individuals and organizations that are entrusted with children in our community.

SCARS' FOCUS is to stop sexual abuse before it happens and provide a list of resources for support when it does happen. Prevention is key because by the time child protective services, police, or a therapist gets involved, the molestation already occurred, and a scar has formed.

SCARS BELIEVES that by reducing the number of sexually molested children in our community, there will be a reduction in drug abuse, alcoholism, teen pregnancies, mental illness, self injurious behaviors, eating disorders, promiscuity, violence, and suicide.

SCARS' VISION is to have a community without child sexual abuse. We are doing everything we can to educate adults and end the pain and shame associated with this issue.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

October 27, marked

13

years of educating our Bermuda adults in prevention!

Launched our Survivor Hour Radio Show

192

Youth Serving Organizations trained in our **Stewards of Children** Training

119

Youth Serving Organizations trained in our **Beyond Stewards of Children** Training

FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

9th Annual KAYAK FOR KIDS – June 8th and June 9th, 2024

The Kayak for Kids fundraising event was held on June 8th & June 9th and the only fundraiser organized by SCARS in 2024. Our inaugural Harbour Loop Kayak was celebrated this year. Our paddlers left The Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club (RHADC) and headed to Paradise Lake hugging the south side of the harbour passing Darrell's Wharf, past Hinson's Island to the inside of Nelly Island and then Hawkins Island through Paradise Lake and then return to RHADC using the same path.

We had 50 participants on the water. This included 6 members of the Special Olympics, 15 members of the Bermuda Pilot Gig Club including 2 coxes, 6 members of the AG Chambers, and two corporate companies - Team Liberty and Fidelis Partnership. 30 individual kayakers, a few tandems and a Stand up Paddleboarder.

A huge thank you to all our corporate sponsors, fundraising committee, boat support, The Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club, Goslings, Total Marketing and DJ Brian Harvey. The event was another huge success.

RAISING FUNDS FOR SCARS

February 10th - Hamilton Lions Club 55 Annual Gas-O-Rama
SCARS was chosen as one of the charities to benefit from the Hamilton Lions' Club 55th Annual Gas-O-Rama. Eight volunteers wore SCARS t-shirts and hats and pumped gas all day on Saturday, February 10th. We are beyond thankful to the Hamilton Lions Club for raising $7,500 for SCARS.

We thank them and all those who purchased raffle tickets and donated.

MAMA Group chose SCARS as one of their two supported charities of choice for 2024
As a result of the four fundraisers below, the MAMA Group raised $3,561 for SCARS

March 17th - Easter Party

June 9th - Touch the Truck

October 12th – Halloween Party

December 1st – North Pole Christmas Party

RAISING FUNDS FOR SCARS

MADE TO FADE Golf Tournament - https://www.royalgazette.com/general/news/article/20240706/golf-tournament-raises-money-for-scars/

GOLF TOURNAMENT RAISES MONEY FOR SCARS

A golf tournament last month raised $1,100 for Saving Children and Revealing Secrets. Deon Brangman, who organised the event held at Newstead on June 2, wanted to raise money for SCARS because it provides a “platform where victims can be safe and talk about things that are not normally discussed”.

THANK YOU DEON!

RAISING FUNDS FOR SCARS

On March 22, 2024, CG Insurance raised funds through their Denim Day fundraiser, and they arranged a SCARS training for their staff in other countries!
You ROCK CG Insurance**!**

CG | INSURANCE

Xtreme Sports 2024

TEAM BELCO are champions! SCARS was chosen once again as their charity of choice, for the Xtreme Sports Games held on May 18th, 2024. We thank them for their determination, perseverance and physical strength!

Conduit Re Gala of Giving held November 1st 2024 – SCARS was chosen as one of the beneficiaries of the Gala of Giving Charity Event hosted by Conduit Re. Mosaic Insurance chose SCARS to join their table. A spectacular evening! $420,000 for 13 charities was raised!

Royal Gazette ran an article regarding the event: Windfall for charity at Gala of Giving - The Royal Gazette | Bermuda News, Business, Sports, Events, & Community |

CONDUIT RE

SCARS
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RAISING FUNDS FOR SCARS

The Free Mason Fund for Bermuda generously donated $2,000 for SCARS

The Bermuda Pilot Gig Club raised $1,000 for SCARS during their Cup Match race.

Mid Ocean Club Ladies Golf Group chose SCARS as their charity of choice and bigheartedly raised $10,220 for SCARS at their annual Christmas Charity Golf Tournament on December 12th.

IN THE NEWS

Teacher cleared of sex charges against students | **December 21, 2024**
A teacher accused of a raft of historical sexual offences against students was cleared yesterday of all charges in the Supreme Court. The defendant, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, was found not guilty by a jury of six counts of indecent assault and one count of sexual assault. While a court restriction prevented The Royal Gazette from reporting during the nine-week tr... Read more

Mid Ocean Ladies Raise $10K For SCARS | **December 18, 2024**
The Mid Ocean Club Ladies' Golf Group raised $10,000 for SCARS through their annual Christmas Charity Golf Tournament and Luncheon. A spokesperson said, "The Mid Ocean Club Ladies' Golf Group raised $10,000 for SCARS at their annual Christmas Charity Golf Tournament and Luncheon on December 12. "Saving Children and Revealing Secrets, better known as... Read more

'Demon' teacher faces jail for sexual exploitation | **December 12, 2024**
A teacher who admitted sexually exploiting a young student was branded a "selfish demon" by the family of the girl he interfered with at a sentencing hearing yesterday. Ronald Forde, 39, pleaded guilty to charges of luring while in a position of trust, sexual exploitation and accessing child pornography in connection with incidents this year. The victim, who was under the age of 18, can... Read more

Man accused of child-related offences | **December 9, 2024**
A Warwick man has been accused of committing offences against a child more than 30 years ago. The 61-year-old, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, appeared in Magistrates' Court today, when he was charged with causing a boy to commit two indecent acts. It was alleged that the offences were committed in 1990 and 1991, when the boy was under the age of 14. As the case must be hea... Read more

Appeal court quashes conviction for sexual exploitation | **November 23, 2024**
A man jailed for 35 years in 2023 for a string of sex offences against two young sisters has had his conviction overturned on appeal. Locksley Cummings, 44, won his case this week when the Court of Appeal quashed his conviction. The court heard that prosecutors would not seek to have the matter retried. In a written ruling handed down yesterday, Justice of Appeal Geoffrey Bell wrote that... Read more

Convicted child sex predator walks free on technicality | **November 20, 2024**
A man who was last year convicted of child sexual exploitation and sentenced to 35 years in jail, has been released on appeal. Locksley Cummings had his appeal against conviction heard and allowed on a ground related to a jury irregularity. That irregularity lead the court to find that the conviction was unsafe. The conviction was quashed, and Cummings is discharged. TNN has chosen n... Read more

Freemasons give $6,000 to charities | **November 17, 2024**
Three non-profit organisations have each been presented with $2,000 in donations from the charitable wing of the Freemasons. Keith Battersbee, the president of the Freemasons Fund for Bermuda, presented a cheque to Scars, the Duke of Edinburgh Awards, and It Takes a Village on Tuesday. He said: "We know that financing is always a challenge and we hope that this goes, in some small way... Read more

IN THE NEWS

Man denies carnal knowledge of 15-year-old girl | **November 15, 2024**
A 37-year-old man has denied sexual abuse of an underage girl and drug possession. The man, who cannot be named for legal reasons, pleaded not guilty in Magistrates' Court to two counts of having unlawful carnal knowledge of a 15-year-old girl. The first count was alleged to have happened on an unknown date between January 1 and June 30, while the second count was alleged to have occurred... Read more

Teacher admits sexual exploitation of girl | **November 14, 2024**
Ronald Forde, 38, pleaded guilty last week to charges that he sexually exploited a young person while in a position of trust, lured a young person while in a position of trust and accessed child pornography. The offences are understood to have taken place this year. Forde, a Guyanese who lived in Southampton, was scheduled to be sentenced yesterday, but Puisne Judge Juan Wolffe granted an a... Read more

Windfall for charity at Gala of Giving | **November 5, 2024**
A charity auction has broken its record set last year, bringing in more than $420,000 for 13 good causes on the island. The second Gala of Giving was held on Friday night at the Hamilton Princess & Beach Club — surpassing the $310,000 raised last year. The event was organised by Conduit Reinsurance with the hotel's assistance along with the Planning Factory. It was ... Read more

Man convicted of touching girl | **October 8, 2024**
A man was found guilty yesterday of inappropriately touching a schoolgirl. Magistrate Maria Sofianos found Andrew Rewan, 43, guilty of directly and indirectly touching the girl while in a position of trust between March 2013 and December 2017. The victim, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, was under the age of 14 when Rewan first touched her. The court heard during the tria... Read more

Man plead guilty to inappropriately touching a teen | **September 18, 2024**
A Pembroke man who pleaded guilty to intruding on the privacy of a child now awaits sentencing for the offence in Magistrates Court. Forty-eight-year-old Gary Williams changed his plea to guilty on Monday after first denying that he inappropriately touched a teenage female earlier this year. A social inquiry report was ordered by Magistrate Auralee Cassidy, as she adjourned the case until O... Read more

Man charged with sex crimes against a child | **September 4, 2024**
A man was remanded in custody yesterday after he was charged with two counts of sex assault on a minor. The 44-year-old, who cannot be named for legal reasons, was charged in Magistrates' Court with sexual contact of a girl aged under 14 years and unlawful carnal knowledge of the same girl. The offences were alleged to have happened between May 1 and June 30, 2021. The man, from Pembro... Read more

Why do we insist on putting children at risk? | **July 23, 2024**
We must ask ourselves do we truly care about the protection of children in this country? If we say we care about children in this country, then can anyone answer the following "whys" and "whos"? • Why would someone who was reported, investigated, charged, convicted and imprisoned for committing a sexual crime against a child have the freedom upon release to attend an event where t... Read more

IN THE NEWS

Golf tournament raises money for Scars | **July 6, 2024**
A golf tournament last month raised $1,100 for Saving Children and Revealing Secrets. Deon Brangman, who organised the event at Newstead on June 2, wanted to raise money for Scars because it provides a "platform where victims can be safe and talk about things that are not normally discussed". Mr Brangman, owner of Made to Fade barber shop in Washington Mall, said seven teams of four p... Read more

Man charged with assaulting children | **June 17, 2024**
A Sandys man has been accused of assaulting two children more than 40 years ago. The 81-year-old, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, was charged with six counts of indecently assaulting a boy and girl, as well as committing a sexual offence against the boy, when he appeared in Magistrates' Court yesterday. The offences were allegedly committed between 1977 and 1982, when the alle... Read more

Smiths Parish Man Charged With Sexual Offense Against Child in Magistrates Court | **June 13, 2024**
A 55 year old Smith Parish man was charged with three (3) sexual related offences on a child in Magistrates Court yesterday The man who cannot be named for legal reasons, elected for the case to be heard in Magistrate Court has been charged with (1) Between 27th day of May 2014, and the 8th March 2024, in the Islands of Bermuda unlawfully assaulted a young person (2) Being in a position of ... Read more

Photos & Videos: SCARS Kayak For Kids Event | **June 9, 2024**
Kayakers, paddleboarders, surf skiers, and rowers completed a loop of the island this weekend to raise money for the child sexual abuse prevention charity SCARS during the ninth annual Kayak for Kids event ... Read more

Six-year prison term for sex offence against girl | **June 5, 2024**
A 64-year-old man was sentenced to six years behind bars after he admitted having unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl ten years ago. Kevin Goater, of Loyal Hill, Devonshire, was sentenced on May 22 and is to be placed on the sex offenders' register on release from custody. Goater's identity was earlier protected by a reporting restriction that was lifted because the Supreme Court took t... Read more

Kayakers Event To Raise Money For SCARS | **June 3, 2024**
Kayakers, paddleboarders, surf skiers, and rowers will complete a loop of the island this weekend to raise money for a child sexual abuse prevention charity. The ninth annual Kayak for Kids on Saturday and Sunday [June 8 and 9] is in aid of Saving Children and Revealing Secrets [SCARS]. Organisers are hoping for a bumper turnout, including corporate relay teams, with the 40-mile route start... Read more

64 year old man sentenced to Six years for child sexual offense | **May 22, 2024**
A 64 year old Devonshire man was sentenced to six (6) years in prison today after admitting having unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl ten years ago. Kevin Goater of Loyal Hill Devonshire will also be placed on the sex offender registry when released from prison. Acting Supreme Court Judge Maxanne Anderson telling Goater this case has been three years in waiting and eight years prior to tha... Read more

Victim of child sex offence has no regrets about telling truth | **May 15, 2024**
A victim of a sexual offence against a child said her life would never be the same after a man "stole her innocence" when she was 13. The perpetrator, who cannot be named because of a reporting restriction, admitted having unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl ten years ago. His sentencing is expected to take place on May 22. In an impact statement, read to the Supreme Court yesterday ... Read more

IN THE NEWS

Man denies sexually assaulting two girls | **April 16, 2024**
A Pembroke man denied sexually assaulting two girls when he appeared in Magistrates' Court yesterday. The 20-year-old, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, is accused of assaulting one girl on two occasions in 2023, as well as assaulting and intruding on the privacy of another on April 2. Senior magistrate Maxanne Anderson adjourned the case to May 6 and released the man on $5,000 ... Read more

Canadian sentenced in absentia to ten weeks' jail time | **April 15, 2024**
A Canadian man convicted of performing an indecent act in front of a woman was sentenced yesterday in his absence to ten weeks imprisonment. Brent Habetler, originally from Saskatchewan, was not present at his sentencing hearing in Magistrates' Court because he was allowed to return home after his conviction, but did not come back to Bermuda. The 46-year-old was also fined $500 for a... Read more

Canadian's indecent exposure, assault sentence postponed | **April 10, 2024**
The sentencing of a Canadian man convicted of assault and performing an indecent act near a public pool has been postponed as Magistrates' Court waits for him to return to Bermuda. Brent Habetler, 46, was due to be sentenced yesterday after being convicted of the offences last Thursday. But Magistrate Craig Attridge heard that he flew back to his native Saskatchewan and has not ... Read more

Canadian convicted of committing indecent act | **April 5, 2024**
A Canadian man has been found guilty in Magistrates' Court of committing an indecent act in front of a woman at Willowbank Resort. Magistrate Craig Attridge also found Brent Habetler, 46, guilty of assaulting a man at the Sandys hotel. During his trial in February, a woman told the court that she saw Habetler, from Saskatchewan, "moving his hands rapidly" inside his pants in a co... Read more

More than 1,000 child abuse complaints in 2023 | **April 2, 2024**
The Department of Child and Family Services received 1,006 child abuse reports last year, with 741 meeting the criteria for investigation. Tinée Furbert, the Minister of Youth, Social Development and Seniors, revealed this yesterday during a proclamation outside City Hall designating April Child Abuse Prevention Month. "The number of children exposed to family violence remains the highes... Read more

Trial starts of man accused of touching schoolgirl | **April 1, 2024**
A man from Hamilton Parish allegedly touched a schoolgirl inappropriately on more than one occasion, Magistrates' Court heard. The 61-year-old denied three charges that he sexually touched the girl, who is under the age of 14, when he appeared in court. The offences allegedly took place between June 2022 and January 2023. Neither the girl nor the accused can be identified for legal reason... Read more

Man denies sexual exploitation | **March 21, 2024**
A man from Warwick has been charged in Magistrates' Court with sexual exploitation of a young person. The 25-year-old, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, denied the offence, which allegedly occurred between August 2016 and August 2017, when he appeared in court yesterday. Senior magistrate Maxanne Anderson adjourned the case to April 10 and extended the man's bail until that ti... Read more

Teacher remanded after sex offence charges | **March 14, 2024**
A teacher at one of the island's schools is in custody after being charged with sexual offences against a 14-year-old. The man, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, did not enter a plea last Friday at Magistrates' Court as the charges are indictable. He was accused of being in a position of trust or authority towards a young person between February 1 and March 6 and attempted unl... Read more

IN THE NEWS

Senior pleads guilty to sex offence against girl | **March 4, 2024**
A Supreme Court judge ordered a social inquiry report on a senior who admitted having unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl ten years ago. The man, who cannot be named because of a reporting restriction, plead guilty to a single count of the offence, which took place on an unknown date between December 2013 and December 2014. At the time, the defendant was 53 while the victim, who also cannot... Read more

Judge: child porn blackmail rulings must reflect revulsion | **February 5, 2024**
A judge suggested that sentences for people who commit sex offences against children are "simply not robust enough". Cahlii Smith, 30, was jailed for 11 years last week after blackmailing two teenage girls into producing and sending him child pornography. It was the first blackmail case in Bermuda to involve child sexual abuse. In his judgment, Assistant Justice Mark Pettin... Read more

Lawyer argues blackmailer at low risk of reoffending | **January 24, 2024**
A defence lawyer argued that a proposed 12-year sentence for a man convicted of blackmailing young girls to produce child pornography was excessive under the circumstances. Cahlii Smith, from St George's, was found guilty last year of a string of offences, including two counts of extortion, three counts of making child pornography, one count of distributing child pornography and one count of... Read more

Charity calls for more effective sex offender treatment | **January 4, 2024**
The Government is being urged to introduce specialised treatment for sex offenders and strict licence conditions for when they are released into the community. Last week Devaun Cox was jailed for 12 months for inappropriately touching a woman — an offence committed less than a week after he was released from jail for sexually assaulting a female patient at the Mid-Atlantic Wellness... Read more

TRAINING PROGRAMS

SCARS provides two training programs to our community, including a three-hour Darkness to Light® Stewards of Children® curriculum and a two-hour Darkness to Light® Beyond Stewards® recertification training.

DARKNESS TO LIGHT® STEWARDS OF CHILDREN®

NEWLY UPGRADED JANUARY 1, 2024

In January 2024, The Darkness to Light® Stewards of Children® award-winning adult prevention training was upgraded. This flagship training provides practical guidance for preventing and responding to child sexual abuse to individuals and organizations entrusted with children. This prevention training uses people with lived experiences, experts, and treatment providers talking about protecting children from sexual abuse. It is the only nationally distributed, evidence-informed program proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes, and change child protective behaviors. Outcomes of the program include:

- **Increased awareness of the prevalence, consequences, and circumstances of child sexual abuse**
- **Skills for adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse**
- **Encourage organizations to have policies and procedures in place to protect children**
- **Empower individuals to commitment to taking action through a prevention plan**

The Stewards of Children® 3 hour training has become mandatory training for many youth serving organizations and government agencies across the island. This includes all public-school teachers, custodians and staff with the Department of Education, most private schools, those working with children in the Catholic Diocese, Seventh Day Adventists, Evangelical Church, and other faith-based organizations. The Department of Health has made it mandatory for all nursery schools, home and daycare providers to be SCARS certified to obtain their license to operate. Also, to obtain a license to be a coach with the Bermuda Football Association, SCARS certification is required. Many sporting organizations, camps and clubs mandate this training for those that work with the children they serve.

Stewards of Children® is approved for 3 professional development hours of continuing education by the Bermuda Education Council, 3 CEU professional development hours by the Bermuda Health Care Professionals, and 2 CLE professional development hours by the Bermuda Bar Association.

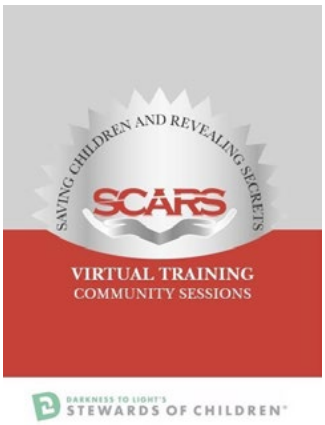
In 2024, a total of 1,263 adults participated in the Darkness to Light® Stewards of Children®

TRAINING SUMMARY

Below is a summary of our prevention training program activities and the impact they had in 2024.

Between the two curriculums SCARS trained a total of 1,813 adults in 2024 (An increase of 26% from 2023)

DARKNESS TO LIGHT® STEWARDS OF CHILDREN® Training (3-Hour Training)



65
Training Sessions

1263
Adult Participants

(An increase of 36% from 2023)

(334 participants had previously been SCARS certified)

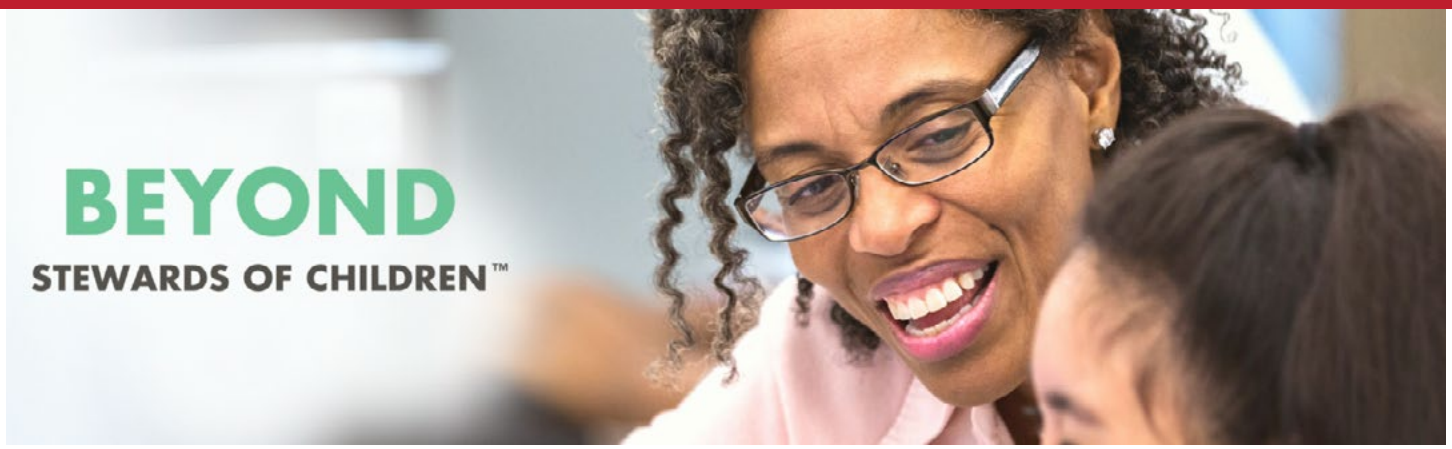
List of Organizations trained:

ABC Football Foundation
Adventureland Nursery & Preschool
Aerie's Adventure Nursery & Preschool
Allen Temple AME Church Camp
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
Ambers Wings
Anglican Parish Church of Pembroke
Ani's Beauty Lounge
Apex Applied Health
Arch Reinsurance Ltd.
Association of Filipinos in Bermuda
Awesome Kiddos Daycare Centre
Bailey's Bay Cricket Club
BASA White's Island Summer Camp
Bermuda Aquarium Museum and Zoo
Bermuda Baha'i Community
Bermuda Centre for Creative Learning
Bermuda College
Bermuda Conference of Seventh Day Adventists
Bermuda Education Network
Bermuda Educators Council
Bermuda Fire & Rescue Service
Bermuda Football Assoc. Coaching Camp
Bermuda Football Association
Bermuda Foundation for Insurance Studies (BFSIS)
Bermuda Girl Guide Association
Bermuda Golf Association
Bermuda Government Summer Camp Program
Bermuda Health Council
Bermuda High School
Bermuda Hospitals Board
Bermuda Institute PTA
Bermuda Institute School
Bermuda is Love
Bermuda Massage Therapy Association
Bermuda Monetary Authority (BMA)
Bermuda National Trust
Bermuda Police Service
Bermuda Public School System
Bermuda Red Cross
Bermuda Rugby Football Union
Bermuda School of Music
Bermuda Scout Association
Bermuda Tourism Authority
Bermuda Triathlon Association
Bermuda Volleyball Association
Bermuda Zoological Society
BFLA Girls Football
BHB (Intellectual Disability Services)
Big Brothers Big Sisters
BiZ Ltd.
Bloomfield Nursery
Blue Sky Flights Bermuda
BNG Art & Tech Camp
Bright Beginnings Nursery
BSMART Foundation
BUEI
BZ Home Care
Camp Chameleon
Cassine: Beauty and the Reef
Catalina
Catholic Diocese of Hamilton
Cedarbridge Academy
CG Insurance and CG United
Chatmore School / Camp Mickey
Child Care Development
City Strivers Nursery
Coalition for the Protection of Children
Conduit Reinsurance
Cornerstone Bible Fellowship
Dame Marjorie Hope Academy
Dandy Town Youth Academy
Davinci Dental Services
Deloitte Bermuda & BVI
Department of Child & Family Services (DCFS)
Department of Child & Family Services (Foster Care)
Department of Education
Department of Public Prosecutions (DPP)
Department of Sport and Recreation
Department of Transport
Dept of Health (Child Caregiver)
Devonshire Colts Football Club
Dolphin Quest Bermuda
Emotional Wellness Boutique
Endeavor Programme
Enstar
Ernst & Young (EY Bermuda)
Ethiopian Orthodox Church
Evangelical Church of Bermuda
EY Bermuda
FC Bascome Bermuda
Fidelis Partnership
Foreign Commonwealth Development Office
Francis Patton School

TRAINING SUMMARY

Funcamps Bermuda
Gilbert & Sullivan Society
Gilbert Institute Primary School
Global Atlantic
Gombeys
Hamilton Pioneers Pathfinders
Hamilton Seventh Day Adventist Church
Happy Valley Child Care Center
Harrington Sound Primary P1 Parents
Heritage Nursery & Preschool
Holistic Health Bermuda
HOME
Hospitals Auxiliary of Bermuda (HAB)
ILS Bermuda
Impact 100 Boy Mentoring Program
It Takes a Village Foundation
Kaleidoscope Art Foundation
Kamp Koolz Summer Camp
Kiddie Academy
Kidz Beauty Spot
Little Achievers Nursery
Little Loquats Playgroup
Longtail Learning
Manders Tennis Management
Martello Re
Mindset Neuropsychological Assessment & Treatment
Ministry of Education (MOED)
Mother of Grace
Mount Saint Agnes Academy
Nanny – Caregivers
New Genesis Academy
North Village Community Club
Ocean Light Training Institute
Paget Primary School
Peace Lutheran Church
Pembroke Hamilton Club (PHC Zebras)
Perform to Learn
Performance Rehab
Phenomenal People Dream Girls Club
Planet Math
QBE Bermuda
Quality Gymnastics
Rep. Dominican Community
Restoration Fellowship Ministries & Kids Camp
Royal Bermuda Regiment
Salon 27 Ltd. & Spa 27
Saltus Grammar School
Sandys Secondary Middle School
Scholars Bermuda
Seasons Learning Center
Seventh Day Adventist Pathfinders
Seventh Day Adventist Restoration Ministries
Sharks Swimming Club
Shekinah Worship Centre
Siam Spa
Skillcraft Bermuda
SmilesInc
Solstice
Somerset & Hamilton SDA Church
Somerset Cricket Club
Somerset Trojans Soccer Team
Somersfield Academy
Spa Oasis
St. George's Cricket Club
St. John's Ambulance
St. Joseph's Religious Academy/Jenny Arnold Photography
St. Mark's Church
St. Patrick's CCD Program
St. Theresa's CCD Program
Star Diving
Success Academy
Sunbeam Nursery
Swimming Instinct
Tender Care Nursery & Preschool
Thai Solutions Massage
The Anglican Church of Bermuda
The Bermuda National Trust
The Duke of Edinburgh Intl. Award Bermuda
The Endeavour Programme
The Fidelis Partnership
The Haven
The Menuhin Foundation
The Mirrors Programme
The Office of Youth Affairs
The Reading Clinic
Tree Tops 2 Nursery
U5 Vasco
Vernon Temple AME Church
Vibe Tribe
Warwick Academy
Warwick Football Academy
Warwick SDA Pathfinders
Waterstart
We are Well (Kids Wellness Camp)
WeSpeak Bermuda
West End Church of Christ
Western Stars Sports Club
Word of Life

TRAINING



DARKNESS TO LIGHT® BEYOND STEWARDS OF CHILDREN®

The 2-hour Darkness to Light® Beyond Stewards of Children® recertification prevention training goes beyond the concepts presented in the 3-hour Stewards of Children®, digging deeper into practical applications of the 5 Steps to protect children. Additional sections were added within that training that extend learning on creating a prevention-oriented community and applying trauma-informed strategies.

SCARS played an instrumental role in partnering with the Darkness to Light® organization in creating this re-certification curriculum in 2021. It was created specifically for those who had been SCARS certified prior to 2021 and required recertification every 3 years.

We are proud that the information shared in this recertification training uses videos with interviews from our very own Bermuda youth leaders, psychologists, teachers, child advocates and survivors.
Some of the outcomes of the program are as follows:

- **Reminder about the foundational information learned in the original Stewards of Children.**
- **Identifying boundary violations and applying techniques to address those violations.**
- **Identifying potential sexual abuse signs, red flags, and grooming techniques.**
- **Information to apply bystander intervention.**

Beyond Stewards of Children® is approved for 2 professional development hours of continuing education by the Bermuda Education Council, 2 CEU professional development hours by the Bermuda Health Care Professionals.

In 2024, a total of 550 adults participated in the Darkness to Light® Beyond Stewards®

TRAINING SUMMARY

31
Training Sessions

550
Adult Participants

List of Organizations trained:

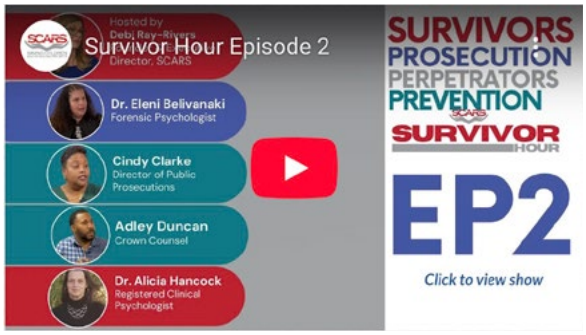
Adventureland Nursery & Preschool
Aeries Adventure Nursery
Bermuda College
Bermuda Conference of Seventh Day Adventists
Bermuda Education Network
Bermuda Football Association (BFA)
Bermuda High School
Bermuda Institute & Conference of SDA
Bermuda is Love
Bermuda Jump Rope Federation & JAG Athletics
Bermuda Massage Therapy Association
Bermuda Motorcross Association
Bermuda National Trust
Bermuda Police Service
Bermuda Rowing Association
Bermuda School of Music
Bermuda Sloop Foundation
Bermuda Union of Teachers
Bermuda Volleyball Association
Bermuda Zoological Society
BFA Skillz N Drillz Foundation
Blossoming Tots
Bright Beginnings Nursery and Preschool
CedarBridge Academy
Chatmore British International School
City Strivers Nursery School
CP Athletic
Davinci Dental
Department of Education - Bermuda Government
Department of Health - Bermuda Government
Devonshire Bluebirds Pathfinder Club
Devonshire Colts Football Club
DMB Hope Academy
Duke of Edinburgh
Evangelical Church of Bermuda
Evening Light Pentecostal Church
Family Centre
Fidelis Partnership
First Friends Nursery & Preschool
Flying Start Nursery
Francis Patton Primary School
Freelance Community Outreach
Function Junction
Gillian's Daycare
Hamilton Pioneer SDA Pathfinder Club
Harbour Amateur Swim Club
Hensdiek Daycare
Home Care Providers
Ignite Bermuda
JTull Designs
K.I.M.'s Ltd. KIDZ Club
Kiddie Academy
Lefroy House
Little Learners
Little Scholars Academy
Loquat Roots
Ministry of Education
Mirrors Programme
Mount Saint Agnes Academy
New Genesis Academy
Noire Youth Theatre Company
North Village Community Club
Office of Youth Affairs
Olive Branch Nursery
Once Upon A Time Chapter 2
Once Upon A Time Nursery School
Paget Primary School
Par-la-Ville Dental
Peek Potential Bermuda
Pembroke & Warwick SDA Church
Pembroke Hamilton Club (PHC)
PHC Football Club
Planet Math
Play with a Purpose Nursery School
Raleigh Bermuda
Restoration Fellowship
Roman Catholic Diocese of Bermuda
Roots & Wings Nursery
Royal Bermuda Regiment
Saltus Grammar School
Scholars of Bermuda
Seasons Learning Center
Seeds of Indigo
SHIFT
Skillcraft Bermuda
Somerset Cricket Club
Somersfield Academy
Southampton Preschool
Special Olympics Bermuda
St. Anthony's Catholic Church Youth Group
St. David's County Cricket Club
St. David's Primary School
St. George's Preschool
St. John's Ambulance
St. Luke AME Church
Teen Services
Tender Care Nursery & Preschool
The Bermuda College
The Bermuda Foundation for Insurance Studies
The Class Aesthetic
The Mirrors Program
The New Sunbeam Nursery
The Office of Youth Affairs
The Reading Clinic
The Teacher's Pet Nursery
The Yellow House Nursery
Transitional Community Services (TLC)
Tree Tops II Preschool
Victor Scott Primary & Preschool
Warwick Academy
Warwick Longtail Pathfinders
Warwick Preschool
Waterstart
Wee Care A Lot Camp | Kamp Koolz Summer Camp
WeSpeak Bermuda
X-Roads Warriors Football Club
X-Treme Kidz Camp
Yellow House Nursery
Young Men's Social Club

Since May 2012, SCARS has educated **13,766** adults in child sexual abuse prevention, which represents 25% of Bermuda's adult population: the highest of any country in the world. (An increase of 7% over 2023)

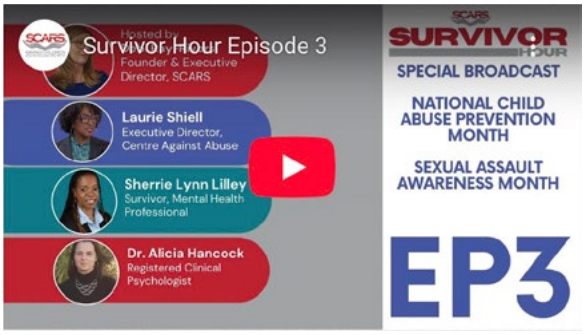
*The increase in training results from our awareness initiatives and more youth serving organizations mandating prevention education for their staff & volunteers and more parents coming to our training sessions. **That's IMPACT!**

AWARENESS

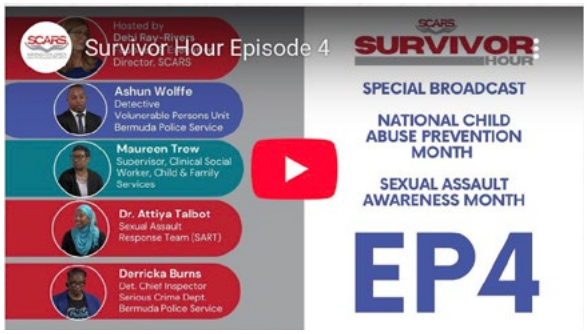
EPISODES AIRED ON SURVIVOR HOUR SHOW ON CABLE TV CHANNEL 82 DURING 2024
https://www.scarsbermuda.com/scars-survivor-hour-cable-tv-show/



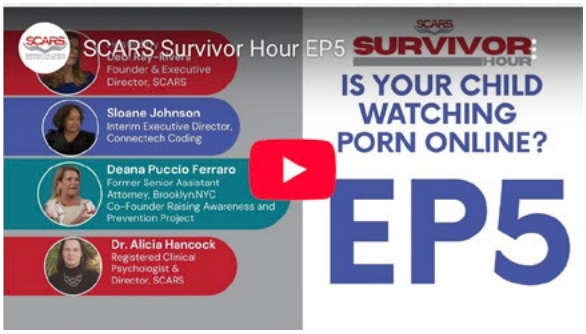
Prosecution Perpetrators Prevention
-Aired February 19, 2024



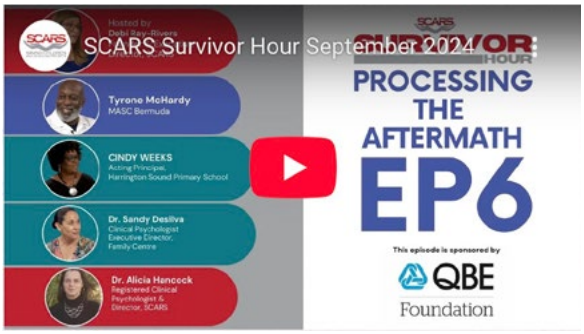
National Child Abuse Prevention Month
-Aired April 8, 2024



National Child Abuse Prevention Month
-Aired April 29, 2024



Keeping Kids Safe in the Digital World
- Aired July 1, 2024



Processing the Aftermath of Abuse
- Aired September 9, 2024
SPONSORED BY QBE FOUNDATION

Revealing Reporting Reliving
- Aired December 9, 2024
SPONSORED BY QBE FOUNDATION

AWARENESS

SURVIVOR HOUR SHOW AIRED ON POWER 95 FM RADIO IN 2024

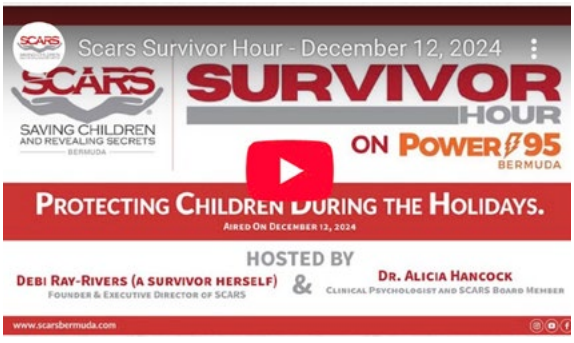
www.scarsbermuda.com/scars-survivor-hour-power-95fm-radio-show/

June 5, 2024 - CLICK TO LISTEN
The Motivation for the birth of SCARS

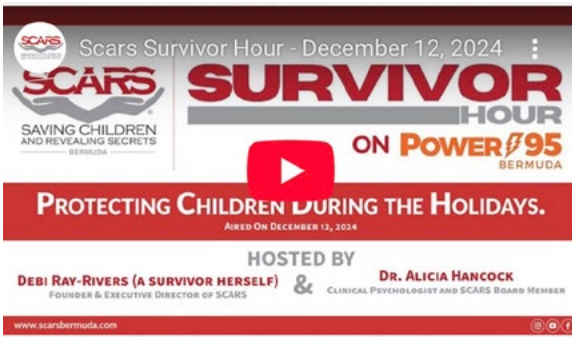
July 3, 2024 - CLICK TO LISTEN
The Importance and the Challenges of Reporting cases of Child Sexual Assault

August 7, 2024 - CLICK TO LISTEN
A Survivor's Journey of Healing

October 2, 2024 - CLICK TO LISTEN
Our Stories Matter



November 6, 2024 - CLICK TO LISTEN
Emotions can be our Messengers



December 12, 2024 - CLICK TO LISTEN
Protection Children During the Holidays

AWARENESS

On March 1st, The Bermuda College in conjunction with Lahey Health invited SCARS to their Pediatric Expo. The objectives of the Pediatric Expo were to provide another outreach occasion for their nursing students, provide health promotion for their pediatric population and their families, increase awareness of pediatric services available in the community and promote networking opportunities and collaboration. SCARS along with volunteers, distributed SCARS brochures, promoted our training and answered questions.

YOU HAVE THE POWER AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

SCARS launched our 'You Have the Power" 6-month campaign with TV commercials running 3 days a week during the evening news (Mon, Tues, Thurs) on Bermuda Broadcasting. Our goal for this awareness campaign was to encourage our community to have the power to protect the well-being of a child and to get SCARS certified to learn how. The 1st month used survivors from Darkness to Light® and, with their permission, we duplicated the commercial using our own Bermudian survivors who were guests on 'Survivor Hour'. This campaign was also shown on Cable Channel 82 and Fresh TV.

We also added our advertisements to three new buses to our Bermuda bus awareness initiative. There are now eight buses on our roads delivering our message for advocating for the protection of children.

Sample Advertisement

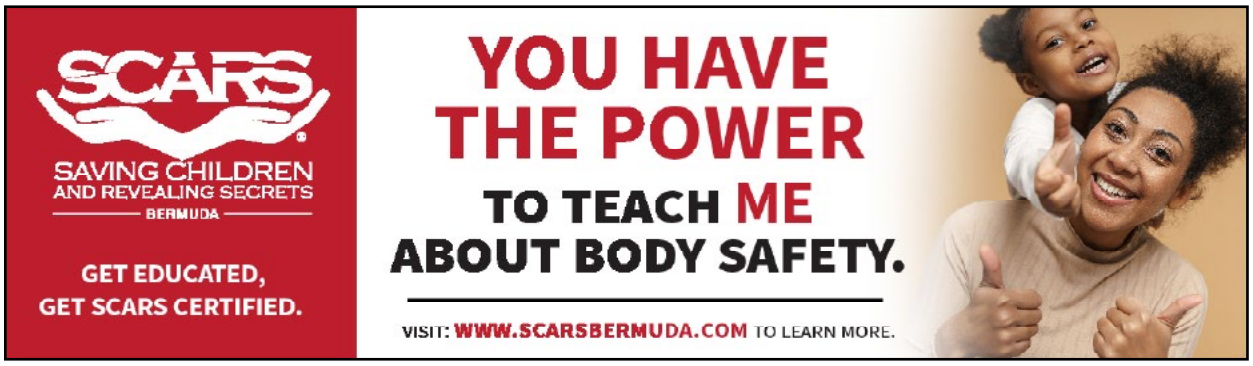
NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN APRIL

30-for-30 Social Media campaign: 30 messages over 30 days in April. Using our social media platforms, SCARS posted one message a day for the viewers to learn what they can do to help the child in their life stay safe.

AWARENESS

"You Have the Power Campaign" Media Commercial using three Bermudian survivors, they told the audience that they have the power to protect children. With Darkness to Light's® blessing, we recreated a TV ad developed by Darkness to Light® using our own Bermuda survivors. This commercial aired during the news on Bermuda Broadcasting, Cable Channel 82, and Cable Fresh TV. We gave our survivors a platform to use their voice, the very thing they lost during childhood. I believe this campaign played a major factor in the 27% increase in persons trained during the first quarter of 2024 compared to last year during the same quarter.

"You Have the Power" Bus Campaign – We have continued our awareness campaign on 5 buses and, as mentioned on the previous page, we added 3 additional buses using the message "You Have the Power to Report Abuse", "You Have the Power to Protect me from Harm", and "You Have the Power to Teach me about Body Safety" (See below samples). This bus awareness campaign will be in effect for 6 months.



AWARENESS

Annual Community Back to School Fun Day
August 31, 2024 Victor Scott School

hosted by Michael A. Weeks, JP, MP and Cindy Weeks.

Department of Health Celebrating Wellness
September 29, 2024

The Office of Youth Affairs –

Mini Anti-Bullying campaign

November 11th – 15th

SCARS Arms Families through Education (SAFE)
VIRTUAL AWARENESS PROGRAM

A total of **99 parents** attended two SCARS' SAFE (SCARS Arms Families through Education) Awareness Programs.

BERMUDA INSTITUTE PTA

65

in attendance

NORTHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

34

in attendance

OBJECTIVES FOR 2025

SCARS OBJECTIVES FOR 2025

- Continue to advance a prevention-oriented community by offering the only curriculum in Bermuda proven to increase knowledge and change behaviors.

- Ensure a successful launch of an entirely new training program in September 2025 that will build on the strengths of ***Beyond Stewards of Children™,*** while delivering an even greater impact.

- Child Safeguarding Initiative – In continuing our mission to reduce the risk of child sexual abuse, SCARS is excited about our new Child Safeguarding Initiative. SCARS will be providing assistance to youth serving organizations valuable resources in Child Protection Consulting and Risk Assessment. An initiative headed by Heid Smith, who has over 25 years in working with children and has completed international courses in Child Protection, Risk Assessments, Adverse Childhood Experiences, and Trauma/Crisis Management.

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SCARS
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BERMUDA

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Thank you to everyone

for your ongoing support!

SCARS
SAVING CHILDREN
AND REVEALING SECRETS
BERMUDA

ORGANIZATIONAL DETAILS

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Saving Children and Revealing Secrets (SCARS)

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box HM 3003, Hamilton HM MX

PHONE #: 441-297-2277

EMAIL ADDRESS: info@scars.bm

REGISTERED CHARITY #: 922
COMPANY REGISTRATION #: 45555

FINANCIAL YEAR: January 1 – December 31st
CHARITABLE PURPOSE: The advancement of education