



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®  
PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL



# Youth Protection Symposium

**March 29, 2014 8:00 am-1:00 pm**

- Nationally recognized speakers
- Topics—Adverse Childhood Experiences, Teen Suicide, Bullying Awareness, Resiliency, Grooming
- Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide invites you to stay after the morning session for additional question and answer time.
- Fee \$35— includes continental breakfast

**Important information for adults in youth serving organizations!**

Register by 3/21/14 at <http://ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/1501633>

## **Presenters—Morning Session**

*for volunteers and employees in youth serving organizations*

### **Mr. Victor I. Vieth**

Executive Director Emeritus of the Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center

### **Ms. Wendy Sefcik**

Board member, Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide

### **Dr. Stuart Green**

Director, NJ Coalition for Bullying Awareness

### **Mr. Michael Johnson**

Director of Youth Protection, Boy Scouts of America

**Patriots' Path Council, 1 Saddle Road, Cedar Knolls, NJ**

For additional information please contact Mark Spaldo, 973 765-9322 ext 251 or [Mark.spaldo@scouting.org](mailto:Mark.spaldo@scouting.org)

**Prepared. For Life.™**

## Why attend?

The societal problems from not protecting our youth impacts all of us. You all know too well the damage inflicted on children and families. Your presence at this meeting shows your commitment to the welfare of young people and the need to proactively address the issues related to protecting our children.

We will hear from leaders in the fields of prevention, research, and more. We are confident that together we can keep kids safe.

## Who should attend?

Those who volunteer or work in youth serving organizations would greatly benefit from the information presented in the morning symposium.

Scout leaders and Scout parents would benefit from the afternoon session as well as the morning symposium.

## Who are the presenters?

**Mr. Victor Vieth**, Executive Director Emeritus, Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center has trained thousands of child-protection professionals from all 50 states, two U.S. territories, and 17 countries on numerous topics pertaining to child abuse investigations, prosecutions and prevention. He gained national recognition for his work in addressing child abuse in small communities as a prosecutor in rural Minnesota. He has been named to the President's Honor Roll of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children. The Young Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association named him one of the "21 Young Lawyers Leading us Into the 21st Century." Mr. Vieth has been instrumental in implementing 22 state and international Forensic interview training programs and dozens of undergraduate and graduate programs on child maltreatment.

**Dr. Stuart Green**, DMH, LCSW is founder and director of NJ Coalition for Bullying Awareness and Prevention, a networking organization formed in 2000 in response to the bullying-related tragedy at Columbine. Since its founding, the Coalition has brought together leaders of non-profits and governmental agencies concerned about childhood bullying to further bullying-related projects, hosts a series of educational sessions and meetings in NJ for educators, leaders and the public, operates a hotline which has provided support and information about bullying to thousands of parents of bullied children, school staff and the media, and manages a website - [www.njbullying.org](http://www.njbullying.org) - which provides up-to-date information about bullying and receives thousands of visits annually. Dr. Green functions as a one-man staff for the Coalition, personally answering the hotline calls and managing the website, while relying on the volunteer efforts of others for collaborative work. Dr. Green was appointed by Governor Corzine to the NJ Commission on Bullying in Schools in 2007, and Chaired the Commission, co-authoring its report, *No Time to Lose*, released in December 2009. The report became the basis for the NJ Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, widely described as the strongest anti-bullying law in the U.S.

**Mr. Michael Johnson** has conducted hundreds of training sessions for law enforcement and child services professionals worldwide. A native of San Antonio, Texas, Johnson previously served in the juvenile division of the Plano (Texas) Police Department. He joined that department in September 1982 and began working in the criminal investigations division devoted to investigating child abuse cases in 1986. He is a founding member of the Collin County Children's Advocacy Center, and in 1996 he was named the center's Child Advocate of the Year. He holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice with a minor in psychology from Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas.

Johnson continues to serve on the National Board of Directors for the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) and is a past president of the APSAC Texas State Chapter. He has served on numerous other national boards and task forces, including the National Network of Children's Advocacy Centers, the Law Enforcement Subcommittee for several of APSAC's national colloquiums, and the working group for the establishment of the National Center on the Sexual Behavior of Youth. And, he has been instrumental in helping shape state laws to protect children from abuse.

**Ms. Wendy Sefcik** is a 51-year-old wife and mother of 3 boys. She is a graduate of the Ohio State University and Seton Hall School of Law. At 26, Wendy lost her first husband, J.R. Giebler in the terrorist bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 on December 21, 1988. She became an advocate for airline and airport security as a founding member of The Victims of Pan Am Flight 103. She remarried and had 3 children with her husband Steve. On December 1, 2010, Wendy and Steve's 16 year old son T.J. died by suicide. He was extremely sensitive, yet also outgoing, funny, an honor student and varsity athlete. He was the life of the party, but with inner pain that he kept well hidden. He suffered from depression and lost his battle with the disease on December 1, 2010. Through the overwhelming pain of losing her precious son, Wendy works each day to count her blessings and to give thanks for all she has been given instead of all she has lost. She is a strong advocate for suicide prevention. She also works to educate herself on teen depression, and other mental health disorders in teens in the hopes of helping others from suffering the same fate. She strives to raise awareness of depression and mood disorders in teens and to provide hope to those dealing with these issues. Wendy is a board member for The Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide (SPTS) and Interregnum: Finding Life After Loss. She is a field advocate for The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP). She is available to speak at schools to students, parents, administrators and guidance counselors on teen depression, suicide prevention and dealing with suicide loss.