Dear Friend of StolenYouth,

This past year has been an incredible testament to resilience. So many of us are managing through another set of unforeseen circumstances and new, uncharted waters. There are no better role models for us in this time than the children, youth, and partner organizations we work for and with at StolenYouth. We are so honored to be able to serve, and to have our circle of support continue to grow and thrive. This report serves as a review of our past year – and, equally important – an invitation to join us in honoring ten years of incredible work and a leap into the next decade with new aspirations to do even more.

– Kara Hurst, Board Chair

1,325+ YOUTH

Our coalition made significant impacts in the fight against child sex trafficking in Washington state over the past year despite the impact of COVID-19. Through persistence and dedication, critical programming was delivered to over 1,325 youth.

12 TASK FORCES

Twelve regional Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) task forces were supported through trainings and technical assistance, providing a statewide, coordinated, and trauma-informed response.

1,200 POSTS

Technology was increased to interrupt buyers and connect youth to advocates. Project: SugarFree removed approximately 1,200 posts, reported 4,200 posts, and de-platformed approximately 21 exploiters on Twitter.
THANKS TO OUR DONORS
We Are Making a Difference

2021 GRANT RECIPIENTS

We Are Making a Difference

PROJECT: SUGARFREE

After coming across tens of thousands of online solicitations for “sugar babies,” becoming aware of the rapid growth of sugaring on college campuses, and seeing the mass normalization of sugaring language, StolenYouth partnered with creative agency DNA Seattle to use data analytics tools and automated AI technology to intersect, educate and help dissuade potential victims and suppress abusers.

The practice of “sugaring” typically involves wealthy older men engaging in a commercial transaction where they provide gifts, money, trips, and other things of value in exchange for the time and attention of younger women and men. The lure of sugaring – looking for or being a sugar daddy, sugar mama or sugar baby – has been identified by law enforcement as a first step into prostitution and a gateway to child sex trafficking and exploitation.

Out of 10 million Seeking Arrangement users, 42% are college students. In 2020, the top 5 colleges with the most “sugar babies” were: NYU, Georgia State, University of Central Florida, Columbia, & the University of Alabama.
In 2021 we launched the Empowerment Fund and a new partnership with the Robins Nest Family Foundation. Thanks to their incredible generosity, the Empowerment Fund will provide grants to survivors of sex trafficking & exploitation for education or job training programs.

Created to empower survivors as they change the circumstances of their lives, we hope these grants will make a positive, long-term, and sustainable difference in the life of every recipient.

From the Robins Nest Family Foundation: “The Empowerment Fund evolved from our vision of seeing a problem in our community and seeking to solve it. The Empowerment Fund was created in hopes of empowering survivors to change the direction of their lives by providing access to education and job training. We hope survivors will gain security, hope and a future to be proud of. We are honored to partner with Stolen Youth to support our shared mission of empowering our community.”

“"We were thrilled when you approved multiple Ginny Fund requests to cover legal fines of survivors. We will never forget when one of our clients left the courtroom after her convictions and fines were waived. She had tears of joy and hope for the future."" – Ariana Orford, Executive Director, Legal Hope
More than 600 children are trafficked for sex in our own backyard. This inconceivable crime is stealing life, hope and opportunity from our kids. But with your support and the hard work of our coalition partners, we are preventing child sex trafficking, recovering and connecting vulnerable youth to services, and restoring positive and productive lives.

Our annual StolenYouth luncheon has fast become one of Seattle’s most successful fundraisers, having generated over $8 million to date in the fight against the trafficking and sexual exploitation of our children and youth.

We hope you will join us as an attendee, a table host or as an event sponsor. With any of these ways you choose to support StolenYouth, you will be helping to propel real and lasting change in Washington state and beyond, and will make a life-changing impact for children who need it most.

Register: stolenyouth.org/events
Contact Us: Hope@StolenYouth.org