



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Town of Hope Mills Takes Action to Protect Children of Hope Mills as a Darkness to Light “Partner in Prevention”**

*Staff Members Trained in Award-Winning Stewards of Children® Program  
for Child Sexual Abuse Prevention*

**Hope Mills, NC** – The Town of Hope Mills has achieved *Partner in Prevention* status, a designation awarded by the nonprofit Darkness to Light to organizations which take extra steps to protect the children they serve by training staff to understand the issue of child sexual abuse, identify unsafe situations and practices, and react responsibly in the best interest of the children they serve.

One in 10 children will be sexually abused before the age of 18. Town of Hope Mills earned the *Partner in Prevention* designation by providing *Stewards of Children®* training to over 90% of its management, staff, and volunteers. This evidence-informed program is scientifically proven to help participants prevent and respond to child sexual abuse. *Partner in Prevention* was created as a national standard to help parents and caregivers recognize organizations that take child protection seriously by implementing policy and training staff to prevent child sexual abuse.

Darkness to Light is an international organization that leads the movement to end child sexual abuse by educating and empowering adults in education, youth serving organizations, and communities to protect children. Darkness to Light has affiliates in all 50 states and 17 international locations.

To learn more about child sexual abuse prevention training or to enroll your organization in Darkness to Light’s “Partner in Prevention” program, please visit [www.D2L.org/education/partner-in-prevention](http://www.D2L.org/education/partner-in-prevention)

About Darkness to Light:

*Darkness to Light is a nonprofit organization with the mission to empower adults to prevent child sexual abuse. Through education and awareness, the organization seeks to create a safer world for children to grow and thrive. Darkness to Light’s flagship program, Stewards of Children®, is a one-of-a-kind, award-winning training that teaches adults to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. More than 1.4 million adults have been trained using the program. For more information, visit [www.D2L.org](http://www.D2L.org).*

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