Sexual Abuse Awareness Workshop

What to expect: A short puppet play followed by an interactive workshop. In the puppet play, Joanne is talking to Stephen and mentions that she once had a “touching problem happen.” He asks about it and she suggests they could act out when she reported it to a trusted grownup, Mr. Kontos. Stephen then pretends to be Mr. Kontos and Joanne tells him the story of how her mom’s boyfriend, Len, sexually assaulted her. She talks about how she got help and how it is NEVER a child’s fault. (Note: Len is not in the show.) Students will work in small groups to play “Jeopardy” to answer questions in the workshop.

Key Program Points:

- Abuse is NEVER the child’s fault
- If a friend tells you that this is happening to them, believe your friend and talk with an adult
- Abuse can occur with someone a child knows well
- It can happen to anyone of any gender or age
- Abuse can happen between children
- Disclosure strategies
- Identifying helpful adults
- Understand right to privacy, consent
- There is help if this has happened to you

Resources:

Prevent Child Abuse Vermont: https://pcavt.org/
Hope Works VT https://hopeworksvt.org/
Vermont Department of Children and Families: https://DCF.VERMONT.GOV/Prevention/Stepup/Plan

For more information about our programs or ways we support families, please visit VermontFamilyNetwork.org or PuppetsInEducation.org or call (800) 800-4005