

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

**Between**

**SC Department of Social Services**

**and**

**Darkness to Light – Child Sexual Assault Prevention  
Contract # 4400033270**

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is entered into as of July 1, 2023, by and between the South Carolina Department of Social Services, Post Office Box 1520, Columbia, South Carolina 29205-1520 hereafter referred to as "SCDSS", and Darkness to Light – Child Sexual Assault Prevention, 3022 S. Morgans Point Road #118, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466 hereafter referred to as "Contractor".

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the FY 2023-24 Appropriations Act, Proviso 118.19 appropriates \$250,000.00 to Darkness to Light – Child Sexual Assault: and

WHEREAS, the Contractor shall use these funds for planning, and development of improved training provided by Darkness to Light – Child Sexual Assault Prevention, which Darkness to Light has already completed; and

WHEREAS, the mission of SCDSS is to serve South Carolina by promoting the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and vulnerable adults, helping individuals achieve stability and strengthening families; and

NOW THEREFORE, the parties to this MOA, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, and stipulations set forth herein, agree as follows:

**ARTICLE I**

**TERM OF THE AGREEMENT**

The Memorandum of Agreement shall take effect July 1, 2023 and shall continue in full force and effect until June 30, 2024.

**ARTICLE II**

**SCDSS RESPONSIBILITIES**

SCDSS agrees to pay Contractor a sum of \$250,000.00 to defray a portion of the costs Contractor has incurred to complete the Stewards of Children® training improvements described in this MOA.

## ARTICLE III

### CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

#### A. Program Description

Darkness to Light (D2L) is a global nonprofit organization and leader in CSA prevention. Its mission is to empower adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to CSA through awareness, education, and stigma reduction. Over the last 20 years, D2L has grown from a grassroots training organization into a comprehensive public health organization, equipping nearly 13,000 volunteers to facilitate its training programs.

D2L offers its core training program, Stewards of Children<sup>®</sup>, in three modalities: in-person, virtually in real-time (developed in response to Covid-19), and asynchronously online. Originally launched 17 years ago, Stewards of Children<sup>®</sup> is regarded as the only evidence-informed, award-winning training in the U.S. that teaches adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to CSA.

D2L is the first in its field to utilize a Social Behavior Change (SBC) framework to educate adults on how to prevent CSA. SBC is a proven approach for enabling changes at individual, community, and societal levels to improve health and overall well-being, and it informs D2L's theory of change. Adults at all levels of society—caregivers, staff, and management at youth serving organizations (including medical offices), policy makers, religious leaders, and social service agency staff—have an active role to play in preventing CSA within their spheres of influence. Collectively, they can:

- Increase available resources for prevention interventions and research.
- Reduce the stigma that often surrounds CSA.
- Increase individual and community confidence that the system works to prevent CSA and is appropriately responsive in the event of suspected or reported incidents.
- Increase accountability across all levels of society.

When measured long-term, D2L hypothesizes that these actions will lead to decreased incidence and prevalence of CSA.

#### B. Scope of Work

Darkness to Light raised money and used existing reserves to cover a significant portion of the cost prior to completing the New Stewards project (\$863,000). These state funds (\$250,000) will be used to repay the debt that was incurred to update and improve Stewards of Children and to support operating expenses incurred during the period July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023 while new Stewards of Children was in development, thereby ensuring the training will continue to make a difference in the lives of children in South Carolina and throughout the country.

#### C. Project Objectives

Empower the organization to continue to make child sexual abuse prevention training accessible to a wide audience, by supporting financial needs and enabling capacity building.

The immediate measure of success to indicate we have met our goal successfully is to repay the LOC Loan. This loan is due on October 31, 2023, but we are also working with South State bank for an extension of the due date and anticipate that extension will be granted since it is possible that we will not receive the emergency grant by the due date of October 31,2023.

**D. Reporting Requirements**

Contractor is required to submit a report to DSS that includes an accounting of how the funds were spent to include a quarterly spending update and a report with outcome measurements used to determine the success of the stated goals by June 30, 2024.

**E. Amendment**

No amendment or modification of this Agreement shall be valid unless it shall be made in writing and signed by both parties.

**F. Safeguarding Information**

The Contractor shall safeguard the use and disclosure of information about applicants and recipients of services in addition to restricting access to, use, and disclosure of such information in compliance with applicable federal and state laws.

**G. Fines and Penalties**

The Contractor is responsible for paying all fines and penalties incurred by the performance of services provided through this MOA.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The SCDSS and Provider, by their authorized agents, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, and conditions exchanged between them, have executed this agreement to be effective as of the first day of July 1, 2023.

**Signature of Responsible Parties:**

**Susan Roben** Digitally signed by Susan Roben  
Date: 2023.10.25 16:05:26  
-04'00'

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Susan Roben  
SCDSS Chief Financial Officer

**10/25/2023**

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Date

**Rhonda Newton** Digitally signed by Rhonda Newton  
Date: 2023.10.25 12:57:06 -05'00'

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Rhonda Newton, CEO

**10/25/2023**

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## State of South Carolina Request for Contribution Distribution

This form is designed to collect the information required by South Carolina in accordance with Proviso 117.21 of the appropriations act of 2022 and Executive Order 2022-19. This form must be submitted to the state agency that is providing the contribution for the designated organization. The state agency providing the contribution should use this form to collect information from the designated organization. The information must be collected from the designated organization before the funds can be disbursed.

### Contribution Information

Amount	State Agency Providing the Contribution	Purpose
\$250,000.00	L040 - Department of Social Services	2023-24 State Appropriations Act

### Organization Information

Entity Name	Darkness to Light - Child Sexual Assault Prevention
Address	3022 S. Morgans Point Road #118
City/State/Zip	Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466
Website	www.d2l.org
Tax ID#	57-1095108
Entity Type	Nonprofit Organization

### Organization Contact Information

Contact Name	Rhonda Newton
Position/Title	CEO
Telephone	843-965-5444
Email	rnewton@d2l.org

### Plan/Accounting of how these funds will be spent:

Description	Budget	Explanation
Salaries and Fringes	\$144,854.00	
Contractual Services	\$105,146.00	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$250,000.00</b>	

### Please explain how these funds will be used to provide a public benefit:

Darkness to Light (D2L) is a global nonprofit organization and leader in CSA prevention. Its mission is to empower adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to CSA through awareness, education, and stigma reduction. Over the last 20 years, D2L has grown from a grassroots training organization into a comprehensive public health organization, equipping nearly 13,000 volunteers to facilitate its training programs. In turn, these volunteers have trained more than 2 million people in 78 countries.

D2L offers its core training program, Stewards of Children®, in three modalities: in-person, virtually in real-time (developed in response to Covid-19), and asynchronously online. Originally launched 17 years ago, Stewards of Children® is regarded as the only evidence-informed, award-winning training in the U.S. that teaches adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to CSA. D2L is the first in its field to utilize a Social Behavior Change (SBC) framework to educate adults on how to prevent CSA. SBC is a proven approach for enabling changes at individual, community, and societal levels to improve health and overall well-being, and it informs D2L's theory of change. Adults at all levels of society—caregivers, staff and management at youth-serving organizations (including medical offices), policy makers, religious leaders, and social service agency staff—have an active role to play in preventing CSA within their spheres of influence. These funds will pay a portion of the operating expenses incurred for D2L to update and enhance its Stewards of Children training, improving user experience and program effectiveness.

### Organization Certifications

- 1) Organization hereby gives assurance that no person shall, upon the grounds of race, creed, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefit of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which this organization is responsible.
- 2) Organization certifies that it will provide quarterly spending reports to the Agency Providing Contribution listed above.
- 3) Organization certifies that it will provide an accounting at the end of the fiscal year to the Agency Providing Contribution listed above.
- 4) Organization certifies that it will allow the State Auditor to audit or cause to be audited the contributed funds.

Rhonda Newton Digitally signed by Rhonda Newton  
Date: 2023.10.25 12:57:39 -05'00'

Organization Signature

**Rhonda Newton**

Printed Name

**CEO**

Title

**10/25/2023**

Date

### Certifications of State Agency Providing Contribution

- 1) State Agency certifies that the planned expenditure aligns with the Agency's mission and/or the purpose specified in the appropriations act of 2023.
- 2) State Agency certifies that the Organization has set forth a public purpose to be served through receipt of the expenditure.
- 3) State Agency certifies that it will make distributions directly to the organization.
- 4) State Agency certifies that it will provide the quarterly spending reports and accounting received from the organization to the Senate Finance Committee, House Ways and Means Committee, and the Executive Budget Office by June 30, 2023.
- 5) State Agency certifies that it will publish on their website any and all reports, accountings, forms, updates, communications, or other materials required by Proviso 117.21 of the appropriations act of 2022.
- 6) State Agency will certify to the Office of the Governor that it has complied with the requirements of Executive Order 2022-19 by June 30, 2023.

*Mike Leach*  
Mike Leach (Oct 25, 2023 16:24 EDT)

Agency Head Signature

**Michael Leach**

Printed Name

**10-25-2023**

Date










# Darkness to Light Memorandum of Agreement

Final Audit Report

2023-10-25

Created:	2023-10-25
By:	Susan Roben (susan.roben@dss.sc.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA8iVEK9duLhid3g_ZFnq0z9SoHQARzsx8

## "Darkness to Light Memorandum of Agreement" History

-  Document digitally presigned by Rhonda Newton (rnewton@d2l.org)  
2023-10-25 - 5:57:06 PM GMT
-  Document digitally presigned by Rhonda Newton (rnewton@d2l.org)  
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-  Document digitally presigned by Susan Roben (susan.roben@dss.sc.gov)  
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-  Document created by Susan Roben (susan.roben@dss.sc.gov)  
2023-10-25 - 8:09:18 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to michael.leach@dss.sc.gov for signature  
2023-10-25 - 8:10:24 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by michael.leach@dss.sc.gov  
2023-10-25 - 8:11:22 PM GMT
-  Signer michael.leach@dss.sc.gov entered name at signing as Mike Leach  
2023-10-25 - 8:24:52 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Mike Leach (michael.leach@dss.sc.gov)  
Signature Date: 2023-10-25 - 8:24:54 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.  
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