

From: John Jensen

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 12:02 PM

To: 'dawn@ncose.com' <dawn@ncose.com>

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Subject: Responding to your email...

Importance: High

Dear Dawn:

Thank you for your email and the opportunity for continued dialogue. While I disagree with many of your assumptions and your interpretation of what I can only characterize as misinformation, I appreciate your strong advocacy on behalf of abuse victims and greatly respect changes your organization has created. Clearly, we differ in our opinion of whether Kanakuk deserves to be included in the annual Dirty Dozen List. However, we are aligned in our agreement that entire industries such as pornography present many clear dangers to society, not the least of which is the propensity to facilitate sexual abuse and exploitation. We see the impact firsthand as we minister to thousands of campers and families each year.

Referencing the specific requests made by the NCOSE, they are, for the most part, requests where we believe we can also find common ground. Certainly, this may require additional conversations and follow-up, but I am confident that Kanakuk can demonstrate our commitment to child safety while providing validation and value to the efforts of the NCOSE.

Concerning your request for an annual transparency report regarding abuse allegations, we are interested in hearing more details on what successful reporting looks like for NCOSE. You may not be aware, but Kanakuk – as mandatory reporters in our work with campers each summer – routinely receives information from kids about abusive situations at their home/school/work/church that we then promptly report to proper authorities. Sadly, I can tell you that this number rises each year, spiking during the COVID pandemic. We would welcome any examples you could share of organizations who are successfully implementing the transparency report you are suggesting. We would be interested to see how such reports are structured and communicated to stakeholders.

Concerning your request for us to release survivors from non-disclosure agreements so that they may further their healing and restoration, we believe this is already accomplished. Kanakuk supports the right of any victim to share their story in support of their healing, and we have no interest in interfering with this right. Joe White (CEO) communicated our support in an [Open Letter](#) on February 25, 2022. All our efforts aim to provide survivors with the resources they need to pursue whatever therapy, counseling, or treatments that can support them on their journey toward restoration.

Concerning your request for Kanakuk to publicly acknowledge a role in “decades of sexual abuse and insufficient efforts to prevent such abuse...”, I’m frankly not sure if this is where

misinformation is creating confusion, or if you are holding reportable information to which we are not privy. For example, you mention that you know of “at least 110 survivors who have come forward alleging abuse by 25 former Kanakuk staff.” Kanakuk is aware of 2 abusers who committed abuse crimes while employed by Kanakuk – Pete Newman and Lee Bradberry. As you are aware, these cases of abuse have been public and widely documented. We have also publicly acknowledged that Kanakuk’s past policies and practices did not prevent these abuses, which led us to create the [Kanakuk Child Protection Plan](#). This plan is fully integrated into Kanakuk’s operations and has been shared with more than 600 other youth serving organizations to prevent abuse.

We would welcome any information you have on other allegations of abuse which we are not aware of. We have seen mention of former Kanakuk employees who either allegedly committed or were convicted of crimes many years after employment with Kanakuk. Surely there is not a serious assumption by NCOSE that Kanakuk is responsible or complicit for the action of every former employee for their lifetime? If so, then you and I both know that nearly every Cruise Line, Theme Park, and Educational Institution would deserve to be on your list.

Concerning your request for us to proactively share our full Kanakuk Child Protection Plan, I would be delighted to do so! The actual training materials are numerous and sizeable and will require a file transfer outside of email. Please provide a Dropbox or similar shared file service location where we can provide these materials?

I hope that this email provides at least a bit of assurance to you that Kanakuk truly does take child safety seriously. While I recognize that there are likely still areas where we are not aligned, I am hopeful that this can begin a productive and substantial dialogue between Kanakuk and NCOSE moving forward. Please direct all future communications directly to me.

Best regards,
John Jensen
Chief Business Officer, Kanakuk Ministries