FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Keep Kids Safe Movement Heads for Capitol Hill

Actor Anthony Edwards Joins Child Sexual Abuse Survivors to Advocate for Change

Washington D.C. - April 20, 2023 - Keep Kids Safe, a movement dedicated to ending sexual violence against children and adolescents, is excited to announce that it will be joining forces with award-winning actor and child sexual abuse survivor Anthony Edwards and fellow survivors for a Hill Day on Capitol Hill, April 25-26.

The Keep Kids Safe Movement is a grassroots movement made up of leading child advocacy organizations dedicated to raising awareness about child sexual abuse and violence and promoting policies that prioritize prevention, healing, and justice. With a mission to end the epidemic of child sexual violence and exploitation, the movement advocates for legislative changes and policy reforms to prevent future children from experiencing sexual violence and provide access to healing and justice for survivors, their families, and their communities.

"Together we are working to push for policies that prioritize the safety and well-being of children; Because all kids deserve to be safe from harm." –Katelyn N. Brewer, Co-Founder & Chair of Keep Kids Safe and President & CEO of Darkness to Light

Anthony Edwards is an accomplished actor and producer known for his roles as LTJG Nick 'Goose' Bradshaw in the blockbuster film "Top Gun" and Dr. Mark Greene of the popular television drama "ER". Since disclosing his own experience as a survivor of child sexual abuse in 2017, Edwards has been a vocal advocate for survivors and proponent of trauma informed mental health care, as a means of healing. He serves as Chairman of the Board at 1in6, a not-for-profit organization with a mission to help men who have had unwanted or abusive sexual experiences live healthier, happier lives.

"I am proud to join my fellow survivors in Washington, D.C to give voice to this often-overlooked issue that affects millions of children and adult survivors of child sexual abuse. It's time for our voices to be heard, and together change the way we protect our children." – Anthony Edwards, Actor/Producer, Survivor Advocate and Board Chair of 1in6.org

During the Hill Day on Capitol Hill, representatives from the Keep Kids Safe Movement, including survivors and advocates, will meet with legislators to discuss critical issues related to child sexual abuse prevention, healing, and justice and to introduce its <u>U.S. National Blueprint to End Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents</u>—a roadmap for legislators to take tangible action. Keep Kids Safe calls upon policymakers to prioritize the needs of survivors and implement policies that can prevent future instances of child sexual abuse and expand access to healing and justice.

Keep Kids Safe will also meet with the Gender Policy Council and Domestic Policy Council at the White House, as well as host a roundtable discussion alongside the

Bipartisan Task Force to End Sexual Violence. Outside of the White House, survivors of child sexual abuse will be gathered for a rally of hope to show their support for executive and congressional action to address prevention, healing and justice.

All survivors and advocates are invited to attend, and can register at: keep-kids-safe.org/hill-day-2023

"We are honored to amplify the voices of survivors. We look forward to introducing the U.S National Blueprint and discussing this important roadmap for federal action. This is a deeply human issue -- impacting every community, state, and District. Together, we can keep kids safe."— Tom Krumins, Keep Kids Safe Executive Director and Survivor Advocate

About Keep Kids Safe

Keep Kids Safe is a diverse survivor and child-centered movement engaging our communities and leaders to drive holistic federal action and systematic change to keep kids safe from sexual violence. The movement is committed to advocating for comprehensive prevention strategies, survivor-centered healing programs, and legal and systemic changes that will lead to justice for survivors of child sexual abuse.

Media Opportunities:

We invite the media to join Keep Kids Safe leadership, Anthony Edwards, and other survivor-advocates in a discussion about the scale of sexual violence against children and adolescents and how we can address this issue through the National Blueprint.

Tuesday, April 25 | 3-6pm EST

Media interviews scheduled upon request only Location: TBD

Wednesday, April 26 | 9-10am EST

Roundtable Discussion: Bipartisan Task Force to End Sexual Violence Location: RSVP for more details

Press wishing to attend the roundtable must RSVP in advance to:

Annie Lentz at Annie.Lentz@mail.house.gov.

For media inquiries, please contact:

Tanyelle Gill, Communications Chair, Keep Kids Safe

Phone: (917) 622-3226 | Email: TGill@d2l.org

For more information, visit keep-kids-safe.org