

TAASRO 2018

19th Annual "Safe Schools" Training Conference

June 4-8, 2018, Orange Beach Event Center, 4671 Wharf Parkway, AL 36561

Theme: "The Psychological, Social, and Emotional Influence on Adolescent Behavior"

As societal trends evolve, external cultural influences may seep into the hallways and classrooms of our schools. The safety of the school environment depends on awareness, prevention, and proactive measures. This year, TAASRO brings you the "hot" cultural topics that can have a negative influence on the safe school environment-- if left undetected, unaddressed, and unresolved.

- Lieutenant Brian Murphy -A "Don't miss." - It was a regular Sunday when Lt. Brian Murphy was called to respond to an active shooter at the Sikh Temple in Wisconsin. Lt. Murphy was shot multiple times and was able to distract the killer until his backup arrived. He tells his story of winning an armed encounter through mindset, preparation, and will.
- Phil Chalmers will be addressing the causes, warning signs and triggers of dangerous youth culture, including cop-killing music, violent video games, gangs, and dangerous social media and phone apps.
- Clark Flatt will discuss awareness, education, and action of youth suicide, which is currently the 2nd leading cause of death for our nation's youth ages 10-24. Each week in our nation, we lose an average of 113 young people to this national health crisis of youth suicide. Annually, we are losing more teenagers and young adults to suicide than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia, influenza and chronic lung disease
COMBINED.
- Lt. Brooke Walker -As technology advances, online victimization of children increases. These types of crimes have become a significant problem and require a multifaceted response. This session will address the current trends in online victimization and give law enforcement and educators examples of current social media websites and apps that children are using today. Emphasis will be placed on the warning signs of negatively impacted children, to include case examples of why immediate intervention is necessary. Rounding out the session will be a discussion on joining all available resources to provide an effective response and protect children from the dangers on the internet.
- Taylor Wesley will share 1) her story in order for the audience to understand her struggles, upbringing, and treatment, 2) provide background information about how alcoholism/addiction works, 3) provide background information about how recovery works, 4) explain what recovery has done for her in her life, and 5) explain why it is her job to continue to spread the message about mental illness in order for others to rebuild their lives.
- Karen Williams- We all know adolescents are wired differently, but recent research has revealed how vastly different the teen brain is - - and how at risk it really is. For instance: the average teen brain operates at rates that are 50 to 80 times faster than the average adult brain; under the same circumstances, the teen brain automatically makes 2 to 5 times more of cortisol than the adult brain, and that dose stays 2-5 times longer than it does in the adult brain; and there far more receptors in the teen brain than in the adult, making teens up to 5 times more likely to become addicted to psychoactive substances. This workshop covers the latest science and ways we can help protect youth from their pre-wired vulnerabilities.
- Dr. Delany Ruston- Are you watching kids scroll through life, with their rapid-fire thumbs and a six-second attention span? Physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston saw that with her own kids and learned that the average kid spends 6.5 hours a day looking at screens.

She wondered about the impact of all this time and about the friction occurring in homes and schools around negotiating screen time—friction she knew all too well.

In SCREENAGERS, as with her award-winning documentaries on mental health, Delaney takes a deeply personal approach as she probes into the vulnerable corners of family life, including her own, to explore struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. Through poignant, and unexpectedly funny stories, along with surprising insights from authors, psychologists, and brain scientists, SCREENAGERS reveals how tech time impacts kids' development and offers solutions on how adults can empower kids to best navigate the digital world and find balance.

I welcome you to join TAASRO in Sunny Gulf Shores, Alabama for a week of some of the best training in the Southeast. For more information about the conference visit our website www.taasro.org and follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/taasro>.