DATA & THE STORY IT TELLS

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AGENDA

Introduction

Data Elements Collected

Method for Collecting Data

Collaboration Team Members

Next Steps

INTRODUCTION

"Without data you're just another person with an opinion."

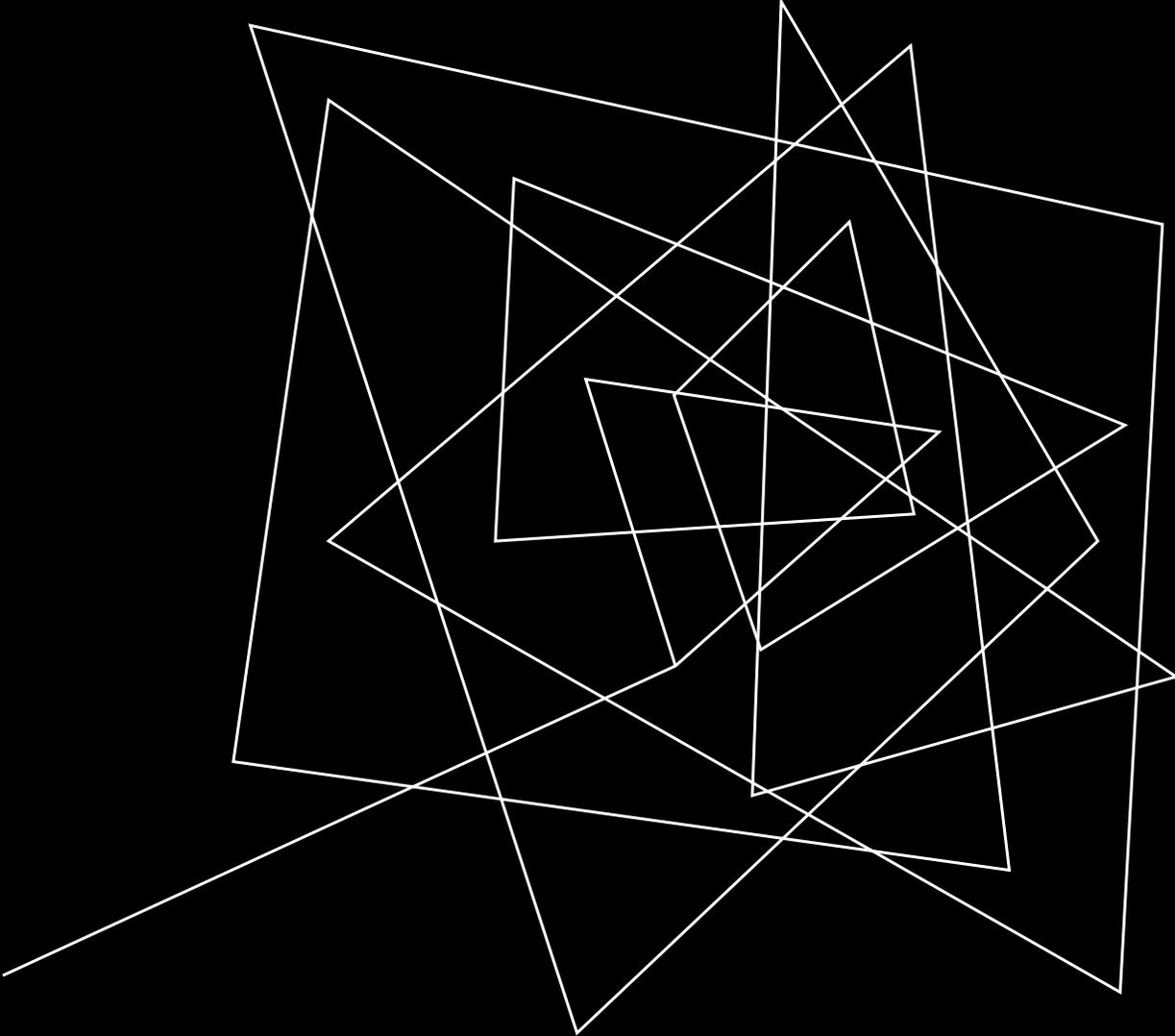Edwards Deming, Statistician

DATA COLLECTION PROJECT

Take a close look at the prevalence of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) within Mecklenburg County.

Establish/Continue the collaboration of primary agencies serving minor victims within Mecklenburg County.

Establish a sustainable method for collecting, reviewing, and analyzing data around CSEC.

Provide reliable data to Charlotte Metro Human Trafficking Task Force to equip providers and city leaders to advocate for families.

Shift the narrative around the issue of child sex trafficking to one of facts and not opinions.

DATA ELEMENTS

What are we collecting?

DATA ELEMENTS (DE)

DE #1 ——————— Age of child upon CSEC identification

DE #2 ——————— Zip Code of child's primary residence (not of trafficking); must be within Mecklenburg County

DE #3 ——————— Interaction with Law Enforcement (Victim Only or Criminal Charges also)

DE #4 ——————— Status of Victimization: Suspected or Confirmed. Along with agency interaction
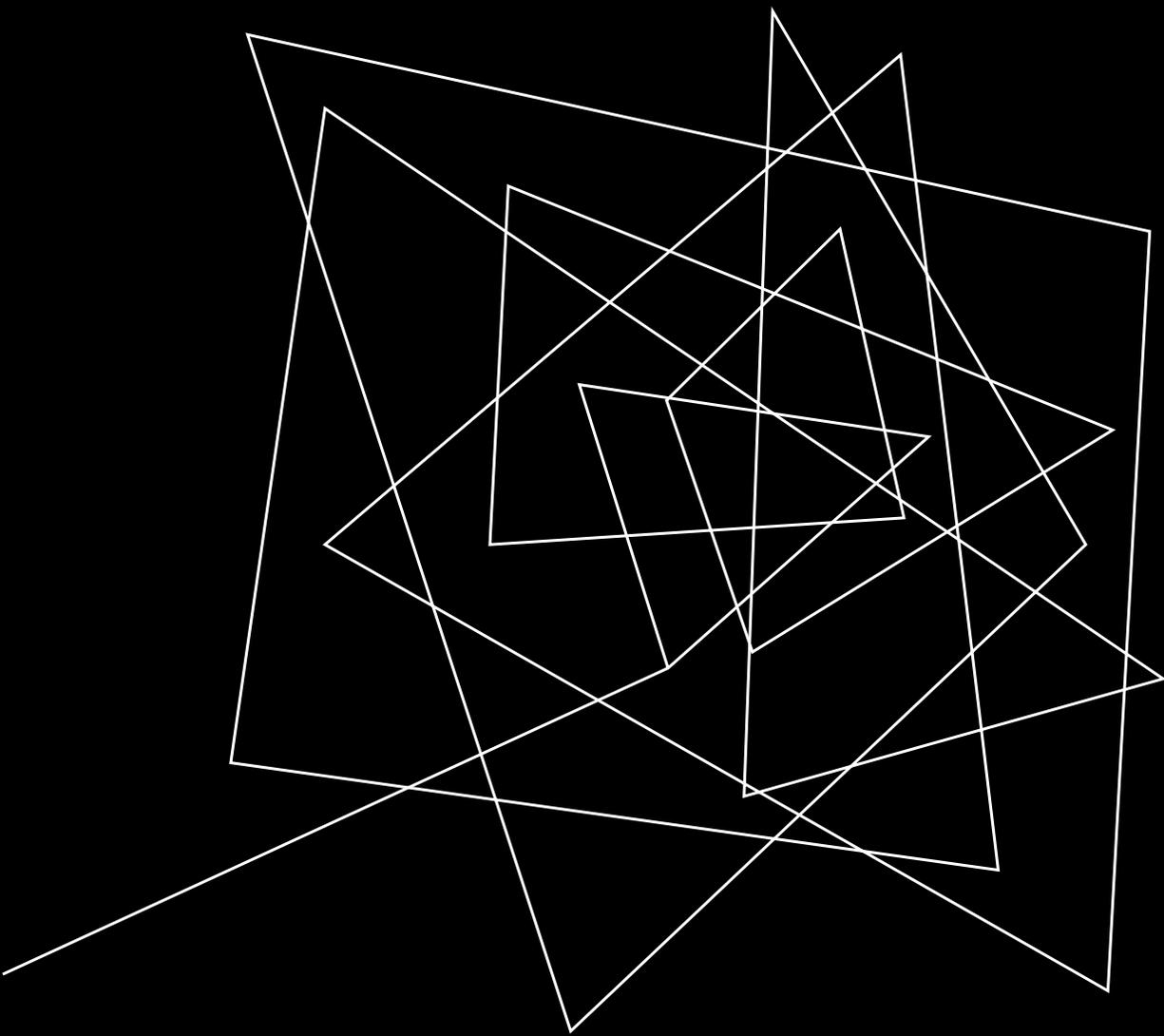
FUTURE DATA ELEMENTS (DE)

DE #5 ——————— Vulnerabilities present before victimization occurred

DE #6 ——————— Length of trafficking involvement before identification

DE #7 ——————— Social Autopsies on random cases for deep dive into vulnerabilities

DE #8 ——————— Prosecution(s) tied to victimization

METHOD OF COLLECTION

How are we collecting the data?

HOW WE GET THERE - CONSISTENCY IS KEY

CONSISTENT TEMPLATE

Established a working document that each agency receives to complete. This ensures that data is entered in the correct manner to avoid errors.

CONSISTENT DEFINITIONS

We have established what each data element represents. When reporting, each agency uses this as the standard information (regardless of what their individual agency defines).

Example: Suspected vs Confirmed

CONSISTENT IDENTIFICATION METHOD

Victims present differently to various community agencies. We developed a UNIQUE ID system that allows us to validate the identification of the child (to remove duplications). This UNIQUE ID is how we report in the template.

THE PROCESS ENSURES SUCCESS

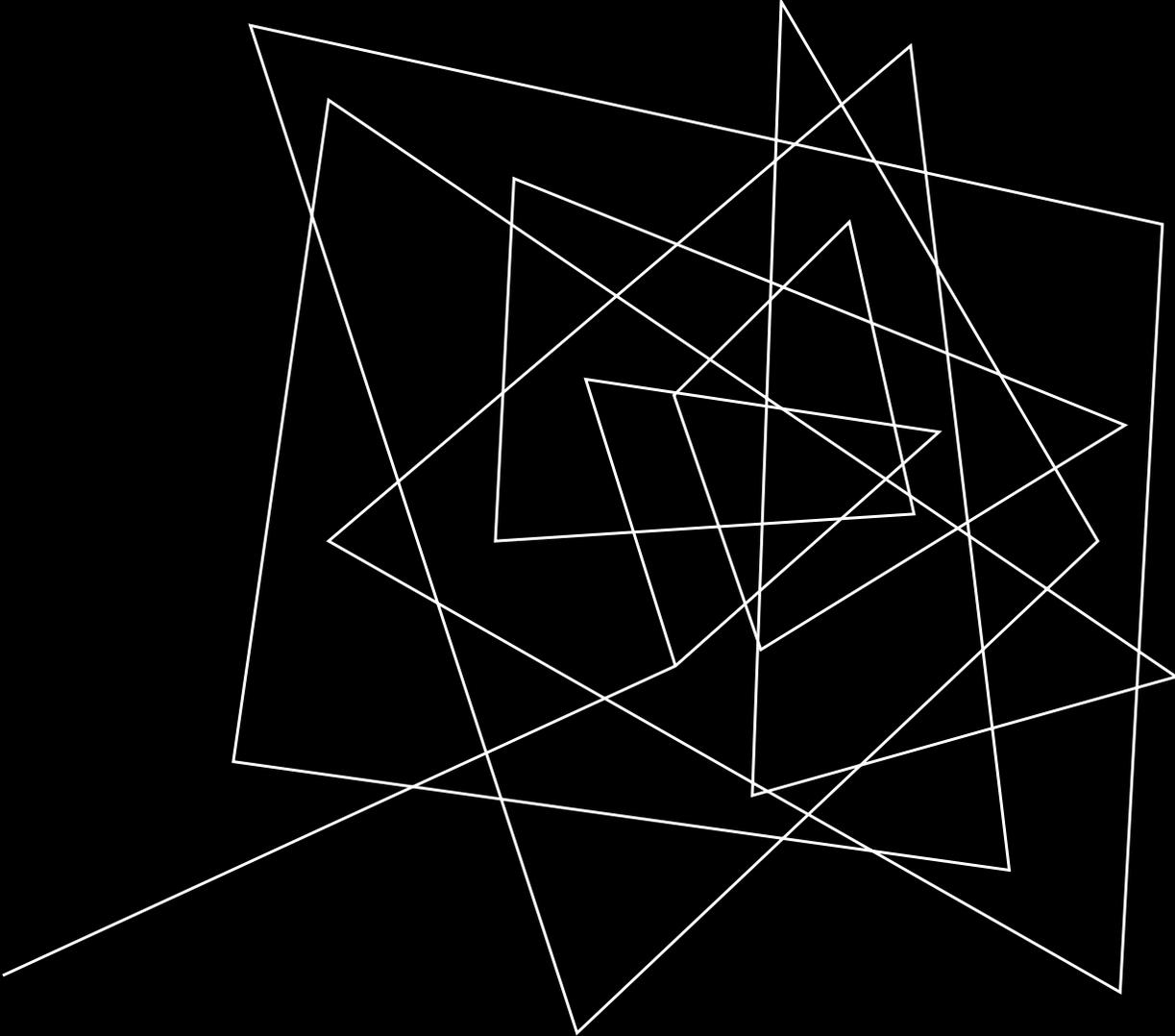## SOMEONE HAS TO OWN & LEAD IT

Present Age has taken the responsibility to lead this effort, which means resources have been dedicated to:

- Collecting data,

- Scrubbing data, and

- Producing reports.

BUY IN BY THOSE WITH AUTHORITY

Agencies must be vetted task force members. We have identified a liaison for each partner agency. Liaisons must have access to data and authority to share.

- We host quarterly sit downs with team (in person) to walk through data and answer any questions about identified youth

COLLABORATION

Who is participating in data collection?

COLLABORATION TEAM MEMBERS

Department of Youth & Family Services – Special Victims Unit

Pat's Place Child Advocacy Center

Atrium Health Care – Emergency Room/HT Unit

Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department – HT Unit

Present Age Ministries – Primary Service Provider for CSEC Youth

IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE

ESTABLISHED MDT MEEETING

The identified agencies have an established MDT meeting as well as a process for connecting with one another about identified victims. Data has been the output of years of building relationships and protocol - not the first step.
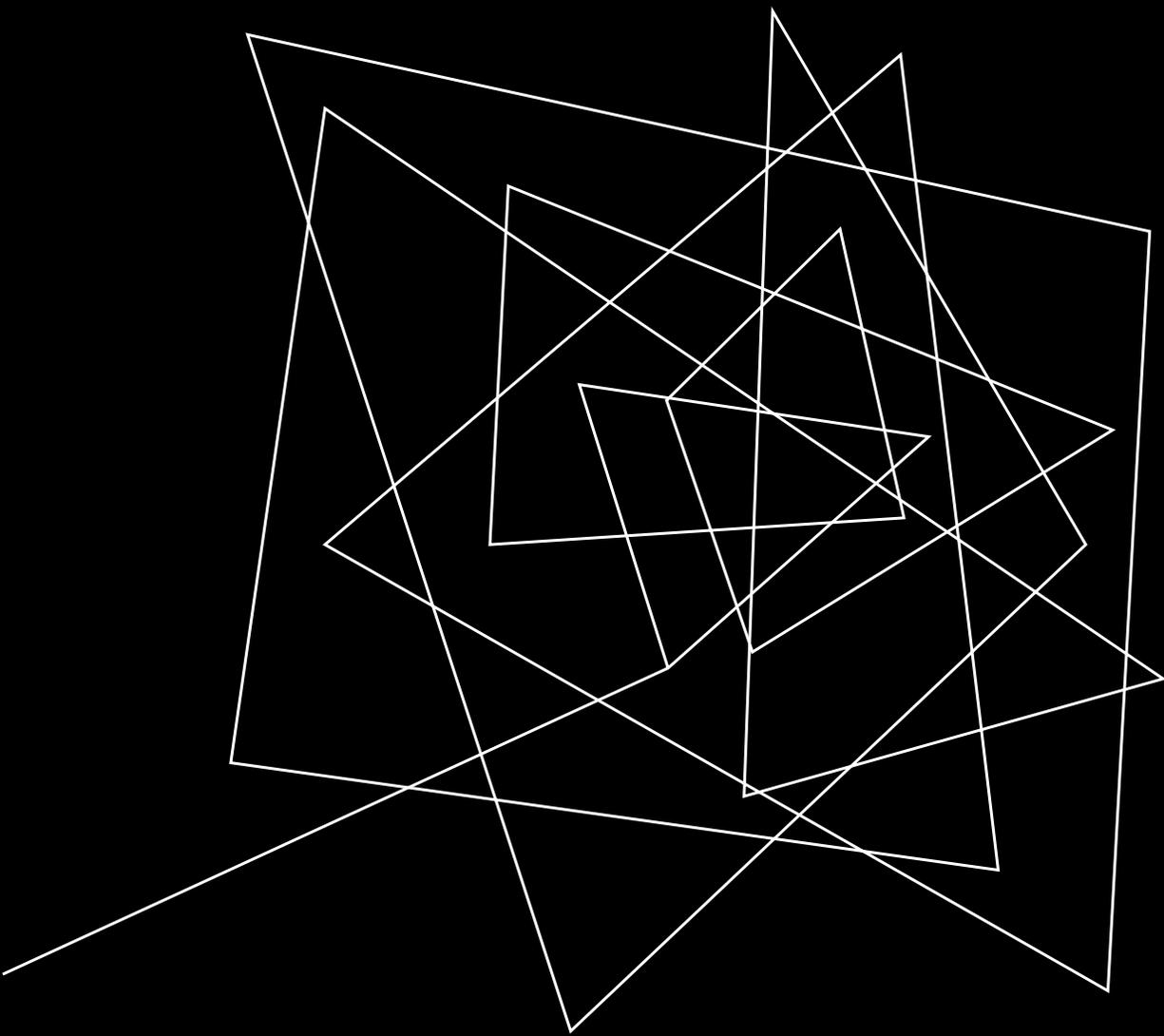
WHAT ABOUT OTHER AGENCIES?

Other vetted members of the task force are often engaged to ensure accuracy of information. These agencies included, but are not limited to:

- Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)

- Guardian Ad Litem

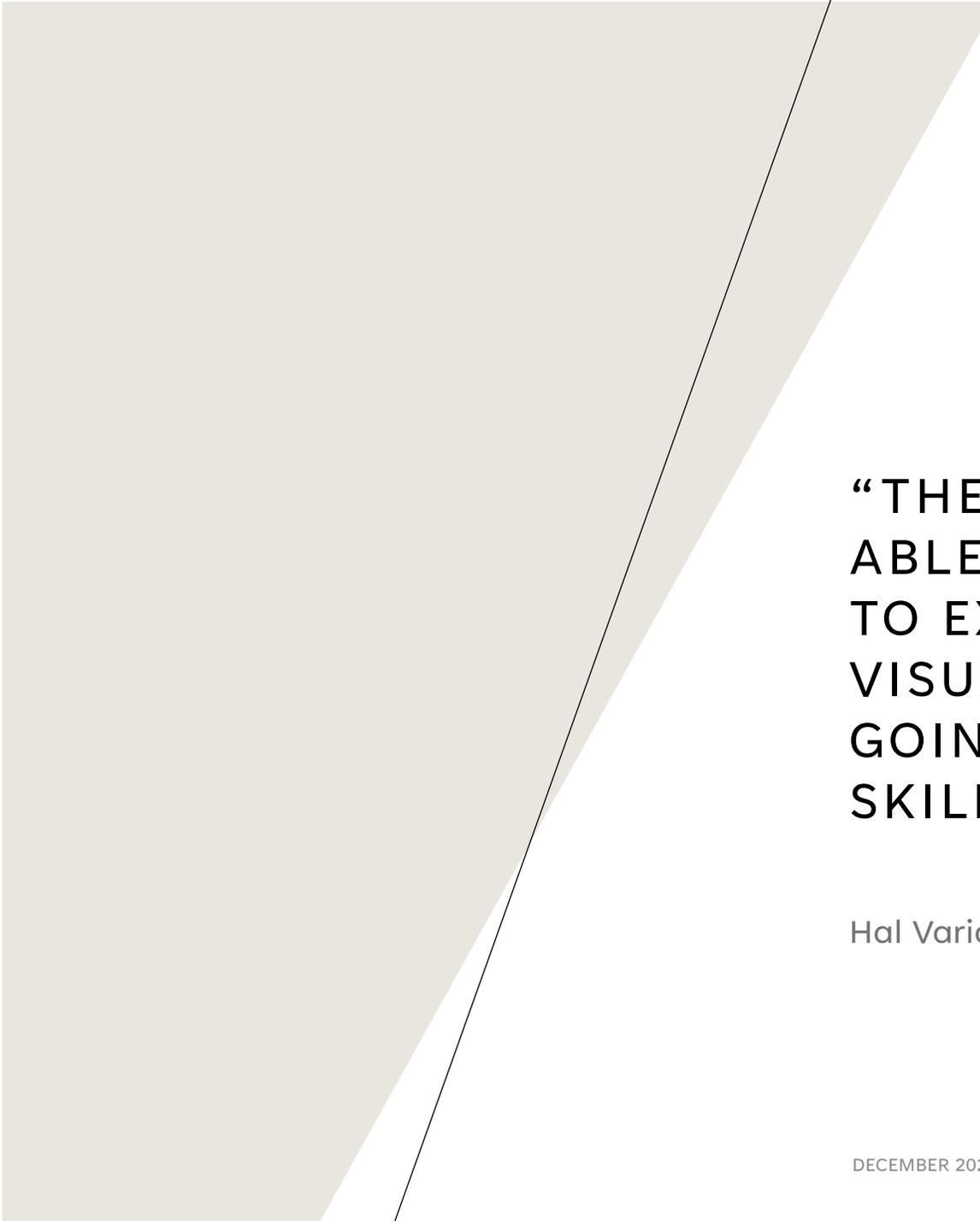- Council for Children's Rights

- Teen Health Connection

ISN'T PRIVACY AN ISSUE?

We have an administrative order that allows us to share information that pertains to the welfare of children. Yes, we are collecting data but our primary concern is to ensure that no child slips through the cracks. The exercise of collecting data allows us to see where that is happening, and the liaisons can rectify and provide correction for the benefit of the child and family.
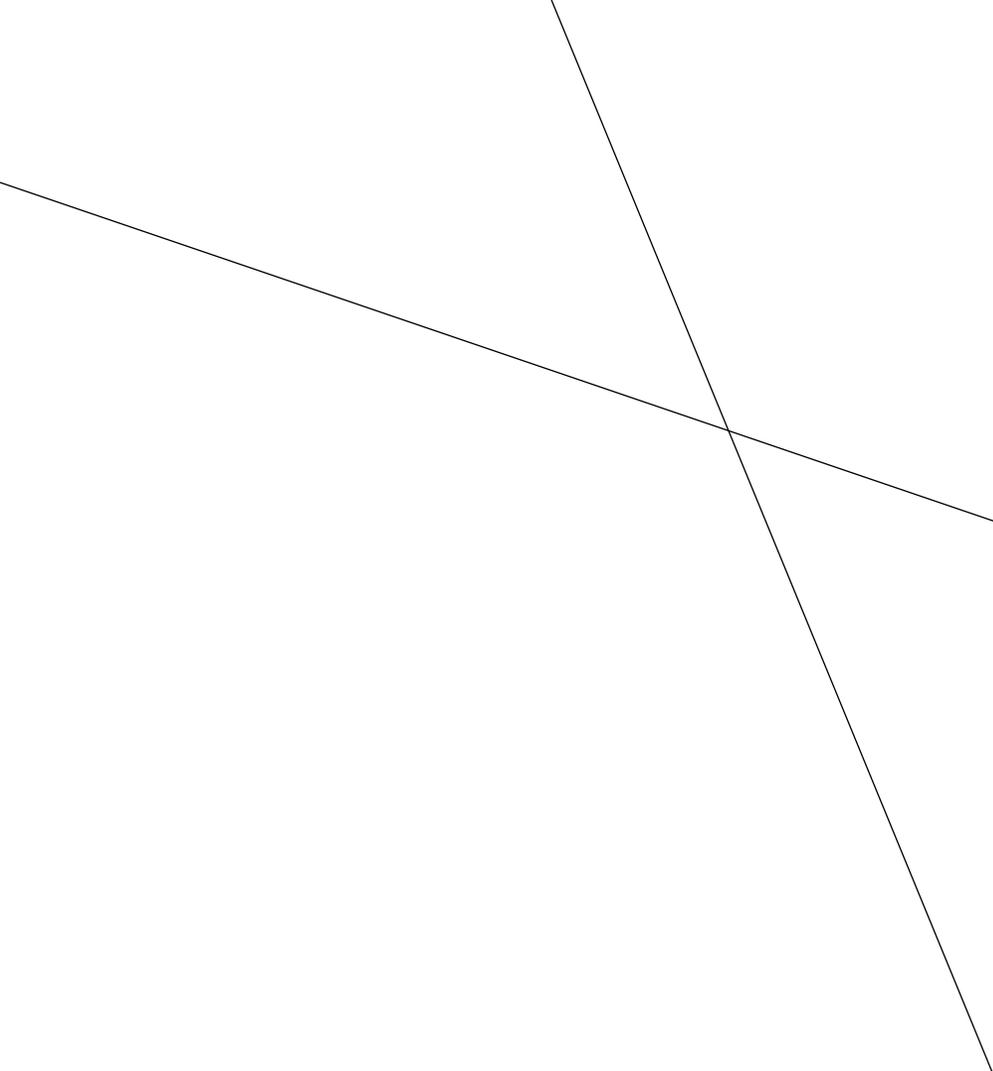
PURPOSE

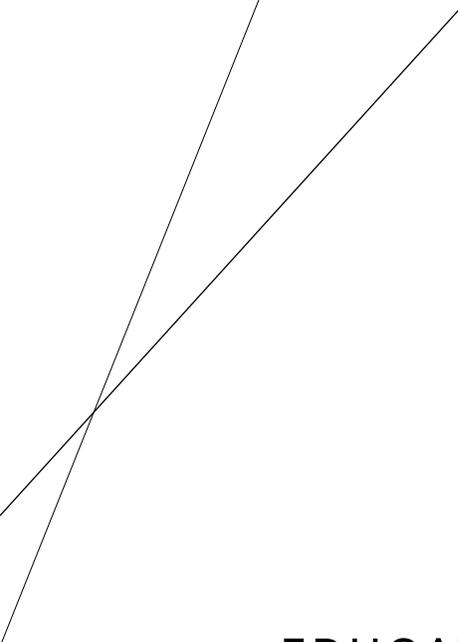What are we going to do with the data?

"THE ABILITY TO TAKE DATA — TO BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND IT, TO PROCESS IT, TO EXTRACT VALUE FROM IT, TO VISUALIZE IT, TO COMMUNICATE IT — IS GOING TO BE A HUGELY IMPORTANT SKILL IN THE NEXT DECADES."

Hal Varian, Chief Economist, Google.

SUMMARY

On January 11th, National Human Trafficking Awareness Day, we will release 3 years of data regarding the prevalence of trafficking of minors in Mecklenburg County. We will no longer be people with opinions, but data to prove what we are saying. This will begin to change the narrative.

DATA DRIVES OUTCOMES

EDUCATING COMMUNITIES

Identifying areas impacted as well as geographical hot spots will enable us to fuel community education programs that are specific to the unique realities present within each community.
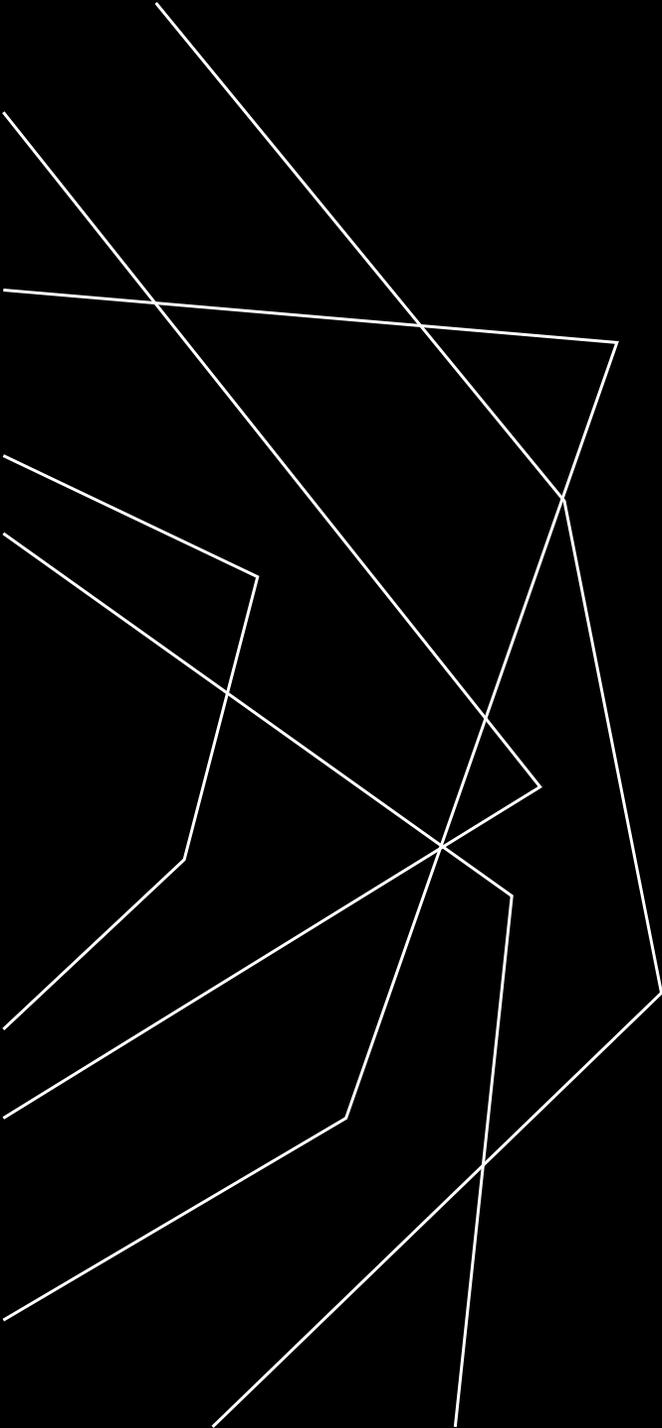
Collaboration strategies are community based on and not reliant on one single agency.

DEVELOPING PREVENTION STRATEGIES

Establishing prevention strategies need to be directly tied to adolescent development. Knowing the age of onset of victimization is critical to accomplish this.

CLOSING THE GAPS

Understanding how children are interacting with the system of care within a community helps identify strengths and gaps. Digging into the history of identified victims as well as interagency protocols allows us to evaluate, adapt, and better serve.

THANK YOU

To request a copy of the report or to learn details about the event on January 11th – email us at info@presentageministries.org

To request a copy of the template or to set up a call, contact me at

Hannah.arrowood@presentageministries.org