

# Alison Feigh

## **Program Director, Jacob Wetterling Resource Center**



Alison Feigh came to Jacob Wetterling Resource Center (JWRC) initially in 2001 from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. She remained with JWRC until 2009 working with students, parents, law enforcement and the media, with the ultimate goal of reducing abductions and abuse of children. She returned to JWRC in 2011, following the completion of her Master of Science in criminal justice at St. Cloud State University.

As a part of her academic program, Alison studied sex offender treatment, criminal justice and the media, child internet exploitation, and sex crimes and sex offenders. Alison's research led to her current project, assisting Dr. Mary Clifford on creating a textbook about sexual violence prevention for Oxford Publishing. Alison also holds a Bachelor of Arts in communication and "Responding to Missing Children in the U.S." from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn. While at St. Olaf, Alison co-chaired the Sexual Assault Resource Network and began a peer education training program to compliment the victim services being provided.

As a subject matter expert on the topic of child and teen safety, Alison has done extensive media interviews including CNN, Fox News and local news stations. Her positive, accessible personal safety messages are featured in her children's books, "On those Runaway Days" and "I Can Play It Safe." Both titles were released nationally in 2008 and have recently been translated into Chinese.

As a classmate of Jacob Wetterling, Alison learned early on how important it is to protect our children and youth from exploitation. She believes strongly in avoiding fear-based approaches to empower children and teens to walk around smart and not scared. The high-energy presentations that Alison is known for are fed by her passion for working with children and youth.

Alison previously worked as a minister to youth and children at a metro area faith community for six years. She continues to be inspired and reenergized by working directly with children and teenagers at camps, retreats and theater companies.

# Topics

## **Workshops designed for kids and teens:**

- Empower me! - for grades K-7
- Protecting my online footprint (cyberbullying prevention included) - for grades 5-12, effective with parents and youth together

## **Workshops designed for parents, caregivers, youth ministry, law enforcement and teachers:**

- Teachable safety skills: myths and facts
- Hope is a verb: creating change for our children
- Internet and cell phone safety 101
- Community notification meetings: what do I say to the children?
- Bystander to upstander: taking on bullying behavior

## **Workshops designed for journalism and criminal justice students, journalists, and sexual assault advocates:**

- Reporting without re-victimizing
- Minnesota missing children cases: learning from our past

## **Workshops designed for Faith-Based Communities:**

- Sexual abuse prevention strategies for communities of faith
- Volunteer screening, reporting suspected abuse
- Clergy/therapist collaborations

## **Additional Presentations**

- Working with families facing trauma (for advocates and first responders)
- Self-care for teens (peer leaders and peer helpers)
- Smart not Scared (Personal safety messages for teens and college students)
- Teachable safety skills for community and children's theaters
- Clergy/therapist collaborations

# Testimonials

*"Fantastic overview! I feel pro-active and not scared. Thanks."*—Parent

*"This should be mandatory for all kids and parents."*—Parent

*"Alison Feigh did a wonderful job presenting the information. She works well with this age group. Love her no nonsense approach."*—Jr. High School Teacher