

Three short years ago today, the U.S. Center for SafeSport opened its doors. Our task was huge, but our mission was simple: end abuse in sport.

With just four employees at the time, the Center set out to change the culture of sport, something no other organization in the world had attempted. We started by developing a fair and thorough process to investigate allegations of abuse and misconduct and to hold those who harmed athletes accountable for their actions.

Within our first month, we received 39 reports of abuse. Since then, the number of reports has increased by 500%. To date, we have received nearly 5,000 reports and sanctioned more than 600 individuals from participating in Olympic and Paralympic sports.

Recognizing that prevention is key to addressing these issues, the Center also created uniform safety policies and developed world-class training to help athletes, coaches, and others recognize red flags and grooming behavior. We have developed 10 online training modules, trained more than 1 million participants, and audited every NGB within the Olympic and Paralympic movement.

While there is still much work to be done, I am confident that the processes we have put in place and the steps we have taken thus far are working. In 2020, we are slated to release three additional training modules, train twice as many participants, double the size of the investigative team, and perform on-site audits at events, competitions, and training facilities for the first time.

And while we are poised to accomplish so much in the coming years, none of this would have been possible without the dedicated staff, the independent board of directors, and the support the Center has received from athletes and the Olympic and Paralympic movement.

I also want to take this opportunity to recognize the exemplary athletes, coaches, parents, and volunteers across the country. You are the lifeblood of sport at every level. Your commitment to making sport safer deserves a special thanks.

Together we have the power to ensure that athletes of every ability have a safe and positive experience playing the sports they love. I am proud to play a small part in that experience and am looking forward to our next three years.

With thanks,



Ju'Riese Colón
Chief Executive Officer
U.S. Center for SafeSport