

Sue Paterno's new program important step in fighting abuse

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Sue Paterno is taking steps to ensure child safety on college campuses.

Paterno, the wife of late Penn State football coach Joe Paterno, funded \$220,000 to start a program called Circles of Safety for Higher Education, which is a program between Stop It Now! and Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education to train child abuse prevention training.

"We really want to get a dialogue going," Paterno told the Collegian on Wednesday. "After everything we've been through, it makes me happy to see people want to talk about [child sex abuse]."

With the recent settlement of Jake Corman's lawsuit, it is also wonderful to know the \$60 million dollar fine can go toward these types of programs to further help the children of Pennsylvania.

This program is important on so many levels.

First, it's impressive to watch Sue Paterno, despite everything that has happened, support the university and work in the fight against child abuse.

Between this and the Special Olympics, as well as all of her previous university engagements, it is obvious she is classy and truly cares about children.

She doesn't run from what has happened in the past but rather faces these issues head on and works to find solutions.

Her priorities are on track.

It is also important this program isn't just something for Penn State — child abuse isn't a Penn State problem. It's a problem facing this world, and the Circles of Safety for Higher Education benefiting all of Pennsylvania is necessary.

These types of programs will not only continue to help children, but continue the conversation about sexual assault.



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And through education and discussion we can work toward more forward progress.