

Michele Gay

Co-founder & Executive Director of Safe and Sound Schools

Michele Gay is the Co-founder and Executive Director of Safe and Sound Schools. Following the tragic loss of her daughter, Josephine, in the Sandy Hook School tragedy, Michele joined fellow Sandy Hook mother Alissa Parker to establish Safe and Sound Schools as a national resource for school safety. Michele travels across the country sharing her message of inspiration, recovery, and school safety education and advocacy. She conducts school safety workshops and seminars, presenting Safe and Sound's school safety model and resources, and facilitating school safety development in communities across the country.



Since launching the foundation, Michele has spoken before numerous national audiences, including the National Association of School Resource Officers, the Georgia Education Leadership Association, the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency's School Safety Conference, and at the Great Lakes Homeland Security Conference. Recently, she was honored with the "Champion of Life" award by the BFG Community Foundation of Baltimore, Maryland, for her work as a school safety advocate with Safe and Sound and the "Shining Star" award by the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for establishing "Joey's Fund" with her husband for families with autism.

Prior to founding Safe and Sound Schools, Michele taught in the Maryland and Virginia Public Schools, where she served as both a mentor teacher and a peer coach, and was awarded "Exemplary Teacher" recognition in the Fairfax County Public Schools. Michele holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Towson University and a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from McDaniel College. Her education and professional and personal experiences have uniquely positioned her to advocate on the national level for safer schools.

Hear from Michele Gay, along with other survivors of school shootings and safety incidents, at the **National Summit on School Safety**, March 28-30, 2019 in Houston, Texas. This conference is presented by Safe and Sound Schools and Region 4 Education Service Center and will focus on comprehensive school safety. With deep-dive breakout sessions, hands-on workshops, leadership round tables, inspirational keynotes, and dedicated networking, attendees will add to their school safety toolbox to better meet their community's school safety needs. Register here: <https://www.safeandsoundschools.org/national-summit-on-school-safety/>.