# Santa Clara County

Presented by: Lori Medina, Director Department of Family and Children's Services

Lori.Medina@ssa.sccgov.org

## Background

- South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking
- Santa Clara County Human Trafficking Taskforce
- Santa Clara County CSEC Committee\*
- DFCS CSEC Committee\*
- Santa Clara County Human Trafficking Commission\*
- Monthly Safety Net Meetings\*

#### Santa Clara County CSEC Committee

- Membership includes the Courts, DFCS, Probation, Local Law Enforcement and FBI, Health and Hospitals, Public Defenders, LACY (Child Dependency Attorneys), County Counsel, District Attorney's Office, Victim Advocates, and Local Placement Providers for this population.
- Convened in 2011 to develop a Law Enforcement Protocol, approved in November 2014 by the Chief's Association and incorporated into the Child Abuse Protocol.
- Chair of the committee is from the Juvenile Probation Department
- Committee is organizing for Countywide Protocol re: SB 855

### **DFCS CSEC Committee**

- Established in 2011 to organize around population needs
- Supervisors, Social Workers, Sheriff Deputy, DFCS Manager
- Created and published policy guide to identify and serve CSEC Youth
- Developed in-house staffing process
- Developed and provided training for All-Staff,
  Community Providers, Courts, CASA's, and some Placement

### SCC Human Trafficking Commission

- Convened as a Board Commission in August 2014 to address policy issues, including those concerning CSEC.
- Chaired by a member of the Board of Supervisors
- Subcommittees: Law Enforcement Training and Protocols, Data & Research, Victim Placement, Training for Public Sector Professionals, Business Outreach & Education, Public Awareness

## Monthly Safety Net Meetings

- Multidisciplinary Team facilitated by the DA's Office two times per month
- Team includes representative from DFCS, Probation, Law Enforcement, FBI, DA's Office, LACY, CBO's providing services to this CSEC
- Discuss specific youth identified by government agencies or CBO's believed to be exploited to develop a plan of action and ensure victim safety.

## Custody and Intake

- SCC in most instances seeks to avoid detention unless the youth requires immediate medical attention, there is an arrest warrant unrelated to their exploitation, or in immediate danger of physical violence and no appropriate alternative is available to maintain their safety.
- In most instances, Law Enforcement will call DFCS for Joint Response.

### Case Management & Services

- Shift from Juvenile Probation to Child Welfare or CBO's with Victim Advocates
- More CBO's are developing expertise serving CSEC
- Placement continues to be challenging