Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)
In Los Angeles:
A Multi-Disciplinary Approach

November 25, 2014
CWDA - CSEC WEBINAR
Create a coordinated response for commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) in Los Angeles County when law enforcement identifies youth they suspect are trafficked or at risk of being trafficked.

- Alert child welfare system
- Connect child with specialized advocate
- Provide temporary housing, if necessary
- Complete comprehensive medical evaluation

Ensure the response is victim-centered, strengths-based, and accounts for the trauma and violence these young children have experienced.

- MDT – youth included in placement decision
- Safety Planning – contract among providers and youth on steps to take in event the youth is triggered
- Minimum of 90 days of intensive case management
CSEC Law Enforcement First Responder Protocol

Entry into DCFS

Law Enforcement (LE)

Hotline checks CWS/CMS to determine where youth will go:
- Probation only – youth to Probation
- Joint supervision – to lead agency
- DCFS only – remain DCFS
- No previous involvement – DCFS
- Flag

- Data Collection
- Assessment
- Monthly Screening Committee Meeting
- 14 reports to the Board

Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) – staging area within 90 minutes (station or hospital)
- MART
- Survivor Advocate (Saving Innocence)
- LE
- Family Members (if appropriate)

Obtain Medical/Psych Screening/Evaluation
- MLK Medical Hub
- Other Medical Hub
- Forensic Exam (24 - 72 hours)
- Exigency
- Parental consent
- Youth (12 years or older) consent
- Warrant/Court order – Contact warrant liaison
- Reproductive Health exams

CSW in consultation with SCSW makes determination:
- Do not detain
  - ARS
  - VFM
- Detain
  - 300 (b)(1) – Parental Neglect
  - 300 (b)(2) – CSEC
  - 300 (d) – sexual abuse

Case Plans for VFM/VFR or Court cases
CFT convened to address case planning:
- Stable Housing
  - Out of State placements – ICPC required
  - Psychiatric Hospitalization – 5585 process required
  - Group Home
  - Foster Home – D-Rate Assessment?
  - Shelter (DV)
  - SLP
  - TAY
  - Level 14 placement
  - ITFC
  - YWCA
  - WrapAround
  - Mental Health Assessment /treatment/ TBS – DMH
  - Medical/Dental Exams – Medical Hubs
  - Schooling, Vocational services, life skills/Job Corps – Commission for Senior Services
  - Legal documentation services/SIJS unit referral
  - Domestic Violence (DV) Assessment/Treatment – DMH or DV Counsel
  - Drug Abuse Assessment/Treatment – DPH /BCRS
  - Physical Abuse Counseling - DMH
  - Regional Center Assessment/Services
  - Sexual Health & Development Counseling – Medical Hubs
  - Sexual Health & Development, Prenatal Care – Medical Hubs/DPH
  - Prenatal Care – Medical Hubs/DPH

Devise Safety Plan at Placement Site with:
- CSW
- Child
- Advocate
- Foster Parent / Placement personnel
- Parent(s)
- Sibling(s)

Expectation if Youth runs away
- Placement call LE to report missing person immediately
- Placement notify CSW immediately
- CSW walk on for protective custody warrant to court
- CSW obtain police report
- When LE locates youth 1st Responder Protocol begins again.
- CSW walk on warrant recall to court

Data Collection

Assessment

Monthly Screening Committee Meeting

14 reports to the Board

Devi se Safety Plan at Placement Site with:
- CSW
- Child
- Advocate
- Foster Parent / Placement personnel
- Parent(s)
- Sibling(s)
Responsibilities:

- Flag as “Sexually Exploited Child-CSEC” under Special Projects Code
- If case is in pilot area, initiate CSEC Expedited Form
- Determine which agency, DCFS or Probation, will respond and take the lead
- Complete and distribute Expedited Form to responding agency
- Contact MART or CTU to dispatch CSEC Response Team
DCFS MULTI-AGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (MART)

Responsibilities:
- Respond to staging area within 90 min. of CPH call
- Notify Advocacy Agency
- Conduct child abuse investigation
- Lead MDT meeting focusing on placement
- Complete safety plan with caregiver at decided upon placement
- Arrange appointment at DHS Medical Hub
- Organize follow-up MDT
Responsibilities:
- Respond to staging area within 90 min. of CPH call
- Notify Advocacy Agency
- Lead MDT meeting focusing on placement
- Contact MART if there are indicators of abuse/neglect
- Complete safety plan with caregiver at decided upon placement
- Arrange appointment at DHS Medical Hub
- Organize follow-up MDT
STAR COURT

- Specialized CSEC Juvenile Delinquency Court
- Frequent Review Hearings
- Weekly MDT Meetings – decisions made by collaborative team
  - Dedicated CSEC Public Defender
  - Probation Officers from specialized CSEC unit
  - Saving Innocence Advocate
  - Legal Advocate
Star Court Liaison
- Assess new cases
- Facilitate weekly MDT case review meetings
- Create missing person flyers/coordinate with Probation Specialized Enforcement Operations Unit.
- Update Court regarding AWOL’s, urgent matters, etc.

Supervision Deputy Probation Officers
- Caseload size
- Primary / Secondary Cases
- Contact expectations
- Transition MDT’s
- Collaboration
- Showing up!
MULTI-AGENCY REVIEW COMMITTEE (MARC)

- **Membership:**
  - Agencies participating in the First Responder Protocol

- **Responsibilities:**
  - Convene monthly to:
    - Review protocol and cases without identifying information,
    - Identify successes and barriers,
    - Engage youth and survivors for feedback on the Protocol,
    - Analyze data and outcomes,
    - Refine the Protocol, as necessary, and
    - Assess the sufficiency of resources.

- Submit quarterly reports to Board of Supervisors
1. Training for Child-Serving Agencies
2. Internal Response Protocol for Child-Serving Agencies
   Screening tool to identify CSEC
3. Victim Witness Testimony
4. CSEC Specialized Services
5. Prevention & Intervention Workshops
6. Development of CSEC Placement Options
7. Multi-System Data Collection