

The State of **Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)** in Oakland

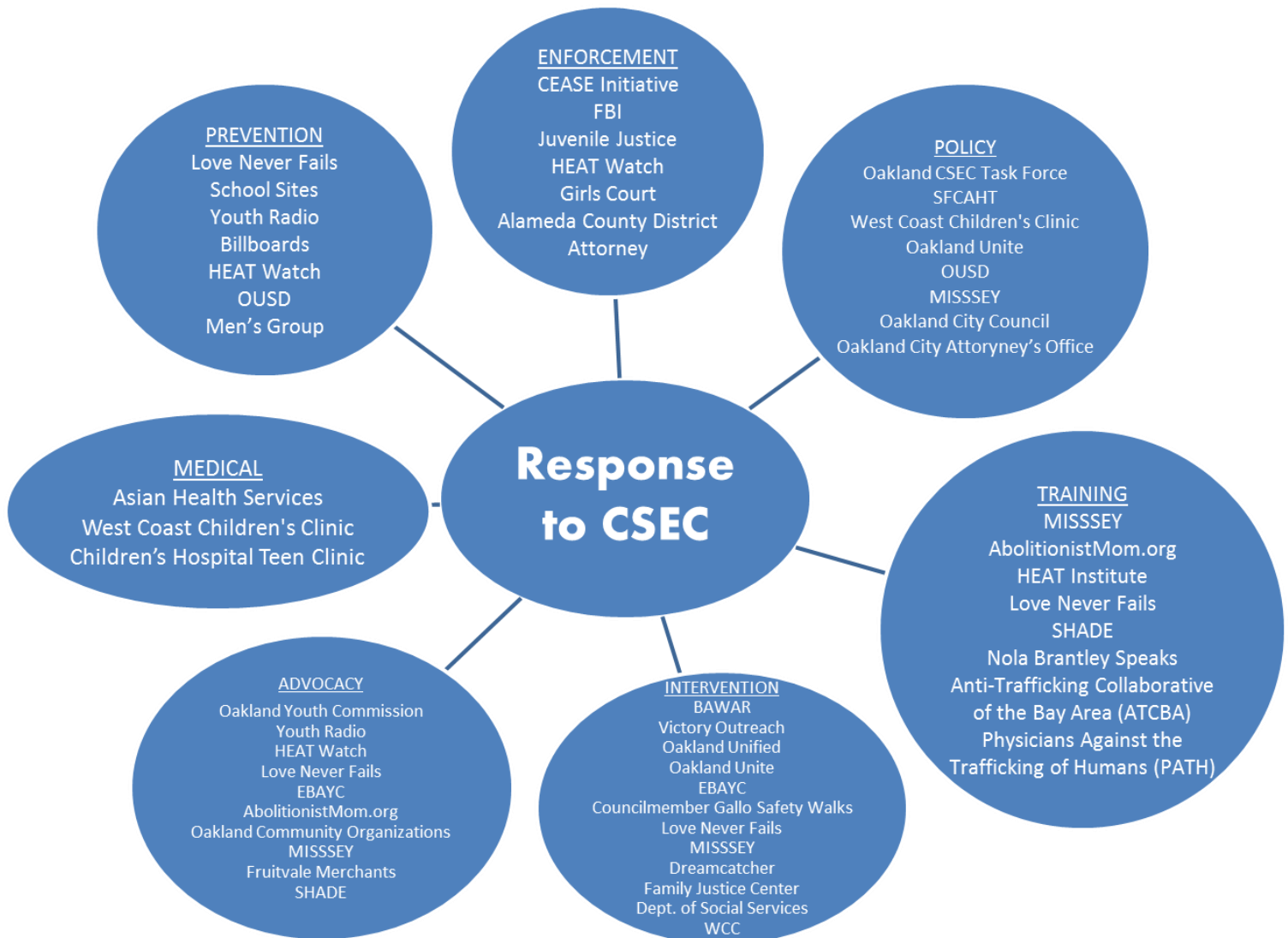


CITY OF OAKLAND

June 4, 2015

This report was written by the Oakland CSEC Task Force, which was commissioned to produce an annual status report through Oakland City Council Resolution 84456 in June, 2013.

Members of the Oakland CSEC Task Force



What is the definition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children?

According to Dr. Donna Hughes, Professor at University of Rhode Island, child sexual exploitation is “a practice by which a person, usually an adult, achieves sexual gratification, financial gain, or advancement through abuse of exploitation of a child’s sexuality by abrogating that child’s human right to dignity, equality, autonomy, and physical and mental well-being.”

Additionally, Dr. Hughes also refers to sexual exploitation as “the economic exchanges involved may be either monetary or non-monetary (i.e. food, shelter, drugs) but in every case, involves maximum benefit to the exploiter.”

Fundamentals of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

- Common acronyms:
 - CSEC = Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
 - SEM = Sexually Exploited Minors
- CSEC is NOT child prostitution
- Exploited children are victims & survivors
- Sexual exploitation is child rape
- “Pimps” and “johns” should be referred to as “exploiters”
- CSEC is child sexual abuse
- Exploitation is modern-day slavery
- Youth are not consenting to these sex acts; they are coerced physically and psychologically to perform them

What does CSEC look like?

According to H.E.A.T Watch (Human Exploitation And Trafficking), there are three primary forms of commercial sexual exploitation of children: forced prostitution, pornography and trafficking for sexual purposes. Other forms of commercial sexual exploitation of children include child sex tourism, child marriages and forced marriages.

Shared Hope International defines “**The Life**” as “the subculture of forced prostitution, complete with rules, a hierarchy of authority, and language. Women and girls will say they’ve been “in the life” if they’ve been involved in forced prostitution for a while.” The exchange when forced prostitution takes place, or when a victim is forced to do sex acts is referred to as a “date.”

All youth are at-risk of sexual exploitation, regardless of race, culture, religion, geography, economic status, or background.

No youth is immune.

How does a child become exploited?

- “**Romeo Pimping**” is when an exploiter lures the victim with gifts, nurturing, flirtation, and/or physical pleasure. A victim often believes he or she is the mate of the “pimp exploiter.” According to Shared Hope International, “Romeo pimps” pride themselves on controlling others primarily through psychological manipulation.
- “**Guerilla Pimping**” is when an exploiter uses force through physical and/or psychological violence to coerce a victim to perform sex acts. A victim of ‘guerilla pimping’ may have been brought into ‘the life’ as a result of being kidnapped.
- “**Survival Sex**” or “**Self-Exploiting**” is when a minor seeks to be compensated for sex acts for the purpose of supporting themselves or family members; child seeks payment in food, shelter, security, drugs, and/or cash. This is more common amongst male victims.
- “**Intra-familial Pimping**” is when a child is exploited by a family member who takes advantage of their relationship by manipulating the child to believe that performing sex acts are part of their responsibility as a family member. Such exploitation may or may not be known to other members of the family. Youth may be tricked into believing that the exploitation is normal or the only way for their guardians to earn money to care for them. This may be indicative of intergenerational prostitution where the family has been involved in sex for pay for one or more generations.

How are youth brought into “the life”? What is the path to exploitation?

Exploiters use one or more of these specific techniques to take control of a victim: 1) seduction, 2) isolation, 3) coercion, and/or 4) violence. In the cases of transgender and LGBT youth, it is common to find that they are self-exploiting in order to validate or affirm their identified gender or sexual identity.

Shared Hope International refers to the exploiter’s conditioning of children as “seasoning,” or a combination of psychological manipulation, intimidation, gang rape, sodomy, beatings, deprivation of food or sleep, isolation from friends or family and other sources of support, and threatening or holding hostage of a victim’s children. Seasoning is designed to break down a victim’s resistance and ensure Compliance.

The path to exploitation is also different based on gender or perceived gender. Boys who are involved in trafficking often present as homeless and are exploited by adults for survival sex. Similar to Romeo pimping, exploiters then sell the youth to purchasers for the sole purpose of having sex with a minor or young looking boy.

In Oakland and elsewhere, sexually exploited minors are often **recruited outside of their schools** directly by “pimp exploiters” and sometimes by older children at their school sites. “Pimp exploiters” also recruitment potential victims in public places where youth may not be supervised by an adult such as near public transportation hubs, such as bus and BART stations, or from public parks, or at malls and shopping centers.

A large majority of exploited youth are recruited out of **foster care homes** because exploiters are aware of the vulnerabilities of these youth and that generally, foster youth have less supervision than children in traditional families. Foster youth are very likely to have endured trauma and abuse that thwart a child’s ability to determine positive and safe places to receive love and attention.

According to “*Framing the Issue of The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children*,” (Published by MISSEY in 2009), victims embody some or multiple the following **risk factors or vulnerabilities**:

- Childhood sexual abuse
- Homelessness
- Running away
- Inadequate supervision or care
- Inadequate food, clothing and shelter
- Family and/or community history of exploitation
- Exposure to domestic violence in the home

Continuum of Sexual Abuse



©Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS)

Additional vulnerabilities include:

- Youth unemployment
- Lack of education about what exploitation is

- Traumatic stress or mental illness
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) which hinder brain development
- Lack of gender validation/affirmation at home/school (LGBT Youth)
- Lack of sexual identity validation/affirmation at home/school (LGBT Youth)
- Transphobia/Homophobia at home/school/community (LGBT Youth)

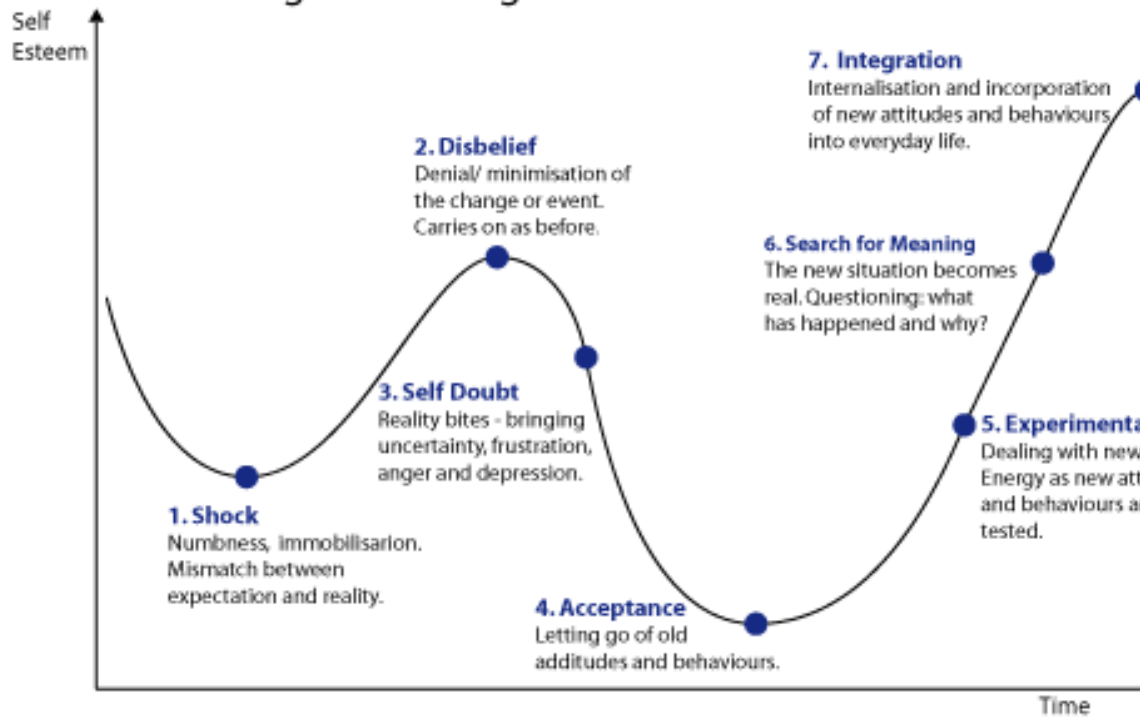
The Polaris Project estimates that the average ages of entry into sexual exploitation:

Girls	Boys
Ages 12-14	Ages 11-13

From 2011-2015, Safety Net, the Alameda County interagency collaborative, identified 486 children who had been or were at-risk of becoming sexual exploited. Their research found that:

- 86% had juvenile arrest history.
- 79% had a runaway history
- 56% had drug use history
- 40% were currently in custody or had been in custody of Social Services.
- 22% had a family criminal history
- 29% had mental health challenges

Psychological Changes of an Exploited Person The Stages of Change



Why do youth stay with their exploiters?

CSEC victims often form “Stockholm Syndrome” or develop “trauma bonds” with perpetrators. These can be among the greatest obstacles a victim’s recovery.

Trauma bonds formed through violence and threats of violence.

- Exploiters alternate violence and kindness, which increases bonding
- Victims believe if they even think a disloyal thought, their exploiter will know and retaliate
- Isolation increases bonding
- Victims feel shame and stigma associated with prostitution, rape, losing virginity, which also increases bonding.

+ Stockholm Syndrome & Trauma Bonding

What are the major indicators of trauma bonding?

Denial	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Denies anger at exploiter to others and to self• Denies violence when violence and threats of violence are actually occurring• Rationalizes violence
Search for control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Believe they have some control over abuse• Believe if they control situation it lessens pimps/customers/traffickers• Tries to get inside pimps/traffickers/ customers heads
Lack of self	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May or may not have own perspective• Experiences sense of self through pimps/traffickers/customers eyes
Empathy with exploiter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sees world from exploiter' s perspective• Sees pimp as good guy, protector• Sees exploiter as victim• Self-blame for situation and abuse• Is thankful and grateful pimp/trafficker/customer have not killed them• Sees outside authorities/people trying to win release (escape) as bad g
Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shows ongoing symptoms of trauma or PTSD• Intensely grateful for small kindness• Hyper vigilant to exploiter' s needs• Seeks to keep exploiter happy to decrease violence

*Commercially Exploited Children in California: Strategies to Serve and Support our Most Vulnerable Youth (2013) *By: Los Angeles Superior Court, MISSSEY, Children's Law Center, National Center on Youth Law*

How many children are being exploited?

According to Shared Hope International, approximately 100,000 children are sexually exploited in the United States each year.

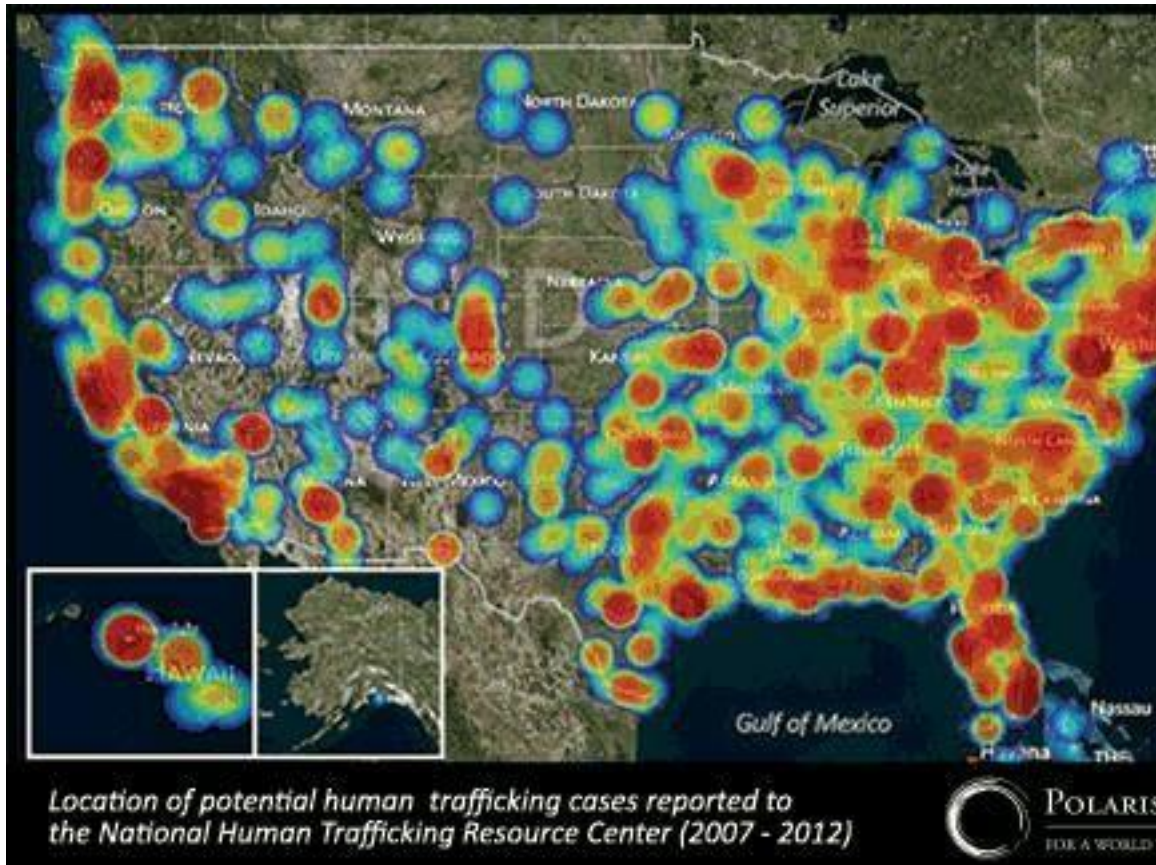
From 2006 – 2014, the Oakland Police Department rescued 305 children.



**The Oakland
Police Department
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Where is exploitation happening in Oakland?

The Polaris Project monitors nationwide data of exploitation, which is based upon the number of calls reported to the National Human Trafficking Hotline. The heat map below reflects the locations in which those calls were made from 2007-2012.



“The track” is an area of a City known for prostitution activity and exploitation. This can be the area around a group of strip clubs and pornography stores, or a particular stretch of a street. In Oakland, the most well known track is International Boulevard, however the Oakland Police Department recognizes a few other locations as “hot spots” for “the life.” “Dates” are often solicited in close proximity to motels.

North & West Oakland (Police Areas 1 and 2):

- A number of transgender prostitutes have been known to congregate on Martin Luther King between 15th-16th Streets in Downtown Oakland.
- San Pablo Avenue has historically been utilized by older female prostitutes.
- The cluster of motels on West MacArthur, between the Emeryville border and Broadway, are used for sex acts by both older females and younger girls, who meet their “on-line dates.”

Central Oakland (Police Areas 3 and 4):

- International Boulevard between 20th and 29th streets (referred to as “the 20’s”) are where the highest concentration of sexually exploited children are forced to stand and solicit their “dates;” this area has acquired a historical reputation as a “hot spot” for prostitution.
- A growing number of on-line “dates” take place at the motels and small hotels along Embarcadero, along the 880 Freeway and the waterfront.

East Oakland (Police Area 5):

- Generally an area where older prostitutes congregate; however, in the very late evenings and early mornings, Oakland Police have identified an influx of sexually exploited youth occupying International Boulevard between 45th-49th Streets.

The internet and social media are increasingly common platforms for the purchasing of sex with children. Through sites like RedBook, Backpage, and Craigslist, one can more anonymously, covertly, and directly purchase “dates.”

Why do exploiters coerce and exploit children?

- Exploitation can be more profitable and less risky than selling drugs
- It is challenges for law enforcement to locate and arrest “pimp exploiters” as they don’t remain in close proximity to the exploited youth during the solicitation or “dates,” and because victims are psychologically trained and physically beaten for exposing their “pimp exploiters.”
- If a “pimp exploiter” is arrested, it is legally challenging to collect evidence sufficient to prosecute them.

Why does sexual exploitation of children continue?

1) Demand

The demand for the purchase of sex with children is why youth continued to be exploited everyday in Oakland and beyond. While “pimp exploiters” are worthy of much of the blame as they force children to serve as “products” used for sexual acts, if people were not purchasing sex with minors, then “pimp exploiters” would not have customers available to purchase their “product.”

Sexual exploitation is a profitable business. According to estimates made by the [Polaris Project](#), a national advocacy organization, “four girls can earn over \$600,000 a year in tax-free income for the pimp. Drug dealers are increasingly switching to prostitution, inspired by the bottom line and fewer risks.”

2) Normalization

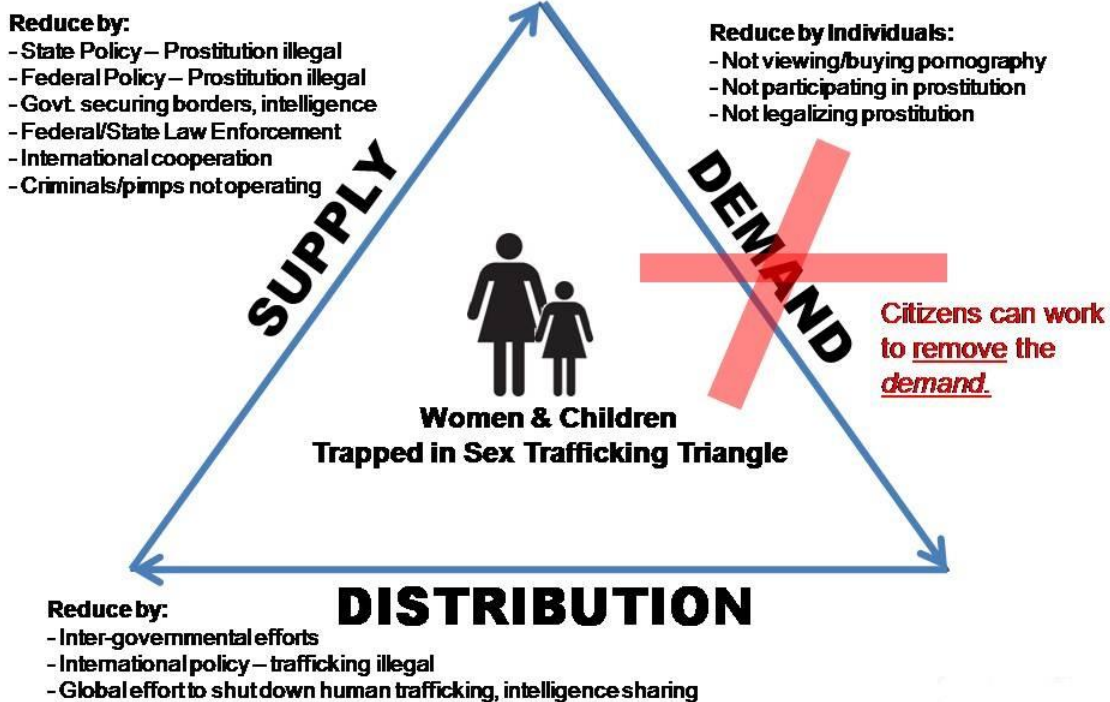
Sexual exploitation has been normalized for many victims or witnesses of CSEC. Since many youth see other adults or potentially their own parents “selling themselves” as prostitutes, they internalize that the act of prostitution is acceptable or even encouraged as a career or simply a form of income.

3) Larger societal issues

Many advocates and experts believe that the sexual exploitation of children has deep roots in the societal conditions of sexism, domestic violence, and child abuse. Because some individuals find it acceptable to treat women unequally and with violence, it is translated into the purchasing of young women for sex. Because the media does not vilify such abuse of women and children, these beliefs are perpetuated by men justifying the exploitation and receiving gratification for their dominance and transactional relationship through the purchase of sex.

Popular culture and music lyrics often promote and glorify “pimping,” as well as equate glamorous materialism with respect, to which one must earn an income somehow in order to “fit in” or “be someone.” Some youth see sexual exploitation as “just another hustle” to make money or “I’m already giving it away. Shouldn’t I get paid for it?” (These were common themes at the CSEC Task Force Youth Forums during Sexually Exploited Minors Awareness Week in April 2014).

HUMAN SEX TRAFFICKING



("Sex Trafficking Triangle" - <http://mbabolitionists.org/>)

What is the path to exploitation for Transgender Youth?

Trans youth do not take the typical exploitation route as heterosexual youth, especially female identified trans youth. Most LGBT youth in the Bay Area do not have what we would call traditional pimps, but older boyfriends who validate their gender identity for trust then exploit them commercially. This trust of boyfriends is given in part from lack of gender validation and affirmation at home, in school/education system, and community. Validation of femininity in trans girls is crucial for their female identity development and having an older male validate, especially sexually is affirming and thrilling. They rarely see it as exploitation when the boyfriend takes it to next level of commercial exploitation. It is just "money for both of them." This is particularly true for foster care youth who are in more need of acceptance, validation, and gender affirmation.

Latina trans youth have older trans women who mentor and part of the mentoring includes showing them the "ropes of sex work as part of rite of passage". Same for African-American trans girls, although more individual "rite of passage" than community mentor and rite of passage for Latinas. Sex work is a given and one of the only viable means of making money with no job skills/employment history and/immigration limitations.

Existent service provider outreach to trans youth/trans CSEC is minimal due to lack of trans resources in Alameda County, although it has improved in the last few years with more youth coming out and identifying as trans and the need for more affirming services. Youth Uprising, Girls Inc, and QTY Network in Oakland, Our Space in Hayward, and TransVision in Fremont are the known providers/resources serving trans youth, predominately trans girls.

What are the warning signs that a youth might be exploited?*

- Chronically absent or regularly tardy to school
- Has sexually transmitted diseases (identified by medical professionals)
- Avoids eye contact
- Displays symptoms of depression
- Fearful, anxious, paranoid, or withdrawn
- Lacks identification of any sort
- Unusual restrictions due to work; i.e. required to work long & unusual hours
- Fearful of law enforcement
- Not in control of their own schedule or someone always speaks on their behalf (“boyfriend,” “friend,” etc.)
- Seems confused—lost sense of time, lack of knowledge about their current whereabouts or even doesn't know what city they are in
- Has very few (if any) personal possessions
- Lacks access to healthcare and may seem malnourished
- Unexplained injuries

*http://www.heatwatch.org/human_trafficking/what_are_the_signs_of_trafficking

ENFORCEMENT

The Oakland Police Department

OPD has been addressing the needs of sexual exploitation of children since 1998, when the Department established its first Child Exploitation Unit under the Youth Services Division. In 2004, OPD relocated the Child Exploitation Unit into the existing Vice Unit in order to enhance effectiveness and increase its rate of success in arresting exploiters. OPD also began receiving Anti-Human Trafficking Grants in 2004 with the following partner agencies: US Attorney's Office, Department of Labor, ICE, the District Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, and non-governmental organizations. In 2013, the FBI and OPD officially formed the Bay Area Child Exploitation Task Force. OPD's ability to address sexual exploitation has waned over time, pending staff capacity or protests that limited the time available to carryout investigations; however, they are a critical partner in the work to end CSEC.

Trolling – when an undercover male officer engages suspected prostitutes. OPD targets prostitutes with the underlying intent to rescue as many as possible and connect them to advocacy and support services.

Decoy- when an undercover female officer poses as a suspected prostitute. Such operations are done in order to target exploiters (“Johns” and “Pimps”).

OPD's anti-trafficking operations cost between \$3,500 and \$8000 each, depending upon the scope of an operation and length of time needed to accomplish the mission. OPD uses information developed by its internal intelligence gathering to determine when and where to hold its operations. Such information is often referred to the Vice Tip Line (510-238-7911) by residents or community organizations, or through other arrest or investigative activity of the police department in nearby areas. Of growing concern and popularity, is the amount of social media that exploiters use to sell or purchase sex with minors. In response to these technological advance, the Oakland Police Department engages a wide-range of intelligence based efforts to obtain the most current and accurate information on potential offenders and victims, as well as those locations being utilized to further human trafficking activities. Through various social media and websites known for sexual exploitation, the Oakland Police Department determines various locations that suspected human trafficking has, is or will be taking place, to which the Vice Unit would either coordinate a rescue operation for such victims or send police to the scene for arrests.

Under the Direction of Commander of Special Victims Unit, Lieutenant Kevin Wiley, an ardent champion against human trafficking, the number of operations and arrests has increased significantly overtime, despite staff reductions in the department. Between January and mid-April of 2015, OPD arrested seventy “John” exploiters. Of those arrested, 22 “johns” were Oakland residents and 48 “johns” were non-Oakland residents. This pattern of arrested exploiters coming from cities other than Oakland is a common trend through the years that OPD has targeted such enforcement.

Between 2010 and 2014, the OPD conducted 185 enforcement operations which targeted street level human trafficking as well as certain establishments, e.g., massage parlors and motels. As a result, many of those arrested for misdemeanor offenses were placed on court probation with a condition not to loiter in those areas the courts had deemed prostitution areas. Through these five years of operations, nearly 2,500 investigations were initiated, resulting in an average of 51 juveniles rescued each year.

Overtime, OPD have identified various trends regarding sexual exploitation and human trafficking. First, they recognize that “pimp exploiters” regularly have more than one child they are exploiting at one time. Through the rescue of one exploited youth, OPD works diligently to locate other potential victims who may be coerced or held captive by the same “pimp.” Secondly, OPD has identified that “dates” between a purchaser of sex and a sexually exploited minor are more commonly being arranged online in private locations than on the street through drive-by interactions. Thus, OPD enforcement efforts and strategies have advanced and evolved to ensure proper handling and intervention through operations in order to yield greater numbers of arrests of perpetrators and rescues of exploited children.

Lastly, a new trend has been identified in which established street gangs are now engaging in human trafficking; thus, bringing an all new dynamic into the recruitment, controlling and exploiting of our children.

Laying Down the Law on Exploiters

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O’Malley is a national leader on human trafficking. Her office prosecutes nearly 50% of the State of California’s human trafficking cases. From January 2006 to March 2015, the Alameda County District Attorney’s office prosecuted 432 defendants of which 82% were charged with various crimes. Of the 1,928 arrests made by Oakland Police between 2010 – 2014, 2,547 charges were made.

Cases Charged					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Felony:	25	73	63	65	52
Misdemeanor:	391	339	259	388	592
Parole Violations:	5	6	8	11	3
Probation Violations:	37	15	51	73	91

When an exploited youth is taken into custody, they may be arrested or referred to services when available. Many experts believe that juvenile facilities are not healthy for victims to endure after traumatic experiences under the coercion of an exploiter. Others claim that juvenile hall does not have a track record of successfully rehabilitating or creating better outcomes for victims. Juvenile facilities are predominantly used because Alameda County does not have any residential service and treatment centers for law enforcement to bring rescued survivors to.

As OPD data supports, adult women, some of whom may only be 18, 19 and were victims of CSEC, are arrested in high rates by law enforcement. We continue to evaluate and ask our law enforcement member to look at doubling down on demand while at the same time de-prioritizing the arrest of woman and transgender individuals who are “prostituting.” Just as arresting children will not abate the problem, very few of these women are not on the street or were brought to the street by self-choice.

OPD Deterrent Efforts

1. **Dear John Letter Project** is a community driven reporting system in which citizen call OPD regarding suspicious vehicles that are believed to be associated with human trafficking. In turn the OPD Vice Unit sends a letter to the registered owner of the listed vehicle, advising them their car was in an area known for prostitution. This effort has now been expanded to online reporting via the City of Oakland’s - OPD Website.

The number of “Dear John Letters” sent varies overtime, as the project is reliant upon when community members to be aware of the initiative and to take action by reporting the suspicious vehicles to police. However, such straightforward, proactive, and non-punitive measures are a way in which OPD can warn potential exploiters of their criminal behavior and prevent the potential exploitation from continuing. Between January and mid-April 2015, OPD sent 62 “Dear John” notifications through based upon community reports. Of these vehicles identified as suspicious, 56% of them were registered to people who do not live in Oakland.

The majority of these 2015 reports were made in the Fruitvale and San Antonio neighborhoods, which speaks to the educational efforts made by East Bay Asian Youth Center (EBAYC) and the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Councils.

2. **“Project Enough”** - The posting of Exploiters (Johns) and Traffickers (Pimps) faces/charges on the OPD Website. We post the names and photographs of those we arrest and the District Attorney’s Office charges for any prostitution/human trafficking related offense] Postings are on the City of Oakland’s - OPD Website. The posting are for 14-days.

INTERVENTION

How are the needs of CSEC victims supported?

For the last few years, the Oakland Police Department began contracting with Bay Area Women Against Rape (BAWAR) to provide intervention services during its street operations to support victims of trafficking. The BAWAR Sexually Exploited Minors Program offers victims of exploitation or prostitution with counseling services immediately upon being taken into police custody.

In addition to youth who are brought to them through OPD operations, BAWAR's Sexually Exploited Minors Program serves youth referred the District Attorney's office and other Bay Area service providers. In 2013, BAWAR served 202 sexually exploited youth and in 2014, they served 240 youth.

Safety Net is a multi-disciplinary case review that takes place weekly to identify and create a safety plan for at-risk and high risk victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Referrals for the meeting come from local law enforcement, probation, social services, and prosecutors who have interfaced with youth. Safety Net utilizes a multi-disciplinary team (MDT) approach, in which members are able to share confidential information with the following collaborative partner agencies to create both an immediate and long-term safety plan for youth who are referred to the meetings:

Members of Alameda County Safety Net

- Alameda County District Attorney's Office
- Alameda County Public Defender's Office
- Alameda County Probation Department recognize
- Alameda County Social Services Agency
- Bay Area Women Against Rape (BAWAR)
- The Child Abuse, Listening, Interviewing and Coordination Center (CALICO)
- Highland Hospital
- JPG Consultants
- Motivating, Inspiring, Supporting and Serving Sexually Exploited Youth (MISSEY)
- West Coast Children's Clinic (WCC)

Transitioning victims from arrest or juvenile justice system:

- **BAWAR Sexually Exploited Minors Program** - Since 2007, BAWAR First Crisis Responders have worked closely with Oakland Police Department, attending local law enforcement "Special Operations" and providing immediate crisis stabilization counseling, food, water, clothing, and advocacy, no matter the age of the person being exploited. The First Crisis Responders also respond to all other CSEC referrals within the time frame of 1 to 24

hours from the time a referral is made to the BAWAR office. After first response is made, the advocate will continue to advocate for the victim if necessary to assist partner agencies in providing a continuum of care for the client. In 2013, our SEM Program served 202 clients, providing over 2,011.63 hours of intensive outreach services which are listed below. Additionally, BAWAR provided nearly 11,000 hours of services to clients, both at-risk and being exploited, by means of crisis response, training, groups, and Zumba classes. In 2014, the SEM Program served 240 clients, a 16% increase over the previous year.

Bay Area Women Against Rape (BAWAR) also provides 24-hour first crisis stabilization to all survivors of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking. Services offered are free and confidential and include 24-hour first crisis response, 12-weeks of individual sexual assault counseling, advocacy, court/interview accompaniment, in-custody visits, detention based education, care kits (which may include toiletries, books, clothing, etc.), referrals/information, and 24-hour crisis hotline.

- The **Alameda County Girls Court** establishes a gender-specific approach to girls entering the juvenile justice system, and consists of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC), those at-risk for exploitation, and other minors who are in need of more wrap-around services and closer supervision. Girls Court was established in response to partner demand for gender-specific services and in recognition of the differing circumstances that bring female juvenile offenders into the delinquency system. Girls' Court began in June 2011 and takes place at the Alameda County Juvenile Justice Center on a weekly basis.

Girls Court is staffed by a dedicated Assistant District Attorney, Assistant dedicated Public Defender and two alternate Judges who have in depth knowledge of each girl's background in order to provide consistency and sensitivity. Community-based organizations attend Girls Court to support their clients. Girls Court also acts as a referral source for the Young Women's Saturday Program, a program offered by the District Attorney's Office. In addition, the majority of the Girls Court clients are discussed in a weekly case review to assure that they are adequately provided with services, aftercare plans and that safety issues are addressed if the youth is testifying against their trafficker.

Direct Services and Mentoring

- **Motivating, Inspiring, Supporting, and Serving Sexually Exploited Youth (MISSEY)** advocates and facilitates the empowerment and inner transformation of sexually exploited youth by holistically addressing their specific needs. MISSEY has served 1,000 CSEC since its inception 7 years ago. MISSEY's direct services include the following:
 - The *Safe Place Alternative (SPA)* - a drop-in center dedicated to providing life skills and self-sufficiency training, enrichment and recreational activities and connections to resources and opportunities for long-term sustainability.
 - An *Intensive Case Manager* who works closely with sexually exploited girls under 18 to assist with overall stability including connections to medical and mental health professionals, housing options, educational programs and institutions and basic needs assistance. The Case Manager collaborates closely with parents/guardians, care providers, probation officers, social workers and other individuals responsible for the lives of children to produce empowering outcomes for the child.
 - A *Resource Specialist* who works one-on-one with clients to explore and pursue higher education, trade/ certification programs, careers and employment, housing, enrichment opportunities and various other community and governmental resources.
- **Love Never Fails**, volunteer-led organization, is dedicated to the restoration, education and protection of those involved in or at risk of domestic sexual abuse and trafficking. We are devoted to expressing to each person that they are precious and loved by their community. The many facets of Love Never Fails include prevention, intervention and aftercare services: Education, Mentoring, Search and Rescue, Community Activism, Trauma-Informed Housing, Men's Services, Workforce Development, and Legal Services. LNF also has a mentoring program - **Mentors 4 Positive Change** - whose goal is for mentees to gain a sense of belonging and acceptance by inviting them to participate in a 1-on-1 relationship which provides access to safe and enriching activities that empower them to make positive life choices.
- **Banteay Srei** was formed in 2004, when a group of health counselors, social workers and educators from Asian Health Services, the East Bay Asian Youth Center and Oakland Unified School District, recognized a rising trend of sexual exploitation and recruitment amongst Southeast Asian women and girls in Oakland and with a desire to create a culturally relevant approach to serving this specific population. Banteay Srei offers a safe space for young Southeast Asian women, connects them to resources, promotes sex positive education, holds community building activities and offers leadership development to foster cultural pride, and self-determination for women at-

risk of or engaged in sexual exploitation. Banteay Srei comes from an ancient temple in Cambodia which means “the women’s temple.”

- **CALICO** was founded in 1997 to support people facing abuse and to offer them a safe place to tell their story in order to take the first step toward recovery. CALICO achieves justice and healing for over 600 toddlers, children, adolescents, and adults with developmental disabilities each year. Children and adults come to CALICO as a result of sexual abuse and exploitation, as well as for many other reasons such as physical harm, neglect, drug endangerment, or severe violence they have witnessed in their home or community. CALICO provides counseling and coordinates with various agencies to reduce the trauma endured by the child. Most importantly, CALICO videotapes the intake interviews of the CSEC victim, which are regularly used in court instead of requiring the victim to testify in person against their perpetrator **CALICO is the only child advocacy center in the county doing this work.**

Medical and Mental Health Services

- **West Coast Children’s Clinic** is committed to providing psychological services to vulnerable children, youth, and their families regardless of their ability to pay and to expanding the reach of psychological services through practice and research. West Coast offers clinical programs to provide assessment, outpatient therapy, foster youth development, adult transition support, and transformation services after sexual exploitation or abuse.
- **Native American Health Services (Dr. Aisha Mays)** - Native American Health Center’s mission is to provide comprehensive services to improve the health and well-being of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and residents of the surrounding communities, with respect for cultural and linguistic differences. Dr. Mays is a renowned leader in serving CSEC.
- **Children’s Hospital Teen Clinic** serves youth ages 11-24 with the following services: mental health, sexually transmitted infection management, physical and sexual assault (evaluation and management), substance use, and education. There are 3 locations: McClymonds High School, Castlemont High School/Youth UpRising, and 5400 Telegraph Avenue.

Workforce Development

Love Never Fails offers a program called **Life Launch** is a 12-week paid development program for 14-18 year olds. Participants receive training on resume writing, interviewing techniques and are exposed to various trades and professions by networking with community business leaders. Entrepreneurial training and empowerment skills are offered through the social enterprise **Regina’s Door**.

Housing:

According to the Polaris Project 2012 housing study, there are approximately **529 beds** dedicated to human trafficking in the United States. In Alameda County, there are only **8 beds** currently available for homeless youth, regardless of whether they have been exploited.

- With only 8 beds, **DreamCatcher Youth Shelter and Support Center**, a program of Alameda Family Services, has been the only shelter in Alameda County serving youth between the ages of 13-18 since it opened 15 years ago. DreamCatcher helps homeless and trafficked youth to make safe exits to a positive, stable environment and building relationships with youth that have resulted in their finishing high school, entering college, finding jobs and becoming productive, caring citizens of our community. With 8 beds, DreamCatcher serves 100 youth through its shelter and another 200 youth ages 13-18 in its drop-in center.
- **Covenant House** - With 18 beds of immediate crisis shelter and 12 “Rites of Passage” transitional living program beds, Covenant House serves 142 youth a year with food, clothing, shelter, counseling and support. When youth arrive they are welcomed with open arms. Covenant House offers safety, access to physical and mental healthcare, the chance for education and a job and hope for a better life. CHC helps them resolve their crisis situations, guides them as they develop the plans and skills necessary for productive futures. Through CHC youth may complete or further their education and find employment.
- **Love Never Fails** launched the **I Am House** of restoration for adult women and their children in March, 2015. The home is located at a non-disclosed location in Alameda County and only serves women above age 18.

“Night Walks” or “Safety Walks”

Many organizations coordinate outreach efforts on “the track” to 1) potentially rescue girls who seek intervention from “the life” and 2) to take a stand as a visible presence of community members striving to end child sexual exploitation.

- **Councilmember Noel Gallo** in conjunction with **Victory Outreach Oakland** hold weekly Friday outreach walks. For more information, contact Clara at cgarzon@oaklandnet.com or 510.238.7005.
- **East Bay Asian Youth Center (EBAYC)** holds night walks on the First Friday of every month in Oakland’s San Antonio and Fruitvale neighborhoods. Contact andy@ebayc.org for more information.
- **Love Never Fails (LNF)** holds monthly outreach and prayer walks every third Saturday of the month in locations throughout the Bay Area. LNF encountered 306 exploited women, men and children in Northern California alone in 2014 during our monthly street outreaches. Contact prayer@loveneverfailsus.com for more information.

OAKLAND UNITE

Successes from Measure Y Funding

Oakland Unite CSEC Services served approximately 525 youth between July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2014. Of these, 228 have enough info/consent & service hours to conduct match and analysis to justice system data. (BAWAR served 123 youth and MISSEY served 105). Oakland Unite found that of the 228 youth served, 183 had an arrest for a serious and/or violent crime pre-program (nearly 80%.)

CSEC youth engaged in intensive services were 69% less likely to be arrested for a new offense, and 84% less likely to be arrested for a violent offense after they participation. CSEC participants also showed a substantial decrease in pre- to post-program delinquency adjudications, indicating an end to their exploitation. This chart reflects the influence that services are having upon recidivism:

Figure 1. Percentage of CSEC Clients Arrested for a New Crime Before and After CSEC Participation

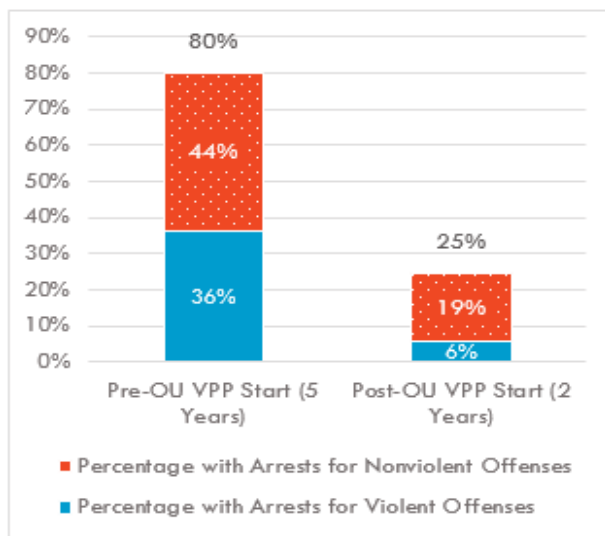
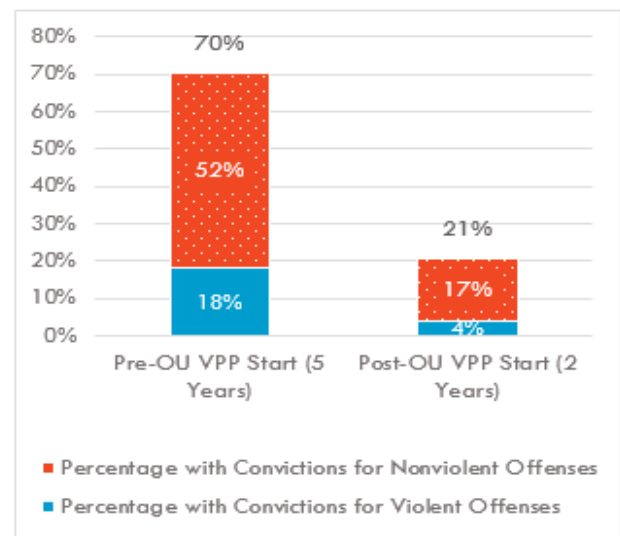


Figure 2. Percentage of CSEC Clients Convicted of a New Crime Before and After CSEC Participation



Retrospective Evaluation - CSEC Strategy: The programs in this strategy work together to provide a continuum of services for commercially sexually exploited children. BAWAR acts as a first responder, going into the Alameda County Juvenile Justice Hall and accompanying the OPD on operations to offer intervention services to young people—mostly girls—who have recently been arrested for involvement in commercial sexual activity. After the young women have been engaged, BAWAR links them with MISSEY, which provides longer-term services through its JJC/OUSD Wraparound program and through its Safe Place Alternative (SPA) drop-in

I thought I'd come and not want to be here, not want to talk; I thought people weren't really going understand who I was, why I did stuff, they'd be judgmental and they really aren't. And they care. You don't wonder if they care—you know that they care.

-CSEC Program Participant

center.

PREVENTION

Human Trafficking and Exploitation Watch (or H.E.A.T. Watch) is an anti-human trafficking organization that is working towards ending trafficking exploitation in the Bay Area. It was formed by District Attorney Nancy O'Malley and her staff. The strategy of H.E.A.T. Watch is to raise community awareness, train law enforcement, aggressively prosecute offenders, coordinate existing services and promote sustainable policy change. The H.E.A.T Watch Toolkit Website is designed to provide information about human trafficking and offer tools for addressing the epidemic.

In partnership with District Attorney Nancy O'Malley/H.E.A.T Watch, AbolitionistMom.org, Clear Channel Outdoor and MISSEY, the Protect California Kids Billboard Campaigns took place on signs and bus shelters throughout the Bay Area in 2014 and 2015. These ad campaigns used direct and targeted messages to bring to light the prevalence of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and to provide viewers with tools to take action if they witness or are themselves victims of exploitation. (More information can be found at ProtectCaliforniaKids.org.)



The billboard campaign had two target audiences: 1) general public and 2) victims. The goal of the general public message was to change attitudes about CSEC so that they can be seen as victims and not as prostitutes. This message also sought to increase the amount of engagement with H.E.A.T. Watch on Facebook, Twitter, and the Campaign Website. Clear Channel Outdoor provided 27 billboards and posters, which yielded an estimated 8.7 million impressions.

SuperBowl 50

In advance of heightened-levels of sexual exploitation of children around SuperBowl 50 in Santa Clara in February 2016, the South Bay Anti-Trafficking Coalition has invited partners from throughout the Bay Area to participate in the Anti-Human Trafficking SuperBowl Work Group which has been hold planning meetings regularly since 2014. Many Oakland service providers are participating in these meetings and will be coordinating education awareness campaigns prior to the event or offering coordinated services during the event, if necessary. Such education efforts will be found on billboards throughout the Bay Area, in print and online

media, at local airports, at rallies near each SuperBowl event, and on various programs and collateral. Educational trainings will be given to hotel and motel operators throughout the region and “on-the-spot” victim intervention, such as mental health counseling and safe housing, will be available. Planning meetings take place on the first Thursday of the month from 9:30-11:30am at the Santa Clara Family Services Center. (OPD’s Vice Unit is also participating in enforcement efforts in collaboration with various South Bay police departments)

TRAININGS

- **Love Never Fails** has been given permission by OUSD to give educational trainings in all OUSD middle schools. LNF also offers MenUP Workshops, with train and encourage all men to become leaders within their households and communities to end sexual exploitation of youth. The next MenUp Workshop is planned for October 2015. LNF also offers its “Love Don’t Hurt” Anti-Abuse and Sex Trafficking Awareness trainings quarterly for schools, churches, and civic groups.
- **MISSEY’s Training Institute** offers large presentations, discipline specific seminars, and small group dialogues. Presentations, trainings and discussions are provided by some of the Bay Area’s most eminent experts in the field of commercial sexual exploitation of children including young girls who have survived the brutality of the sex trade. Presentations and trainings have been developed for professionals and caregivers who engage or care for young girls. This includes first responders such as police officers, district attorney staff, public defender staff, probation officers, panel attorneys, child welfare workers, primary care clinic staff, public health nurses, educators, and those who work with homeless and runaway youth. It also includes behavioral health providers and school staff such as clinicians, psychiatrists, licensed clinical social workers, school health and wellness staff, probation officers, group homes, foster family agencies, foster parents, peer staff, and residential treatment providers. (Liz at 510-251-2070 or Liz@misssey.org)
- **Oakland Police Department** has historically held a number of trainings for hotel and motel operators to provide them with background on sexual exploitation, a thorough explanation of the law and their responsibility as property owners, and ways to report sexual exploitation and trafficking.
- The **American Women’s Medical Association** recently trained 19 doctors in CSEC warning signs and intervention strategies at a recent event in Oakland.
- **Oakland Unified School District** has trained all staff at school based health centers. These trainings were led by **Love Never Fails** and **Dr. Aisha Mays**.

EDUCATION

Oakland Unified School District

OUSD is a key partner in the effort to address and end sexual exploitation of their students. In addition to the OUSD CSEC Task Force and the staff who intervene when potentially exploited youth are identified, the Behavior Health Department provides information on their website to educate youth and families about risks and warning signs of CSEC. Learn more here: <http://www.ousd.k12.ca.us/Page/12800>

H.E.A.T. Watch

H.E.A.T Watch created a graphic novel called "Audrey" which details the life of a child who is caught in the web of commercial sexual exploitation of children. In this first volume, Audrey is recruited by Mac, who at first poses as her boyfriend but quickly turns violent. This graphic novel is used to educate youth and the public on the realities of CSEC in their own community, as well as what victims face every steps of the way towards recovery. The second volume will be published shortly.

Love Never Fails and Oakland Unified School District

Love Never Fails developed *Love Don't Hurt*, a California Department of Education approved Anti-Abuse and Sex Trafficking Awareness Program meets Public Health Standards for middle and high schools. The first two tiers of the program have been implemented to OUSD clinical case managers and some of its students. The Elementary Program is called Freedom Fighters. The Youth Commission Against Trafficking (Y-CAT, ages 12-19) helps students to advocate and bring awareness.

Youth Radio

In 2010, Youth Radio, a widely respected and youth-centered media organization, produced an award-winning two-part series investigating child sex trafficking in Oakland called Trafficked: A Youth Radio Investigation which was aired on KQED and through many other news agencies. Youth Radio's Trafficked investigated society's most troubling underground industry from the point of view of its survivors. These narratives are powerful educational tools that can be found online.

KTOP

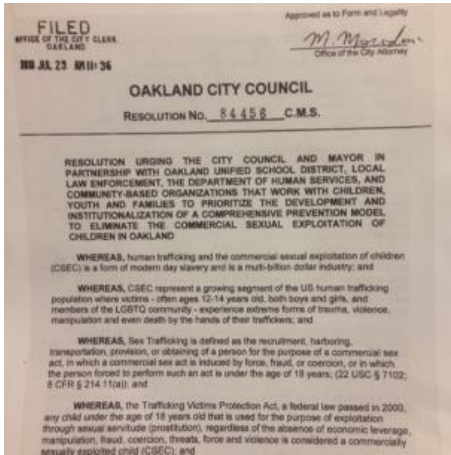
In January 2015, KTOP, the City of Oakland's public access channel, produced a 30-minute documentary entitled "Bought and Sold" which features a number of Oakland service providers in their thorough portrayal of CSEC in Oakland. Contact Mike Munson to purchase a copy of this DV (mmunson@oaklandnet.com.)

Youth4Power on KMEL 106.1

Youth4Power is set of Public Service Announcements produced in 2014 and 2015 by Abolitionist Mom, Nola Brantley Speaks, Love Never Fails, and Regina's Door. These announcements were specifically created for an audience of African-American youth, of which are disproportionately represented among the victims of sexual exploitation in Oakland and the Bay Area. Clips of these PSA's and more information can be found at www.youth4power.org

ADVOCACY

Oakland CSEC Task Force



In April 2013, with the support of advocate Genice Jacobs (Abolitionist Mom) and Commission Staff Chantal Reynolds, the Oakland Youth Commission held a forum on sexually exploited youth and drafted a policy, which called for the Oakland City Council to take leadership on CSEC. In June 2013, Councilmember Lynette Gibson McElhaney proposed legislation (Passed as Resolution #84456) which resolved that the “task force would be charged with developing a comprehensive set of strategies that:

- Support and educate OUSD students in grades 6-12 about CSEC
- Engage families and communities in anti-trafficking efforts
- Provide for ongoing training to law enforcement agencies for detecting and removing victims of CSEC
- Raise awareness of the issues of CSEC among the Oakland community
- Promote wrap-around services for children who have been sexually exploited
- Target pedophiles who sell and purchase sex with children

The CSEC Task Force is a victim-focused collaborative composed of over sixty representatives from service providers, Oakland Unified School District, Alameda County, City Attorney, District Attorney’s Office, community organizations, clergy, and individual advocates. The task force is open to the general public or anyone who wants to share their ideas and work collaboratively toward the goal of ending sexual exploitation.

Since the passage of this legislation, the Oakland CSEC Task Force was formed and has met regularly for policy discussions, to review data from law enforcement, and to collaborate on prevention and education initiatives. Task force members coordinated events for Sexually Exploited Minors Awareness Week in April of 2014 and 2015, which have included youth town hall meetings in which 100 youth attended, a film screening of “A Path



1-888-373-7888

STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING!

Si o recibes o a alguien que parece, te están forzando a hacer algo y no lo quieres o no lo quieres por dinero, trabajo de casa, campo agrícola, construcción, fábrica, en una tienda, industria o restaurant, o cualquier otra actividad - call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1.888.373.7888

如果他人强迫你或你认识的人被迫从事任何你并不想做的事 - 无论是商业性交易、家务劳动、农场工作、建筑、工厂、零售、餐饮服务或其他其他活动 - 请拨打热线电话美国人口贩卖资源中心，电话号码

on the California Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CACT) at 1.888.373.7888 (TOLL FREE) or 1.888.373.7888 for access help and services. Victims of slavery and human trafficking are protected under United States and California law.

La Coalición de California para Abolir la Esclavitud y el Tráfico de Personas (CACT) al 1.888.373.7888 (GRATIS) o al 1.888.373.7888 para obtener ayuda y servicios. Las víctimas de esclavitud y tráfico de personas están protegidas bajo la leyes de Estados Unidos y las Leyes de California.

或打电话给加州废除奴隶和人口贩卖联盟 (California Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, CACT) - 电话号码 1-888-373-7888 或 1-888-373-7888 (TOLL FREE) 或 1-888-373-7888，获得帮助和服务。

您在人口贩卖受害者美国和加州法律的保护。

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- 每周七天，每天二十四小时开放！
- 免费！
- 由非营利、非政府组织运营；
- 匿名和保密；
- 可用100多种语言拨打；
- 能够提供帮助、转介服务、培训和一般信息。

For more information: BAHCF2freedom.org

Report Human Trafficking, Text: 233-7333

Appears” co-hosted by the District Attorney’s Office, and ceremonial presentations at meetings of both the Oakland City Council and Alameda County Board of Supervisors. On April 5, 2014, the Task Force held a Community Day of Action to support the implementation of Senate Bill 1193, which requires certain businesses and institutions to post signage with the National Human Trafficking Hotline and other ways for witnesses and victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation to get help. This Day of Action included nearly 70 volunteers who delivered signage and met with business owners from hundreds of businesses throughout Alameda County. Task Force members were influential in the design of the signage (see appendix). A video was created to show volunteers how to explain the law to businesses owners. (Note - In April 2015, a group of UC Berkeley students, organized by SFCAHT fellow Izzy Ullman, traveled around the Bay Area to provide 50 local businesses with SB 1193 compliant posters. These posters (in 3 languages) offer information and resources on human trafficking.)

In 2015, the Oakland CSEC Task Force plans to partner with Oakland Youth Council to hold a second forum on CSEC, to co-lead a “Hotel Motel Project” training with OPD & CSEC Trainers, to gather State and Federal legislators together for a roundtable about the policy gaps and specific needs for Oakland’s sexually exploited youth. In 2016, the Task Force intends to hold a large awareness effort related to anti-human trafficking awareness month (January), to support policy at the state and federal levels, to hold another Community Day of Action for SB 1193, and to return to the Life Enrichment Committee with the annual report on the State of CSEC.

Other Advocacy Initiatives

Many service providers also lead advocacy initiatives.

- **Love Never Fails** has a *Community Activism Initiative*, which focuses on Street Outreach to build relationships with the exploited and exploiter and feeding the hungry and clothe the homeless. Their flagship bi-annual event is called the FREEdom Expo where we launch joint regional community strategies to enhance awareness and collaborate community action steps to increase prevention awareness of abuse and human trafficking. The FREEdom Expo addresses three questions: *What is Human Trafficking? What does it look like? What can you do in your community to take action in the fight against trafficking?* The next FREEdom Expos will take place in August 2015.
- **West Coast Children’s Clinic** holds seminars, does thorough policy analysis of State and Federal bills that impact CSEC, and advocates for new policies, based upon local trends and the needs they identify through the children they serve.
- **MISSEY** leads regular advocacy efforts and will begin a Policy Committee in June 2015.
- **BAWAR** advocates for a genuine victim-centered approach within law enforcement agencies and the judicial/legal system.

FUNDING SOURCES FOR CSEC

Source	Name	Amount
Federal	<i>Runaway and Homeless Youth Act</i>	Competitive grants, amounts vary
Federal	<i>Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Program (OJJDP)</i>	Competitive grants, amounts vary
City of Oakland	<i>Oakland Unite (Measure Y Funding)</i> -Voter approved initiative in 2004 for violence prevention services, expired in 2014 -Competitive grants	2013-2015 -BAWAR: \$100,000 -MISSEY: \$75,000 (annually)
City of Oakland	<i>Oakland Unite (Measure Z Funding)</i> -Voter approved initiative passed in 2014 for violence prevention services -Competitive grants	Yet to be determined
City of Oakland & County of Alameda	<i>Alameda County Community Action Partnership</i> -DreamCatcher Youth Shelter -Covenant House	-Competitive grants -\$50,000 awarded in 2015-2016
Private	Potential grant makers: Allenden, Women's Foundation, Jr. League of San Francisco, etc.	Amounts vary

When Measure Y passed in 2004, the City of Oakland's Human Services Department created a division called Oakland Unite to manage funds and develop strategy around violence prevention. Oakland Unite and the Measure Y Oversight Committee recognized the need for funding CSEC intervention and prevention efforts, as sexual exploitation was related to other forms of violent crime. Through a competitive RFP process, MISSEY and BAWAR were awarded funds to work directly with sexually exploited minors in the City of Oakland. More recently Oakland Unite was given a one-time grant from the California Board of State and Community Corrections, and dedicated a portion of this funding to increase services for CSEC in Oakland by augmenting and increasing BAWAR's services, and working in partnership with the Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley's office and the Alameda County Family Justice Center to resume the Young Women's Saturday Program for sexually exploited minors referred through Girls Court. Measure Z is the new iteration of the violence prevention parcel tax and CSEC has again been identified as a priority area by Oakland Unite.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We thank the City Council for their leadership, advocacy, and support of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. This has been exhibited in the funding from Measure Y, naming CSEC as a priority on the list of City Oakland Advocacy Priorities for the City’s lobbyist efforts, and financial support for OPD to continue its operations to rescue exploited children and arrest traffickers and exploiters.

1. HOUSING & HOUSING SERVICES IN THIS BUDGET CYCLE:

We must immediately expand the emergency housing options available to CSEC and young adults. The Taskforce applauds Mayor Schaaf for including a one-time use of CDBG capital funds in the amount of \$500,000 towards DreamCatcher’s renovation to add 6 more beds specifically for CSEC youth.

We also ask City to spend \$520,000 towards creating 20 new beds for trafficked and exploited youth ages 13-24. (This is listed as a Policy Tradeoff in the City Budget)

2. TRAINING FOR CITY STAFF

Resolution 84456 also called for *“the City Administrator to direct all city employees whom have regular interaction with children to participate in CSEC training. Such staff could not be limited to the following: Oakland Police Officers, OPR Recreation Center Staff, Measure Y Outreach Staff, etc.”* and for *“the City Administrator report back to the City Council on efforts to provide CSEC training to appropriate City Staff within one calendar year of passage of this resolution.”* To date, these trainings and this report have not occurred.

4. COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN TO END CSEC IN OAKLAND

Our current efforts are piecemeal. Oakland needs a comprehensive strategic plan like the one San Diego and Los Angeles counties have created. This strategy should evaluate the need for the creation of a holistic residential trauma, rather than juvenile hall, which is currently our only option for victims of sexual exploitation in need of residential services.

5. PARTICIPATE IN THE OAKLAND CSEC TASK FORCE

We invite you and your staff to participate in our meetings and events. Your insight as policy makers is critical to our success and we believe you will learn important information about CSEC from the survivors, victims, and service providers which can enlighten and enhance your work as our City’s leaders.