

CSEC PROGRAM UPDATE: 8/2020

Learning objectives:

Who should I call/report to when I suspect sexual exploitation?

What does the response look like in San Mateo County?

Amanda LeBlanc Freeman, Program Director, Rape Trauma Services
24 hour crisis line: 650-692-7273 Amanda@rapetraumaservices.org
Jeremy Latta, Supervisor, Children and Family Services
Human Trafficking Initiative Meeting

SAN MATEO COUNTY PROTOCOLS/CSEEC PROGRAM

Our coordinated response to Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)

Building on what works!

- San Mateo County has strong multi-disciplinary teams who have worked for years to create the protocols that have built the structure for all human trafficking/CSEC protocols.
 - *Multi-Disciplinary Interview Committee (MDIC)*
 - Keller Center for Family Violence Intervention
 - District Attorney's office
 - Law Enforcement
 - Victim Services
 - Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS)
 - Rape Trauma Services (RTS)
 - San Mateo County Child and Family Services (CFS)
 - *Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Steering Committee task force*
 - Juvenile Probation, Judges, Private Defenders Office, San Mateo County Office of Education, BHRS, RTS, Keller Center, HT Initiative, Justice at Last and CFS
 - *San Mateo County Human Trafficking Initiative*

Hot off the presses

- San Mateo County CSEC MOU!
 - *Signed by all Steering Committee members*
 - *Aligns to the California guidelines for CSEC Best Practices*
 - MDT's depending on need
 - *Rapid Response*
 - *Emergency*
 - *Weekly*
 - *Follow-up*
 - Steering Committee
 - Professional and Community Education

WHY RTS AND CFS?
EXPLOITATION
IS CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE



Protocols are built around entry points...

- Where should reporting of CSEC concerns start?
 - *Child and Family Services Child Abuse Hotline:*
 - 650-802-7922 or 800-632-4615

California Law

- SB 855: “declares that a child is within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court and may become a dependent child of the court if the child is a victim of sex trafficking, or receives food or shelter in exchange for, or is paid to perform, specific sexual acts...”
- WIC 300: (2) The Legislature finds and declares that a child who is sexually trafficked, as described in Section 236.1 of the Penal Code, or who receives food or shelter in exchange for, or who is paid to perform, sexual acts described in Section 236.1 or 11165.1 of the Penal Code, and whose parent or guardian failed to, or was unable to, protect the child, is within the description of this subdivision, and that this finding is declaratory of existing law. These children shall be known as commercially sexually exploited children.



West Coast Children's clinic: CSE-IT Development

- West Coast Children's clinic, located in Oakland
- Gathered the input of over 100 stakeholders to be as comprehensive as possible.
 - *Survivors*
 - *Providers, including in: mental health, primary care, public health, law enforcement, probation, child welfare, education, youth homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, group homes*
 - *San Mateo County participated in the pilot program*
- Diverse geographic coverage across the state
- Validated in 2016

CSE-IT tool: SMC's Universal Screening

- Screening is the first step in identifying risk of an adverse event.
- Goal:
 - *Identify a potential problem early - before symptoms appear.*
 - *Facilitate early intervention, prevent onset of additional adverse events or complications.*
- Everyone who meets specific pre-determined criteria is screened.
 - *(10 years old and over)*
- Screening is not diagnostic.
- Used by CFS and Juvenile Probation in San Mateo County

SCREENING TOOLS AND how to identify

- SMC Child and Family Services (CFS) will begin universal screening of all children 10 and over in 2018
- West Coast Children's clinic CSE-IT tool has eight screening categories:

- **Housing and Caregiving**

- *Lack of caregiver support or supervision*
- *Irregular school attendance*

- **Prior Abuse and Neglect**

- *Youth has been physically, emotionally and/or sexually abused*
- *Youth has witnessed domestic violence*

- **Physical Health and Appearance**

- *Youth has signs of branding, tattoos, cigarette burns, broken bones*
- *Youth is sleep deprived or inconsistent*

- **Environment and Exposure**

- *Youth spends time where exploitation is known to occur*
- *Youth uses language known to be used by exploiters*

SCREENING TOOLS AND how to identify

SMC Child and Family Services (CFS) will begin universal screening of all children 10 and over in 2018

Relationships and Personal Belongings

- Youth has inappropriate relationships with older people
- Youth has access to money or belongings not consistent with socio-economic status
- Youth is engaged in sex for food, shelter, money for families or themselves
- Youth is forced to give money to someone else

Signs of current trauma

- Youth appears on edge, hyper-vigilant
- Youth has a high level of distress in regards to cell phone

Coercion

- Threats to the youth and/or family
- Controlling partner and/or adults in their life

Exploitation

West Coast children's clinic Hotline Tool!
Now in use!

TIPS AND TRICKS:

- When making a mandated report, (or helping a child make one), state facts related to the screening tool.
 - *Feelings and assumptions are helpful in painting a picture, but not as relevant to the screening tool*
 - *The tool is not diagnostic, and not an interview tool*
 - *Each time a risk factor is heightened and/or facts are confirmed, call the hotline again!*

COVID-19 IMPACT

CFS and RTS are
here.....

Via Zoom,

Teams,

FaceTime, etc!

- CFS Social Workers MAY respond in person, if necessary.
- RTS is working remotely, but following-up with survivors when contact information is available.
- CSEC MDT's are happening weekly via Teams.
- Child Family Team (CFT's) meetings are happening as needed.

Rape Trauma Services: A Center for Healing and Violence Prevention

RTS SERVICES OFFERED

Crisis Intervention Program

- 24 hour crisis line (6506927273)
- Sexual Assault Counselor 24-hour advocacy and accompaniment
 - CSEC Crisis Response

Counseling Program

- Individual, Family and Groups
 - English and Spanish

Education and Prevention

- Healthy Relationships
- Respecting Boundaries
- Rape Prevention Education



HOW TO ACCESS RTS SERVICES

During business hours (Monday-Friday 9:00am- 5:00pm)

Call the office: 650-652-0598

Outside of business hours

Call the crisis line: 650-692-7273

Email info@rapetraumaservices.org



QUESTIONS?

Amanda@rapetraumaservices.org

650-592-0598 office

314-649-7273 text only