



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

9150 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY
DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90242
(562) 940-2501



CALVIN C. REMINGTON
Interim Chief Probation Officer

November 9, 2016

TO: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: Calvin C. Remington *Felicia Cotton for*
Interim Chief Probation Officer
CSEC Integrated Leadership Team

SUBJECT: **QUARTERLY REPORT BACK: EXPANSION OF THE FIRST RESPONDER PROTOCOL AND ADVOCACY SERVICES FOR COMMERCIALLY SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN (ITEM 3, AGENDA OF NOVEMBER 3, 2015)**

On November 3, 2015, on motion of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, your Board instructed the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Integrated Leadership Team (ILT) to report back to the Board quarterly regarding updates to the Law Enforcement First Responder Protocol (FRP) and the county-wide expansion of the protocol. The ILT is comprised of representatives from the Probation Department, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), and the Sheriff's Department.

On December 15, 2015, on motion of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, your Board instructed the CSEC ILT to include the following in the quarterly reports, performance updates on the community-based organizations that were selected through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process to provide advocacy services to CSEC, including:

- The number of youth identified and connected to services by each organization; and
- Any performance issues and/or deficiencies that might pose challenges to fulfilling contractual obligations, along with recommendations for improvement.

Additionally, there was a request made by Supervisor Knabe's office for ILT to give an update on the Safe Youth Zone pilot project.

I. LAW ENFORCEMENT FIRST RESPONDER PROTOCOL FOR CSEC: COUNTYWIDE IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

The Los Angeles County Law Enforcement First Responder Protocol for CSEC continues to be a promising practice. It has increased collaboration and partnership across child-serving agencies, decreased number of prostitution-related arrests, and most importantly, it has made positive impacts on the youth's lives. Since implementation on August 15, 2014, there have been a total of 181 CSEC recoveries through the protocol in the pilot areas and the areas of expansion.

Because of these successes, your Board instructed the ILT to develop a plan to expand the protocol countywide, which was presented to your Board on July 26, 2016. On October 26, 2016, Los Angeles County Sheriff deputies from all 23 LASD patrol stations/transit divisions along with the Probation Department, Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Health Services (DHS), and Saving Innocence advocates will participate in a full-day of CSEC training. The training, provided in part by a survivor of trafficking, included CSEC awareness, strategies to engage CSEC youth, and each agencies' respective responsibilities in the First Responder Protocol. On October 31, 2016, the FRP will be expanded to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's stations countywide.

The ILT is currently making plans to expand the FRP to all Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) stations, with an anticipated expansion date of March 2017.

II. ADVOCACY SERVICES CONTRACTS

Referrals for advocacy services for CSEC youth through Saving Innocence and Aviva Center have doubled over the past 90-days due to expanded awareness through the County's training efforts of social workers and probation officers. To date, there have been a total of 154 referrals made to the advocacy agencies: 106 to Saving Innocence 37 of which were rolled over from a previous contract, and 48 to Aviva Center. The existing LA County Recidivism Reduction grant which is funding these contracts will end December 31, 2016, however Saving Innocence will continue to provide advocacy services under an existing Delegated Authority Agreement (DAA) contract, and will assume advocacy services for those cases supervised by Aviva Center once the contract expires. The Probation Department in collaboration with DCFS is working on a new RFP, which is expected to go out for bid by the end of this calendar year.

The new RFP takes into account the expansion of the First Responder Protocol, and will ensure that advocates are available throughout the county as the Protocol expands countywide.

III. SAFE YOUTH ZONE PILOT PROJECT

On May 10, 2016, Supervisor Knabe introduced a motion, which called for the rebranding of the existing Safe House Program. On July 26, 2016, the ILT reported back to your Board about the plan to rename and rebrand the County's Safe House Program as the Los Angeles County *Safe Youth Zone* initiative. This initiative will create a network of safe places for at-risk youth and victims of child sex trafficking to seek out when they are in danger. Instead of waiting to be rescued by law enforcement, victims of child sex trafficking will be able to proactively seek out a safe place to connect with services that will empower them to escape the life on the streets and seek a better and brighter future.

The Safe Youth Zone will begin as a pilot initiative with the following Law Enforcement agencies and LA County Fire Departments Stations: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Compton and Century Stations, Los Angeles County Fire Department Lynwood, and Willowbrook Stations, and Long Beach Police Department. The anticipated launch date is scheduled for November 2, 2016.

The next update to your Board regarding the FRP expansion, Advocacy Services, and the Safe Youth Zone pilot will be in 90 days.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Probation Director Michelle Guymon, at (661) 236-5405.

CCR:FC:mg

c: Sachi A Hamai, Chief Executive Officer
Lori Glasgow, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Mary C. Wickham, County Counsel
Children's & Justice Deputies
CSEC ILT Members