COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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February 24, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
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From: Jerry E. Powers
Chief Probation Officer

Subject: **COUNTY'S AGGRESSIVE STRATEGY TO COMBAT DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING**

On January 10, 2012, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, the Board declared January 2012 as "National Human Trafficking Awareness Month" in Los Angeles County. In addition, the Board instructed the Chief Probation Officer, in partnership with the District Attorney, Juvenile Court, the Departments of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Mental Health (DMH), and Health Services (DHS) as well as the Interagency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) to develop an aggressive strategy to combat child prostitution, including: enhanced health and mental health screenings of children brought into juvenile halls for prostitution, the feasibility of establishing a unit within the Probation Department dedicated to sexually exploited minors, as well as development of specialized aftercare services.

My staff have worked with representatives from the District Attorney's Office, Juvenile Court, DCFS, DMH, DHS, and ICAN to prepare this report which provides 1) an aggressive strategy to combat domestic minor sex trafficking, including enhanced health and mental health screenings of youth brought into juvenile halls for prostitution; 2) the feasibility of establishing a unit within the Probation Department dedicated to sexually exploited youth; and 3) the development of specialized aftercare services.

BACKGROUND

In recognition that over the past several years, Los Angeles County has had a significant increase in the number of sexually trafficked youth, Probation Department

staff have been working collaboratively with the ICAN Domestic Minor Human Trafficking Committee, Juvenile Courts, FBI Innocence Lost LA Taskforce (ILTF), the District Attorney's Office, DCFS, DMH, DHS, and representatives from various local law enforcement agencies with a focus on developing an effective diversion process and rehabilitative services for sexually exploited DCFS and Probation youth in Los Angeles County

In June 2011, Probation and the Delinquency Courts applied separately for Title II funding to develop a pilot project to begin to address the needs of sexually exploited youth. The pilot includes health and mental health assessment, enhanced supervision, focused treatment and services, either within a placement program or in the community, as well as mentoring and aftercare.

On November 10, 2011, Probation and the Juvenile Courts were each awarded Title II funding of $350,000 per year, for a maximum three-year period, to implement a comprehensive multidisciplinary program for sexually trafficked females in the Juvenile Justice System.

I. AGGRESSIVE STRATEGY TO COMBAT DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING

The following provides an overview of the key Departments and agencies involved in this collaborative and their efforts that contribute to the overall strategy to combat domestic minor sex trafficking.

District Attorney's Implementation of Diversion Efforts Pursuant to SB 1279

Senate Bill 1279 (Pavley), signed by the Governor in July 2010, provides statutory authority to the Los Angeles County District Attorney to engage with County departments to develop a pilot program to address diversion and treatment of sexually exploited minors. The District Attorney has assembled a multidisciplinary team, including representatives from Probation, DCFS, DMH, Los Angeles Superior Court, Public Defender's Office, County Counsel, Non-Governmental Organizations, and City and County law enforcement agencies, to work collaboratively in this critical endeavor to rescue, rehabilitate, and restore trafficked youth.

The District Attorney's Office and its collaborative partners are in the process of:

- Developing protocols for identifying and assessing minors upon arrest and detention by law enforcement who may have been victims of commercial sexual exploitation;
- Developing a diversion program to address the needs and requirements of these arrested or detained minors; and
- Forming a multidisciplinary team consisting of police, Probation, DCFS, the Public Defender, and others who work with and advocate for these children, to

develop, offer and provide a training curriculum reflecting best practices to identify and assess minors who may be victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

Juvenile Court's Implementation of Succeeding Through Achievement and Resilience (STAR) Court

The Juvenile Court along with the collaborative partners has implemented a court that identifies and supports victims of sex trafficking. The Court and Probation have assembled a team to work with each youth to:

- Help them re-enroll in school;
- Participate in counseling to address the multiple traumas they have experienced; and
- Safely transition them to family or community placements.

The youth and their team members meet in Court regularly to identify and address the child's needs, progress and challenges. These court hearings minimize the adversarial nature of delinquency proceedings, and focus upon reintegrating the youth into healthy families and communities.

ICAN Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Sub-Committee

The Los Angeles County Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Subgroup is a part of the ICAN-Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Committee where the sub-committee's purpose is to identify policy gaps and implement protective and rehabilitative services for victims of domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST). The subcommittee consists of representatives from the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, law enforcement agencies, child advocates, and community service providers. The goal via a partnership collaborative is to develop an effective diversion process and rehabilitative services for sexually exploited DCFS and Probation youth in the County.

In order to maintain apprised of program development and implementation efforts, the sub-committee continues to meet every other month to review, recommend and implement strategies and services that address the ongoing needs of sexually trafficked youth.

Mental Health's, Health Services' and Probation's Development and Implementation of First 48 Response

DMH and DHS have been working closely with Probation on the development and implementation of a "First 48 Response" protocol for sexually trafficked youth who are detained in juvenile hall. This protocol will include enhanced health and mental health

screening for identified victims, advocacy, and initial Probation assessment. The Department of Mental Health and DHS will continue to work closely with Probation and other involved departments to move this effort forward.

Probation Providing Awareness Training Throughout the County

Throughout the County, Probation is providing awareness training on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC). The training is intended to sensitize those working in these settings to better identify and more effectively treat youth who may have fallen victim to Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST). Thus far, the Department has trained over 200 Probation staff, approximately 100 community partners, and staff from DMH, DCFS, DHS, and our law enforcement partners. The Department has scheduled additional training sessions for the upcoming months. In addition, ICAN has held various awareness trainings/symposiums throughout the County, providing greater exposure to this critical issue.

DCFS' Compton Teen Task Force and Multi-Agency Response Team

DCFS has also been an integral partner in addressing the issue of sex trafficking by providing crisis intervention, assessment, enhanced medical and mental health treatment and prevention services for domestic trafficked youth through their two Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST) programs, Compton Teen Task Force and Multi-Agency Response Team (MART), as described below.

The DMST – Compton Teen Task Force provides outreach assistance to DCFS involved youth who are victims/survivors of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking to ensure that they receive DCFS collaborative services upon identification. Objectives include: developing and providing enhanced workshops to partner agencies that interface with Domestic Trafficked Youth based on the Core Practice and Coaching and Mentoring Models, the development of office protocols in response to this population within a partner agency team approach and the development of community resource packets to be provided to impacted families and children.

The MART team participates in the FBI led ILTF responsible for the rescue and identification of victims that have been picked up during tactical prostitution/child exploitation special operations and/or have been referred by other law enforcement jurisdictions and/or auxiliary agency partners (including DCFS MART). The MART team is responsible for providing emergency investigation services which includes, but is not limited to: stabilizing the child at home when the risk can be mitigated, providing emergency placement, and/or taking the child for an immediate medical/mental health evaluation, as needed.

Attached is additional detailed information as provided by DCFS on their strategic efforts to combat human trafficking, including DMST.

II. FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING PROBATION DEPARTMENT UNIT

The County lacks victim-centered services for sexually trafficked youth who are in the juvenile justice system. There is also limited agency and community collaboration and lack of reliable data documenting the results of services and system response. To address this issue, the Department has applied and was awarded Title II funding to dedicate two full-time staff and to begin implementing enhanced supervision, specialized programming, service delivery, and data collection on this population.

Victim-Centered Programming

The Department is in the process of developing and implementing programming for victims of domestic minor sex trafficking. Probation has:

- Identified and trained three (3) full-time Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Deputy Probation Officers (DPOs) who will provide intensive supervision, court support, assessment, and aftercare to program participants.
- The Department, through Title II funding, has purchased advocacy services to be provided by Saving Innocence, survivor support to be provided by Mary Magdalene Project, and a "promising practice" prevention curriculum "My Life My Choice" to be utilized in camps, Dorothy Kirby Center, group homes, and in the community. The "My Life My Choice" training is scheduled for February 27, 2012.

III. DEVELOPMENT OF AFTERCARE SERVICES

The Department is in the process of establishing victim-centered aftercare services for DMST youth by identifying existing community resources and developing a 90-day transition plan for youth returning to the community. The Department has mobilized a number of community partners who are in the process of being trained on the victim-centered response and services for DMST youth.

CONCLUSION

Representatives from the District Attorney, Juvenile Court, DCFS, DMH, DHS, and ICAN concur with this report, and will continue to work on strategies to enhance current programs and partnerships with a goal of creating a best practices model that delivers a comprehensive response and treatment to sexually exploited probation and foster youth. Through the continuation of existing services and implementation of the identified strategies cited in this report, sexually exploited youth will have an increased opportunity for rehabilitation and healing through diversion programs and other services.

Please contact me if you have any questions or if additional information is necessary, or your staff may contact Reaver Bingham, Deputy Chief, Adult Field and Juvenile Placement Services, at (562) 940-2513.

JEP:CCR:RB
DM:MG/HC

Attachment

c: Honorable Michael Nash, Presiding Judge, Juvenile Court
Honorable Steve Cooley, District Attorney
Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Georgia Mattera, Chief Executive Office
Phillip Browning, Director, Children and Family Services
Mitchell Katz, Director, Health Services
Deanne Tilton, Executive Director, Interagency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect
Dr. Marvin Southard, Director, Mental Health
Justice Deputies

ATTACHMENT

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES RESPONSE TO JANUARY 10, 2012 BOARD MOTION ITEM #2 MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE RE: HUMAN TRAFFICKING

INTRODUCTION:

On January 10, 2012 the Board of Supervisors instructed the Chief Probation Officer, in partnership with the District Attorney, Juvenile Court, the Departments of Children and Family Services, Mental Health and Health Services as well as the Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect, to develop an aggressive strategy to combat child prostitution, including enhanced health and mental health screenings of children brought into juvenile halls charged for prostitution, and the feasibility of establishing a unit within the Probation Department dedicated to sexually exploited minors, as well as development of specialized aftercare services; and report back within 45 days. (12-0154).

SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM:

According to the United Nations, human trafficking is the process by which a person is recruited to be controlled and held captive for the purpose of exploitation. Traffickers threaten to or use force, coercion, abduction, fraud, or deception to bring their victims under their control, in addition to abusing their power or the vulnerable social or economic status of their victims. The resulting exploitation is considered a modern-day form of slavery as human trafficking victims are subjected to sexual exploitation or forced labor. The victims' fear of retribution through physical and sexual violence or by threat to families or significant others many times prevent them from escape or reporting to authorities. Further, mental health incapacities as a result of their enslavement, many times leave them in a continued state of helplessness and easy prey for continued exploitation. Human trafficking today is viewed as the fastest growing criminal enterprise in the 21st Century with a 9 billion dollar industry second only to drug trafficking in the world. There are an estimated 12.3 million people that are enslaved and 15,000-17,000 children, women and men that are reported by the CIA to be trafficked into the United States every year. California is one of the top destination points in the country for victims of human trafficking, and Los Angeles is one of the top three entry points given its diverse communities to hide and move victims from city to city to avoid detection by law enforcement and other government agencies.

Today, there is a national spotlight on the newest form of human trafficking, referred to as Domestic Trafficked Youth. Traffickers in these crimes are pimps who have increasingly moved away from adult prostitution to the more financially lucrative crime of forcing minor children into prostitution. While the greatest percentage of these

trafficking pimps have a local gang affiliation, increasingly organized crime syndicates have begun to enter this criminal trade to sexually exploit children. The pimps in either case have evolved to using social network media sites and other technology facilitated methods to find a steady flow of perpetrators who sexually assault these minor victims. They have also become more sophisticated in increasing their criminal clientele by transporting US Domestic Trafficked Youth to multiple "tracks" in and out of other cities, counties, states and countries. Many travel with their victims to cities hosting major sporting events or other popular media attractions for the sole purpose of prostituting and exploiting the children.

In the recent past, law enforcement and other government agencies have viewed the majority of this population of Domestic Trafficked Youth as teen minors who have independently made the choice to engage in the criminal act of prostitution. There was a prevailing and sometimes knowing disregard by the law enforcement, prosecuting and other government agencies and communities to view these exploited minors as victims of human trafficking. As a result, they were simply cited for solicitation of prostitution by our juvenile justice agencies and provided with little to no services to address their exploitation. The problem was further exacerbated by the lack of reporting to child welfare protection agencies and the agencies' limited resources and outdated training available to provide effective services to this population. The diverse complexities of these exploited youth range from: in-home abuse/neglect, violence in the home, criminal activity in their immediate environment, physical and mental health problems, substance abuse and much more.

However, over the past couple of years, efforts in Los Angeles County (LAC) and other parts of the country have seen a paradigm shift in practice and mindset to view these children, not as criminals, but rather victims of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. The introduction of legislative bills at the State and Federal levels to address Domestic Trafficked Youth, public official mandates, training of law enforcement and first responders, funding of human trafficking task forces, community outreach and public service announcements have all played a critical role in turning the tide.

The work ahead to curtail and combat human trafficking crimes is profound from poor data collection, to lack of placement facilities to the lack of mental heath and substance abuse resources. However, there are many efforts underway in various areas of the County to streamline the service delivery process to this population and there is a strategic mobilization of public and private stakeholders who have assembled to respond in a coordinated effort that will have a measurable impact that can serve as a model for the nation.

DCFS ROLE AND EFFORTS IN COMBATING DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING OF YOUTH

The Department has shared a co-leadership role with the Federal Bureau of Investigations in partnership with the LAC Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) to first bring light to this underserved population of Domestic Trafficked Youth. In 2008, ICAN formed an ad hoc committee that assembled public agency stakeholders from all jurisdictions in local, state and federal agencies to address and report on the barriers and obstacles that have prevented the identification, rescue and delivery of protective services to an underserved population referred to as Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC). The results of these meetings led to the formulation of multiple reporting sub-committees that were tasked to address issues of human trafficking, child pornography and technology facilitated child exploitation. The committees were to provide recommendations and strategies to address the barriers that existed in prosecution, law enforcement, child welfare, mental health and other direct service private agency Community Based Organizations (CBO) and Non-Government Organizations (NGO). After the initial reporting concluded, the subcommittee groups eventually consolidated into two major subcommittees: Direct Services and Law Enforcement.

The Law Enforcement Sub-Committee is co-led by the FBI – Technology Crimes Division and the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office - Child Abuse Prevention and Cyber Crimes Divisions. The Direct Services Sub-Committee is co-led by the DCFS - MART Program and the FBI – Victim Witness Program. It was the Direct Services Sub-Committee that expanded its role to serve not only the traditional human trafficking recognized victims of labor, domestic servitude and sexual exploitation of foreign youths/adults but also to tackle the trend that was emerging globally and nationally in Domestic Trafficked Youth.

SHORT-TERM STATEGIES/SOLUTIONS:

Through the use of the following programs: Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST) – Compton Teen Task Force and Multi-Agency Response Team (MART), the Department's immediate needs of providing crisis intervention, assessment, enhanced medical and mental health treatment and prevention services for Domestic Trafficked Youth are being addressed. The detailed services of both these programs include the following:

Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking – Compton Teen Task Force

The Coordinated Services Action Team (CSAT) is an administrative and collaborative team within the Compton DCFS Office. The network aligns and coordinates

screenings, assessments, and linkages ensures that there is a delivery system of direct mental health services to children and families in the Compton Service Area. Compton CSAT was tasked and is in the early stages of developing and implementing the DMST Compton Teen Task Force Initiative. Its mission is to provide outreach assistance to DCFS involved youth who are victims/survivors of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking to ensure that they receive DCFS collaborative services upon identification. Objectives include: developing and providing enhanced workshops to partner agencies that interface with Domestic Trafficked Youth based on the Core Practice and Coaching and Mentoring Models, the development of office protocols in response to this population within a partner agency team approach and the development of community resource packets to be provided to impacted families and children.

Presently, the DMST – Compton Team Task Force has initiated and is working in collaboration with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD), Compton Station – Vice Division on response protocols and notifications to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). This partnership is working to align itself with other County pilot efforts in the City of Compton that include the Compton - Probation Department and Juvenile Court Collaborative which identifies Probation Youth who have been detained for prostitution and/or have a chronic runaway history.

Multi-Agency Response Team (MART)

In January of 2004, the LAC – Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the Department's MART Initiative to create a highly trained and specialized DCFS team of investigators that would be co-located within local, state and federal law enforcement agencies to respond to high profile criminal cases that have a child endangerment nexus. Children are identified for MART Team investigation at the time of primarily narcotic, gang and weapons-related warrant service and parole/probation sweeps. Other types of specialized investigations that MART conducts have law enforcement sensitive intelligence and are considered to be high profile and include: human trafficking, child pornography, drug trafficking organizations, organized crime syndicates, murder, fugitive apprehension, cults, clandestine drug laboratories, terrorism and more.

MART's specialized field of investigations has resulted in numerous DCFS partnerships and collaborations with public and private agency stakeholders to include associations, committees and task force participation and the request to conduct training locally, statewide and nationally. Some of these committees and task forces have a direct nexus to the Domestic Trafficked Youth population. They include: ICAN-CSEC – Direct Services Sub-Committee, the Los Angeles Metropolitan Human Trafficking Task Force,

the FBI – Sexual Assault and Felony Enforcement Team (SAFE) and Innocence Lost Task Force (ILTF), the US Department of Homeland Security, Immigration Customs Enforcement – Child Exploitation Investigation Group (CEIG), the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) – Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Team, the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST) Agency and many more CBOs and NGOs.

Presently, MART participates in the FBI led ILTF Initiative that principally partners with LAPD and the LAC District Attorney's Office. The initiative calls for the rescue and provision of specialized services to identified Domestic Trafficked Youth that have been picked up during tactical prostitution/child exploitation special operations and/or have been referred by other law enforcement jurisdictions and/or auxiliary agency partners (including DCFS MART). One primary objective is to bring federal prosecution charges against the child pimps that can lead to substantially more prison time than California statutes allow, if not a life sentence of imprisonment. While their focus has been to rescue Domestic Trafficked Youth in the recognized "tracks" within the LA City LAPD jurisdictional areas, the Initiative is currently working to expand formal relations with other LAC law enforcement jurisdictions, to include LASD. Currently, the LAC Probation Department and DCFS – MART are principal partners outside of the ILTF grant. The protocol calls for the FBI to provide immediate notification to Probation and DCFS of upcoming special operations or last minute emergencies to allow for command center response where appropriate and to allow for background checks to help determine principal jurisdiction and/or the pursuit of a dual supervision recommendation to the Court with the request to order a 241.1 Hearing. At the time of special operational response, both Probation and DCFS – MART are present to provide an expeditious response to calls for service. If a child is determined to have a 602 status and/or law enforcement jointly agrees with Probation to have a child detained in juvenile hall, the present Probation team member streamlines the process and approves placement of the child in their detention center. Previous to this collaborative, most Domestic Trafficked Youth would be cited out and would not be detained by Probation. If a child is determined to be an existing 300 child and/or there is no Probation 602 or DCFS 300 existing jurisdiction and the child does not meet the criteria for a new Probation detention, the DCFS MART Team provides emergency investigation services. This includes, but is not limited to: stabilizing the child at home when the risk can be mitigated, providing emergency placement, and/or taking the child for an immediate medical/mental health evaluation, as needed. The child and/or family are then prepared for intense services that are outlined in the case plan and/or at the time of Team Decision Making (TDM) meetings.

At the present, the DCFS-MART Team and the Probation Department have agreed to provide this same level of service to other Domestic Trafficked Youth in LAC who are

identified by other law enforcement jurisdictions not participating in the ILTF Initiative. Through existing and established partnerships, the DCFS-MART is contacted and participates in all other law enforcement requested special operations that target Domestic Trafficked Youth throughout LAC. When notification is made to DCFS-MART, no child goes without specialized protective services in or out of ILTF Initiative or Compton Pilot Program Service areas.

LONG–TERM STRATEGIES/SOLUTIONS:

In addition to providing services meant to address the immediate concerns of Domestic Trafficked Youth, the Department has also implemented a number of additional long-term strategies in collaboration with private and public partners. A detailed list of these services includes the following:

ICAN – Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children – Direct Services Sub-Committee

Over the past three years the ICAN-CSEC sub-committee on Direct Services has established a coalition of over 30 public and private stakeholders that meet bi-monthly at the MART co-location training facilities of the California Department of Justice and Edelman's Children's Court. The committee has been tasked to identify the barriers in service delivery, coordinate strategic response efforts by stakeholders, provide training, highlight successes and make policy recommendations on providing effective and evaluated services to children falling victim to: human domestic/foreign trafficking, child pornography and technology facilitated child exploitation.

Over the course of the past three years, this sub-committee has completed a Needs Assessment preliminary study, hosted two major symposiums and various training seminars on CSEC minors and has made policy recommendations at 2 annual ICAN agency head meetings. From these meetings and networking of participating agencies, the Compton Probation – Juvenile Court Collaborative was created and initiated in January of 2012. CAST was also identified as the NGO lead agency to facilitate the response of all CBOs in determining placement space availability and capacity and coordination of services to the identified CSEC population of victims. Presently, the sub-committee is working to formulate smaller working groups to review, recommend and implement plans that address the on-going needs of: limited bed space, development of training curriculum, data collection, cultivation and development of new mental health service providers that can service this population and community outreach. One of the objectives is to create CSEC multi-disciplinary teams to work within the Los Angeles County Service Planning Areas where there is an existing countywide infra-structure that can address the immediate needs of the CSEC population in any given city/community in the County.

Los Angeles Metropolitan Human Trafficking Task Force

For more than two years, MART has been a committee member of the LA Metro Human Trafficking Task Force which hosted quarterly by LAPD at their Communications Building and is a participant in the Law Enforcement sub-committee led and hosted by the United States Attorney's Office (USAO). The committee is comprised of over 20 different public and private agencies that participate in multiple working groups to address all aspects of human trafficking that include: labor, domestic servitude and foreign/domestic trafficking victims. As a committee member, MART participates in the overall strategy of responding in a coordinated effort to human trafficking victims in LAC at the time of law enforcement actions and investigations. Further, MART participates and provides input to other sub-committees that address community outreach, public service announcements and training. Participation in this task force has afforded MART the opportunity to have speaking engagements as Subject Matter Experts in child protection agency - emergency response matters of human trafficking.

Los Angeles County, District Attorney's Office – SB 1279

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is moving forward with implementation of SB1279 which authorizes the District Attorney of Los Angeles County, in collaboration with County partners, law enforcement and others, to develop countywide protocols to identify and assess prostituted children who have been arrested and detained by law enforcement. Compton Administration and MART have been tasked to represent the Department in the recently assembled multidisciplinary steering committee that will work to develop a model that reflects best practices in addressing the needs and treatment of Domestic Trafficked Youth through a Diversion Program of reduced sentence/detention for LAC identified teens. The model will seek to identify service providers that can work with the Delinquency Courts, Probation and other impacted County agencies to provide specialized services that will facilitate a safety net of treatment and placement to Domestic Trafficked Youth with the goal of reducing the recidivism of repeat exploitation and victimization.

Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST)

For more than two years, MART has been an active participant with law enforcement in the CAST-sponsored, NGO and Community Based Roundtable events, Freedom Network Trainings and the formation of working sub-committees that have done outreach to all human trafficking service providers to join in a coordinated effort to develop protocols for emergency response to new human trafficking victims brought to the attention of law enforcement and/or walk-ins to the agencies. Protocols developed,

with MART input, include: notification procedures, rotational NGO and CBOs response, weekly review of placement availability and capacity of agencies, outreach efforts, non-profit NGO/CBO donation recipients, provision of legal aid services, physical/mental health treatment services and other target population advocacy needs.

NEXT STEPS:

Additional recommendations are to expand the MART and DMST strategies through increased collaboration with the Departments of Probation, Mental Health, Public Health, Juvenile and Dependency Courts, District Attorney, Cross-Jurisdictional Law Enforcement Agencies and ICAN to integrate existing County contracts that provide enhanced health and mental health screenings and placements. The integration will strengthen our ability to access services and identify areas in need of expansion.

MART and DMST have already demonstrated successes in working with Domestic Trafficked Youth through collaboration with public and private stakeholders across local, state and federal jurisdictions in the provision of specialized response and services and linkages made with community partners. To build on this success, the Department is recommending a sub-committee meeting with the impacted departments noted above to address and review the implementation of new and updated policies, the development of joint training curricula and multi-disciplinary participation, the creation of a central repository for data collection on this population and review of the co-location of Department personnel with Probation. Within the Department, the recommendation would be to expand the roles and resources of the 241.1 section to identify the population of Domestic Trafficked Youth for increased dual supervision and to augment the DMST strategies for eventual department-wide implementation in each of the SPA Offices.

Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking – Compton Teen Task Force

Compton's DMST Task Force has developed protocols and begun working with the Department of Mental Health and community mental health providers to address our victim youth. Through this Task Force, collaborative partnerships with the Dependency and Delinquency Courts, Department of Probation, community providers, and faith-based organizations have been formed and the team is working to further explore how to strategize collectively and address the underlying needs of victimized children.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

DCFS looks forward to the continued partnership and expansion of the existing and new collaborations with the Probation Department, Juvenile Court, District Attorney, ICAN, Mental Health and Health Services, Law Enforcement and other agency partners in addressing the issue of Human Trafficking and its victims within our communities with the goal of creating a model of best practice that provides a comprehensive response and treatment approaches to this population of Domestic Trafficked Youth.

In anticipation of an expedited countywide coordinated response, the Department remains at the ready to provide the available resources to this effort. The Department also remains committed to initiating and welcoming outreach efforts by our agency partners. In that spirit, the Department initiated contact with ICAN for its review and input into the Department's Board response to Probation. As one of the principal and recognized leaders in Los Angels County whose efforts brought the Human Trafficking issue to the forefront and who provided the venue and support for public and private stakeholders to address and make recommendations for institutional changes and implementation; ICAN has given its full and complete support to this motion submitted by DCFS.