County of Los Angeles

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
http://ceo.lacounty.gov

SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

October 16, 2015

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

From Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

FUNDING PROGRAMS FOR CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

On April 14, 2015, this Board adopted a motion introduced by Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and Supervisor Hilda Solis related to the use of the Healthier Communities, Stronger Families, Thriving Children (HST) funds and Commercially, Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC). CSEC are children and youth who have been forced into the sex industry.

The Board's motion instructed the Interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to report back during the June Budget Deliberations on the transfer of $6,738,000 of HST funds from the CEO budget to the Provisional Financing Uses (PFU) budget. The Board further instructed the Interim CEO to work with the Chief of Probation and the Directors of the Departments of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Health Services, Mental Health (DMH), and Public Social Services to report back in writing in 30 days on:

1. The feasibility of using HST funds to offset the $300,000 budgeted in ongoing net County cost related to the Success Through Achievement and Resilience (STAR) Court Program;

2. Other services, programming, interventions and recovery solutions for sexually exploited children that can be funded with this funding source including a prospective dependency specialty court program to serve "at-risk" and foster care youth that are involved in, or at-risk of, commercial sexual exploitation to decrease the likelihood of any involvement with the criminal justice system; and

3. Recommendations for dedicated staffing and evaluation tools and resources that track the magnitude of sexually exploited children within the County of Los Angeles and an assessment of the outcomes of the services rendered to this population including the impact of the STAR Court Program.

On May 12, 2015, the Board adopted a motion introduced by Supervisor Hilda Solis and Supervisor Don Knabe directing DCFS and DMH, in concert with other Departments, to report back in 90 days on the feasibility of developing a safe facility to specifically serve CSEC youth. The motion further directed these departments to "explore broader plans that define appropriate treatment options by utilizing $6,700,000" in HST Funds. This report was originally due on August 12, 2015 and will now be issued by DCFS, DMH and others on, or before November 10, 2015.

Also, on May 19, 2015, the Board adopted a motion introduced by Supervisor Don Knabe instructing the Interim CEO to identify $250,000 for continued identification and CSEC awareness training, and include the amount in Probation's budget during Final Changes. Finally, on June 30, 2015, this Board adopted a motion introduced by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas and Supervisor Antonovich, directing the CEO to report on the use of the HST funds at the same time that it issues a report on other Board-adopted CSEC related motions.

In response to the Board's April 14, May 19, and June 30, 2015 motions, the CEO has taken the following action. First, as part of Final Changes, $250,000 of the $6.7 million HST balance was included in Probation's 2015-16 Budget on a one-time basis. Also as part of Final Changes, the remaining $6,488,000 in the HST fund was moved from the CEO's Budget to a PFU Budget. No additional funds will be moved from the PFU account unless further direction and/or approval is received from the Board.

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department assumed the lead in developing a conceptual plan for how HST funds could be used for CSEC services, programs and interventions. In addition, the Office of Child Protection (OCP) worked with the Departments of Health Services, Mental Health, Public Health, and Public Social Services to seek their input. Attachment I to this memo contains a report that addresses the Board's April 14, May 19, and June 30, 2015 motions. The attachment describes 13 proposals for the use of the HST fund. The proposal concepts range from advocacy services, to court programs, to development of housing resources including a facility to keep CSEC safe. The HST fund balance could cover most, but not all proposals for several fiscal years. Ultimately permanent funding will need to be identified for any proposals funded with HST funds. As such, proposals must be prioritized and decisions must be made as to which proposals will be funded with the HST Fund. For the reasons described in Attachment I, the CEO recommends that the

HST Fund be used to fund eight proposals in the amounts and for the times identified in Table I below.

Table 1 - Summary of Proposed HST Funded Programs and Services for CSEC

CSEC Initiative	Service Description	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Total
1. Victim Services Advocate *(Contractors Only)*	• Advocacy (Advocate and CSEC Survivor) • First Responder Protocol • Educational Workshops Funded 50 percent for FY 16-17	Grant Funded + $100,000	$212,500	$500,000	$500,000	$1,312,500
2. Training	• CSEC Awareness • CSEC Continuing Education • Foster Care Provider training • County Department Specific Training: • Protocol implementation training	*	250,000	250,000	250,000	750,000
3. Individualized Incidental Restoration Fund	See page 7 for list of available services	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000	360,000
4. CSEC Survivor Advocate *(Contractors Only)*	Survivor Advocates (3) • 1 for Probation • 2 for DCFS	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000	360,000
5. Evaluation	Consultant services to complete an evaluation	70,750	70,750	0	0	141,500
6. Prevention Awareness Tool Kit	Cost of printing CSEC prevention workbook and tool kit	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	80,000
7. CSEC Website & Safe Place Communications Campaign	CSEC website and Safe Place communications campaign	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	240,000
Subtotal for Proposals (1-7)		$430,750	$793,250	$1,010,000	$1,010,000	$3,244,000
8. Housing	Set aside half of available total funds for housing resources, including the possibility of funding to develop a safe facility (capital project funds).					$3,244,000
TOTAL						$6,488,000

*$250,000 previously moved to Probation's 2015-16 budget and deducted from the original HST fund balance. Therefore this figure is not included in totals reflected in Table I.

Finally, the Board should also be aware of recent legislation establishing a State CSEC program – Senate Bill 855 (SB 855, Chapter 29, Statutes of 2014). DCFS was recently notified by the State Department of Social Services, that the County of Los Angeles will receive $2.76 million in funding from the State General Fund as part of the State CSEC program. SB 855 funding could be used to cover the cost of the proposals in this report.

It appears that SB 855 funds will be made available to Counties in the near future although no specific date has been identified by the State. When determining how the SB 855 funds will be used, the SB 855 Executive Committee charged with approving the allocation of SB 855 funding in the County must be careful to avoid redundancy and duplication of effort. In addition, the County must be careful not to fund proposals in a way that would supplant SB 855 funding. Finally, a separate companion report is being issued simultaneous to this report to respond to other CSEC-focused Board motions adopted on June 16, 2015 and June 30, 2015.

If you have any questions, please contact Fesia Davenport at (213) 974-1186, or by email at fdavenport@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ
FD:ljp

Attachment (1)

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Children and Family Services
Health Services
Mental Health
Probation
Public Social Services

Final-FundingTransfer for Programs for Child Sex Trafficking Victims-10-13-15.bm

Summary

This report is divided into three sections. Section One discusses proposals related to courts to serve Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) victims. Section Two describes proposed services, interventions, and supports for systems-involved youth who are CSEC victims. Section Three describes a proposal for procuring services to conduct an evaluation of the effectiveness of existing and proposed programs, services and interventions and a description of existing tools used to track the magnitude of CSEC in Los Angeles County.

I. Court Services

CSEC COURT IN DELINQUENCY – STAR COURT

Background

The Los Angeles County Superior Court, Juvenile Division has dedicated a courtroom to assist victims of CSEC who are supervised by the County's Probation Department. The Success Through Achieving Resilience (STAR) court was established in 2012, after the Probation Department successfully applied for a three-year grant from the California Department of Corrections. Since its inception, the STAR court has worked with over 270 CSEC victims. Boys, girls and transgender children are eligible to participate in STAR Court, however, to date, all of the youth involved have been girls. A single STAR court judge provides close supervision of CSEC victims in a non-adversarial setting and monitors services provided by Probation and community organizations. One of the primary goals of the STAR Court is to support families of the CSEC youth who can be reunified and to create long-term community connections for those CSEC victims who cannot be reunited with family.

In collaboration with the Probation Department, the STAR court identified and/or developed resources to provide CSEC victims with housing, counseling, mentoring and the opportunity to complete school. Desired outcomes for STAR Court participants include: (1) Reduced recidivism as evidenced by fewer arrests; (2) Reduced runaway behavior – as evidenced by a decreasing number of warrants and missing person reports; (3) Reduced substance abuse as evidenced by negative drug tests and fewer arrests for possession or being under the influence of an illegal substance; and (4) Increased parent and extended family involvement in case plan preparation, treatment, case management and follow-up.

Funding	Description
Current	Starting in 2012, the STAR Court was grant funded in the amount of $300,000. This money covered the cost of court and salary benefits, professional services of an education advocate, advocacy services, services and supplies, indirect costs, and travel and training. The grant funding expired December 31, 2014. Starting January 1, 2015, court costs are covered by Probation.
Proposed	Probation recommends that funding for the STAR Court continue in the amount of $120,000. This amount would cover 20 percent of the salaries and benefits of courtroom personnel, services and supplies, indirect costs and travel and training.
Feasibility of Replacing Ongoing Funding With HST Funding	The Chief Executive Office (CEO) does not recommend funding this proposal with HST Funds. The CEO's 2015-16 Recommended Budget includes $300,000 to cover STAR Court costs for the current fiscal year and continuing in out years. CEO does not recommend replacing ongoing funding with limited, one-time funding from the HST Fund. Since $300,000 has been allocated in Probation's Budget and only $120,000 is needed going forward, the CEO will adjust Probation's Budget by $180,000.

CSEC COURT FOR FOSTER YOUTH (DEPENDENCY DIVISION)

Background

Until recently, most services and supports for CSEC victims in Los Angeles have been available only within the delinquency system – through the STAR Court. However, with a recent shift in thinking by policy makers, CSEC are now recognized as victims. With the passage of Senate Bill 855 (SB 855), the State Legislature clarified that CSEC should be served and protected by the child welfare system. Accordingly, the Los Angeles dependency court is working to re-tool existing resources in order to better serve CSEC victims.

In order to establish a CSEC court in Dependency Court, resources must be identified to support this operation. Existing Dependency Courts have the following basic components: a courtroom, a judicial officer, courtroom officers, and attorneys who represent the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), child(ren) and parent(s), respectively. There is no single funding source covering all court components, rather each component is covered by a different funding stream, e.g. DCFS, the Judicial Council, etc.

Funding	Description
Current	Currently, there is no existing courtroom in the Dependency Court dedicated to CSEC victims. Rather foster youth who are CSEC victims are seen by the judicial officer to whom their case is assigned. Currently these youth become part of the existing caseload of DCFS, the Dependency Court, Children's Law Center (attorneys representing children), and the Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers (attorneys representing parents of detained children). The Dependency Court has identified an existing courtroom and a judicial officer to whom CSEC cases will be assigned. The cases involving CSEC youth will be diverted from their currently assigned courtroom and redirected to the designated courtroom to be heard on certain days of the week. That courtroom is currently staffed with a judicial officer, courtroom personnel, DCFS staff and attorneys for DCFS, children and parents. The Children's Law Center (CLC) is the legal office which represents children in the Dependency system in Los Angeles County.
Proposed	CLC proposes that $250,000 be used to fund four CLC items to staff the CSEC Dependency Court. The items are: one full-time attorney; two social work investigators; and one full-time peer advocate. CLC proposes that these four staff be available around-the-clock to serve CSEC victims. CLC's current contract with the Judicial Council does not cover the cost for specialized caseloads. According to CLC, current State funding levels require CLC attorneys to carry high caseloads which do not adequately support CLC's ability to staff a CSEC Court. CLC has acknowledged its understanding and expectation that any funding from the County would be one-time only and they would seek funding from other sources to sustain this effort.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	The CEO does not recommend funding this request for permanent staff since it is Board policy to not use one-time funds or backfill state-funded programs.

II. Services, Programs and Interventions

ADVOCACY SERVICES

Background

CSEC victims require an array of services to move them from crisis to stability and from stability to well-being. The table below identifies proposed services designed to identify CSEC, assess their needs, refer and link them to appropriate services, and provide ongoing and sustaining support as CSEC victims recover from their trauma and begin to rebuild their lives. DCFS and Probation have proposed that the services of CSEC survivors/advocates be retained to provide the services listed below.

Service Type	Service Defined
Stabilization and Engagement	Early engagement and stabilization of CSEC increases the likelihood of effective placements, reinstatement into school and reconnection to the community, variety of services to support CSEC's recovery and help to provide stabilization and prevent further victimization.
Multi-Disciplinary Team Participation	Participation in Multi-Disciplinary Teams (at all stages) to: 1) develop plans for safety, housing and placement options, case plan goals; and 2) ensure the child's voice is heard and their needs met to enable their transition, create a sense of permanency and ensure healthy stabilization and growth.
Case Management	Oversight and monitoring of the plan created for the safety of the CSEC youth with coordinated services to meet the child's mental health and medical needs, assist with aftercare placement, provide ongoing mentorship, and offer support to the child's family that may include relocation services, and linkage to services.
Court Testimony Support	Victim advocacy in criminal court providing emotional support, clothing, and safety coordination for children who testify against their traffickers. Provide victim specialists to assist law enforcement with interviewing youth and act as their advocate, providing extensive emotional support for each youth when they testify against their traffickers. Provide transportation for each child, engage them in youth-centered activities to pass the time, sit next to them when they are on the stand, and advocate for them to make sure they are treated with care and respect.
Survivor Advocacy	The services shall include stabilization and engagement; support for participant testifying against his/her trafficker; crisis response to support stabilization and re-victimization; and co-facilitation of educational workshops. Survivor advocacy is often more short-term advocacy with the goal being to help the participant stabilize and transition into longer-term advocacy services.
Workshops	Facilitation of various workshops, i.e. CSEC intervention, life skills training, transition skills, public awareness.

Funding	Description
Current	Currently advocacy services are funded through a combination of Probation and DCFS funds. This funding expires in December 2015.
Proposed	Probation has been awarded a Recidivism Reduction Grant by the State and will use $300,000 of the grant for CSEC advocacy services. Three grants will be awarded in the amount of $100,000 each in December 2015. This grant funding will cover the cost of advocacy services through December 2016.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	SB 855 establishing the State's CSEC program may cover the cost of these services. The CEO recommends funding this proposal. If funded, the CEO further recommends that the HST fund be used to secure services through contractors only and not permanent employees unless an alternate and permanent funding stream is identified. ***Recommended: $100,000/year for FY 2015-16; $212,500/year for FY 2016-17 plus $500,000/year for two years starting FY 2017-18 totaling $1,312,500. Does not include grant funding available through December 2016.***

TRAINING

Background

Raising awareness regarding CSEC is an ongoing effort. Although Probation and DCFS have trained over 7,000 people in CSEC awareness, a large number of County staff remain untrained. Also, public awareness of this issue appears to remain at less than optimal levels. For those who have received the CSEC awareness training, additional training is required for continuing education purposes. To address this issue, DCFS and Probation recommend awareness training, continuing education training, and general public awareness training. On May 19, 2015, the Board adopted a motion introduced by Supervisor Don Knabe instructing the Interim CEO to identify $250,000 for these training purposes.

Funding	Description
Current	Until December 2014, funding for County-provided CSEC training was covered by a grant awarded to the Probation Department by the State Department of Corrections called the Corrections Standards Authority Title II Block Grant. The funding from this grant ended in December 2014. Currently there is no funding to provide training.
Proposed	The CEO's office proposes that the HST Fund be used to fund this training proposal. On May 19, 2015, the Board adopted a motion introduced by Supervisor Don Knabe that instructed the Interim CEO to identify $250,000 in funding for CSEC training and include that amount in Probation's budget during Final Changes. This amount has been added to Probation's Budget in Final Changes from the HST Fund.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	The CEO recommends using the HST Fund to fund this proposal. Any future potential allocation of SB 855 funds directed towards training should be aligned with and avoid duplicating the training efforts outlined in this proposal. ***Recommendation: $250,000/year for three years starting FY 2016-17 for a total of $750,000. $750,000 does not include the $250,000 included in Probation's 2015-16 Budget.***

PUBLIC HEALTH CSEC COURT LIAISON

Background

An important component to addressing the needs of CSEC is to address their medical needs and coordinate their care. As part of the County's SB 855 plan, public health will play an integral role in the multi-disciplinary approach under the County's CSEC Interagency Protocol. The Department of Public Health (DPH) proposes to provide a pediatrician and public health nurse to assist in the implementation of the Countywide CSEC Interagency Protocol pursuant SB 855. A description of the proposed duties of the pediatrician and nurse are included below.

The Court Pediatrician will provide medical consultation regarding Court involved youth and youth involved in the child welfare system, as well as providing consultation to Court officials and attorneys regarding specific health issues related to children and youth in conjunction with the coordinated health services program in both the delinquency and dependency courts. As a part of the CSEC Interagency Protocol the Court Pediatrician will provide consultation to the multi-disciplinary team (MDT) and participate in weekly MDT calls as needed. The Court Pediatrician will work closely with the Court Liaison Public Health Nurse (PHN) and provide consultation regarding care coordination related to specific CSEC.

The PHN will provide public health nursing support for CSEC under the care of the MDT. The PHN will support CSEC youth in the specialized CSEC delinquency and proposed dependency courts. The PHN will coordinate the appropriate response and services specific to CSEC, provide information related to public health and reproductive and sexual health including facilitating access to contraceptives, HIV prophylaxis and assessment and treatment for sexually transmitted infections and diseases. This includes linkage to the medical hub or other appropriate health care provider and appropriate follow-up and care coordination. The PHN will also work with DPH's Division of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control to ensure CSEC receive assessment and treatment of substance abuse if needed. The PHN will participate in the MDT and weekly team meetings and will provided needed information regarding any cases under discussion to the Court Pediatrician.

Funding	Description
Current	DPH currently has positions in its budget for the pediatrician and the nurse. The pediatrician will soon be hired.
Proposed	The CEO proposes that the HST Fund be used to fund the full cost of the pediatrician and the public health nurse for one year or until funds from SB 855 are received – whichever occurs first.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	Both HST and SB 855 funds could be used to fund these permanent items. The CEO does not recommend using the one-time HST fund for these permanent items. The CEO will continue to work with the relevant Departments to exploring funding options to cover these requests either within existing resources or through SB 855 funds.

PLACEMENT HOLDS

Background

In many cases, recovered and suspected CSEC will present without a viable home to return to or may be in need of short-term housing. Beds set aside for CSEC youth is a critical need. The proposal here is to pay providers to hold beds open for CSEC – even if unused. Under this proposal, DCFS and Probation contracted providers will be paid to keep a set number of beds open whether the bed is being used or

not, because of the need to have an available bed at all times. CSEC specialized beds will be used for both DCFS and Probation youth.

Funding	Description
Current	Currently, DCFS and Probation contracted providers do not hold beds specifically for CSEC victims. However, DCFS currently pays providers to hold beds open for Emergency Shelter Care and regularly works to develop more beds.
Proposed	DCFS and Probation recommend that HST funds be used to hold ten beds open for CSEC victims. The projected estimated cost to provide this service is $79,200 per year. This projected cost is based on a model currently used by DCFS. DCFS and Probation must still determine the level of interest among its contracted providers.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	The CEO does not recommend funding this proposal with the HST Fund. DCFS currently provides a similar service within existing resources. CEO recommends that this proposal, which is specific to placement holds, be funded within DCFS' existing resources.

INDIVIDUALIZED INCIDENTAL RESTORATION FUND

Background

Once a CSEC victim has moved from crisis to stability, certain discreet and individualized services and support services are necessary to restore dignity, and promote opportunities for growth and healing. These services compliment the panoply of services envisioned by this proposal. The goals are:

1. Decrease re-entry by maximizing normalizing opportunities, including: remove physical signs of exploitation such as tattoos that provide stigma and interfere with employment opportunity; repair teeth that may have been damaged through inflicted injury; provide appropriate clothing and self-care products;

2. Provide educational support through tutoring, skill building, and opportunity;

3. Increase employability by providing specialized vocational training opportunities (e.g., cosmetology school or computer tech school);

4. Enhance opportunities for success by providing day care so victims can meaningfully participate in school, employment or services;

5. Support parenting youth by providing support to meet the basic needs of their children; and

6. Provide these exploited youth with the same tools that non-exploited children are provided to help restore them to a healthy, safe and successful future.

Funds are to be used for various items/services to support CSEC youth who are not always supported by other County funding streams (e.g., ILP services, or Title IV-E, etc.). These services are listed in the following table.

Individual Incidental Restoration Services and Supports	
• Additional or alternative clothing (prom dress, interviews, work, etc.) • Child care to enable youth to attend school, work, and other treatment services • College tours to provide youth with real world experience • College vocational school scholarships • Dental services (uncovered) • Diapers and baby products, etc. • Doula/Visiting home health nurses • Employment Services • Empowerment conference fees • Family finding • Internships	• Job readiness services • Legal documentation funds • Personal/self care services • Special event funds • Sports equipment, music instruments, and art supplies • Substance abuse treatment • Tattoo removal • Transportation to return youth to California, if found out state • Tutoring • Uncovered medical expenses • Visitation funds for family reunification services and activities • Vocational training

Funding	Description
Current	Many of the supports and services identified above can be covered by existing funding for eligible youth. (The key is whether a CSEC youth is eligible based on age).
Proposed	$90,000 per year for four years totaling $360,000.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	The CEO recommends using HST funds to fund this proposal. To the extent that the services can be procured through existing resources and funding streams, it would be inadvisable to use HST funds for the stated purposes. The CEO further recommends that DCFS and Probation work with the Auditor-Controller to develop a streamlined internal control procedure for the control and distribution of these funds that allows for quick dissemination for these funds while maintaining the necessary level of accountability. ***Recommended: $90,000 per year for four years starting FY 2015-16 for a total of $360,000.***

CSEC SURVIVOR ADVOCATE

Background

DCFS currently has a successful program called Parents in Partnership (PiP) and seeks to develop a similar program using youth partners for the CSEC population. The PiP program employs parents who have successfully reunified with their children to act as liaisons and supporters of parents who are attempting to reunify with their detained children. Parent Partners provide support and information to those parents whose children are under the supervision of DCFS. In this proposal, three young adults will serve as partners with and peer supporters of CSEC victims who come to the attention of DCFS or Probation.

The Survivor Advocate could provide invaluable supportive services to youth by providing education to the Court surrounding CSEC issues, co-facilitate orientation meetings for youth coming into the system, review materials generated by child welfare advocates and service providers, and mentor newly identified CSEC victims. As a mentor, Survivor Advocates would provide emotional support, attend court hearings with CSEC victims if necessary, provide healthy role modeling, and assist in navigating the various support systems (education, health, employment).

Funding	Description
Current	Currently, neither DCFS nor Probation use Survivor Advocates in this fashion to assist with the CSEC population.
Proposed	Estimated cost for three Youth Partners is $90,000 per year.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	The CEO recommends funding of this proposal. If funded, the CEO further proposes that the HST fund be used to secure services through contractors only and not permanent employees unless an alternate, permanent funding stream is identified. ***Recommended: $90,000/year for four fiscal years starting FY 2015-16 totaling years $360,000.***

TATTOO REMOVAL EQUIPMENT

Background

CSEC victims are often branded with tattoos by their exploiters (i.e. pimps). The tattoos are prominently displayed and are intended to permanently mark the victim as the "property" of the exploiter and signals to others participation in the sex trade. The tattoo remains long after the CSEC victim leaves the world of sexual exploitation and remains as a constant reminder to the CSEC victim of her past life. Tattoo removal services are provided to different populations (e.g. former gang members) as an acknowledgement that the tattoo serves as a barrier to successful re-entry into society. Health Services recommends that tattoo removal services be included as part of the services delivered to CSEC victims. Health Services' Dermatology Unit housed at the County USC Medical-Hub can provide this service, but lack the equipment to perform the service.

Funding	Description
Current	This service is not currently provided in relation to CSEC youth.
Proposed	Health Services has received a quote to purchase the tattoo removal equipment in the amount of $150,000.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	The CEO does not recommend the purchase of this equipment with the HST Fund. The CEO will work with Health Services to identify existing funding.

HOUSING RESOURCES/SAFE FACILITY

Background

On May 12, 2015, the Board adopted a motion introduced by Supervisors Hilda Solis and Don Knabe directing DCFS and Department of Mental Health (DMH) in concert with other Departments to report back in 90 days on the feasibility of developing a safe facility to specifically serve CSEC youth. Work on that report is currently underway. One proposed use of the HST Fund is to begin development (i.e. construction, renovation, etc.) of a secure facility. This proposal recognizes that it is unlikely that the cost to construct or renovate such a facility will be less than the balance of the HST Fund. For purposes of this report back, the CEO projects the estimated cost to be at least equivalent to the HST Fund balance.

Funding	Description
Current	This service is not currently provided in relation to CSEC youth.
Proposed	Develop a safe facility for CSEC youth at a cost of at least $6,488,000.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	The CEO recommends setting aside one-half of the HST Fund balance for housing resources including a safe facility for CSEC. DCFS and other County Departments will be issuing a report assessing housing options for CSEC. CEO will continue to work with Board Offices, DCFS, Probation, DMH, DPH, and other relevant partners, to explore the best use of this set-aside amount. Key to that discussion will be DCFS' upcoming CSEC housing report which is due in mid-November 2015. ***Recommended: $3,244,000 one-time set-aside for a total of $3,244,000.***

AWARENESS/PREVENTION TOOL KIT

Background

Awareness and prevention is an important component of the work to combat CSEC. The Probation Department has developed a colorful, easy-to-use workbook that provides information about CSEC that can be used by both adults and youth.

Funding	Description
Current	This is a new service.
Proposed	Cover the cost of printing workbook/toolkits.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	The CEO recommends using the HST Fund to fund this proposal. ***Recommended: $20,000/year for four years starting FY 2015-16 for a total of $80,000.***

CSEC WEBSITE AND SAFE PLACE PROGRAM COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN

Background

On June 30, 2015, the Board adopted a motion introduced by Supervisor Don Knabe. The motion instructed the CEO to determine the feasibility of refreshing, rebranding, and expanding the County's existing Safe House Program. On the same day, the Board adopted a motion introduced by Supervisors Ridley-Thomas and Antonovich. That motion directed the CEO to determine the feasibility of establishing a single entity to coordinate all CSEC activity in the County including the development of an informational website devoted to CSEC.

With regard to the Safe House Program, a robust communications campaign would be necessary to refresh and rebrand the program. In a companion CSEC-related memo issued by the CEO's Office dated October 16, 2015, the CEO recommends that this program be re-named the "Safe Place Program." This process could include design of a new logo, logo decals to be used to identify a County facility as a "safe place", and a public awareness campaign (including signage, posters, literature). With regard to website development, it is feasible to develop a CSEC specific website to provide information about services, programs and interventions for CSEC. The County currently has a page devoted to the County's Law Enforcement First Responder Protocol for CSEC. More information could be added to the website to provide easy-to-understand information about services and supports for CSEC.

Funding	Description
Current	The County does not have a CSEC specific website and no funds are being expended to communicate the existence of the Safe House Program.
Proposed	Use HST funding to pay for the CSEC website and the communications campaign.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	The CEO recommends using the HST Fund to fund this proposal. ***Recommended: $60,000/year for four years starting FY 2015-16 for a total of $240,000.***

III. Evaluation

Background

DCFS and Probation currently track the number of CSEC youth who come to their attention. In order to track the magnitude of the entire CSEC population, the County must focus on detecting CSEC who are not known to DCFS or Probation and unknown to law enforcement or other County agencies. The amount of time and resources devoted to securing an accurate count of this population would likely be cost prohibitive given the size of Los Angeles County. An alternative to this approach would be to require child serving agencies (hospitals, law enforcement, and other agencies) to begin to track suspected or self-identified CSEC and provide that information to DCFS or Probation – assuming that the CSEC are not referred to DCFS by those agencies. The efficacy of the proposed programs and interventions is unknown at the time. Anecdotally, Probation reports that CSEC youth who have participated in STAR Court have experienced positive outcomes.

The CEO's Office recommends that DCFS and Probation jointly procure the services of a consultant to do the following:

1. Develop a plan and tool to track all CSEC in the County – those known and unknown to County agencies;

2. Evaluate the efficacy and effectiveness of the County's CSEC prevention and intervention efforts including those of the courts dedicated to CSEC in both delinquency and child welfare; and

3. Evaluate the outcomes of CSEC youth involved with both Probation and DCFS.

The evaluation's initial report should be issued as soon as it is practical to do so. In the interim, both DCFS and Probation have processes in place to track CSEC youth that come to their attention.

Funding	Description
Current	Currently there is no evaluation underway for the effectiveness of services for CSEC.
Proposed	$141,500 over two years.
Feasibility of Using HST Funding	The CEO recommends using the HST Fund to fund this proposal. ***Recommended: $70,750/year for two years starting FY 2015-16 for a total of $141,500.***