

Resources

LACDMH Transition-Age Youth (TAY) System of Care Bureau, CSECY Initiatives and Efforts

Contact us at CSEInfo@dmh.lacounty.gov or visit:
<https://dmh.lacounty.gov/csecy>.

Local

L.A. County Child Abuse Hotline:
800.540.4000

L.A. Metro Taskforce: 800.655.4095

L.A. County 2-1-1 (211la.org)

National

National Human Trafficking Hotline:
888.373.7888

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:
800.273.8255

California Youth Crisis Hotline: 800.843.5200

**National Center for Missing and Exploited
Children:** 800.THE.LOST (800.843.5678)

LACDMH Values

Integrity. We conduct ourselves professionally according to the highest ethical standards.

Respect. We recognize the uniqueness of every individual and treat all people in a way that affirms their personal worth and dignity.

Accountability. We take responsibility for our choices and their outcomes.

Collaboration. We work together toward common goals by partnering with the whole community, sharing knowledge, building strong consensus and sharing decision-making.

Dedication. We will do whatever it takes to improve the lives of our clients and communities.

Transparency. We openly convey our ideas, decisions and outcomes to ensure trust in our organization.

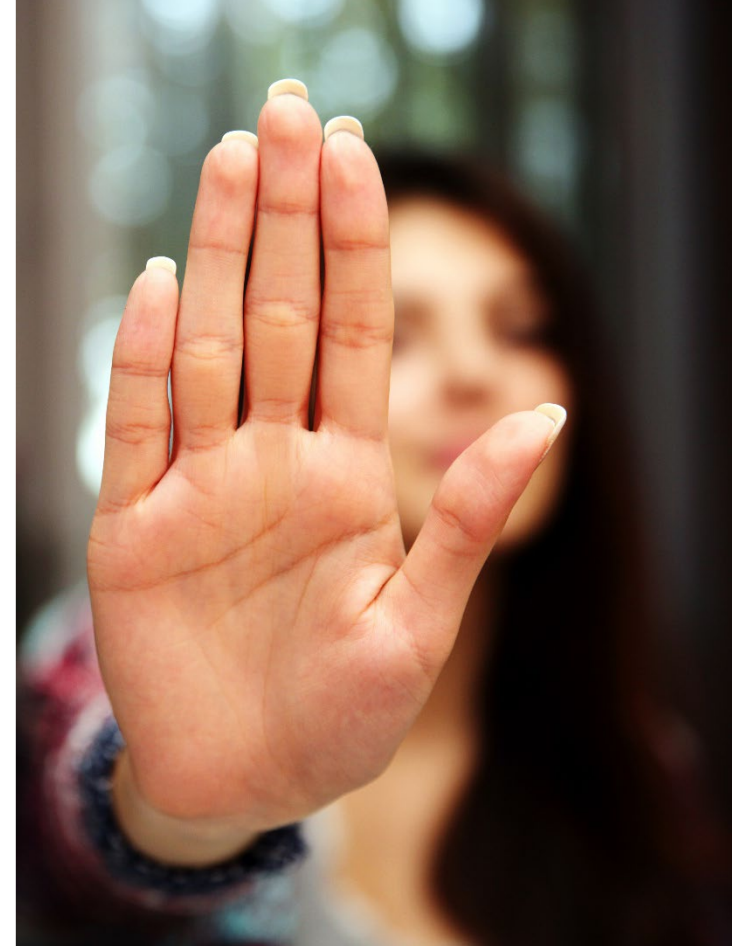
Quality and Excellence. We identify the highest personal, organizational, professional and clinical standards and commit ourselves to achieving those standards by continually improving every aspect of our performance.

**If you are in crisis and need
help right away, call our
24/7 toll-free Help Line:**

800.854.7771

562.651.2549 TDD/TTY

dmh.lacounty.gov



▶▶ Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth (CSECY)



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
**DEPARTMENT OF
MENTAL HEALTH**
hope. recovery. wellbeing.



About

The commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth (CSECY) is a form of human trafficking that involves the exchange of money, goods, or services to a third person or persons for the sexual use of a child. **For youth under age 18, no force, fraud or coercion is required.** The child is treated as a commercial and sexual object. This is a form of child sexual abuse that is experienced primarily by girls and increasingly by boys.

Commercial sexual exploitation can occur through:

- Pornography
- Stripping
- Erotic/nude massage
- Escort services
- Private parties
- Gang-based exploitation
- Interfamilial exploitation

Beginning in September of 2013, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a motion to establish a multi-agency, countywide response model to combat the growing problem of child sex trafficking. The Board of Supervisors continues to approve motions to ensure safety and quality of services to these youth. An interagency approach ensures that all needs of this population are addressed, including mental health.

LACDMH is committed to ensuring that youth who experience commercial sexual exploitation are identified within our programs and provided appropriate services and supports.

Psychological Impact of Exploitation

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Somatization
- Impulsivity
- Self-harm behaviors
- Paranoia
- Shame
- Fear
- Anger
- Inability to trust
- Dissociation
- Hopelessness
- Suicidal ideation
- Hyper-sexualization
- Cognitive impairment
- Withdrawal

Potential Indicators of Exploitation

- History of emotional, physical, or sexual abuse;
- Multiple reports of running away with no explanation of whereabouts;
- Involvement in relationships with adults or older men;
- Visible signs of abuse: bruises, black eyes, cuts;
- Branding or tattoos that indicate ownership;
- Gang involvement;
- Evidence of sexually transmitted diseases;
- Substance use/abuse;
- Withdrawal or lack of interest in previous activities;
- Unexplained shopping trips, expensive clothing, jewelry, or cell phone.

Trauma-Informed Practices

The following trauma-informed practices are recommended when providing mental health treatment to CSECY:

1. **Individual Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (Ages 18+):** an early intervention for individuals who either have or may be at risk for symptoms of anxiety, depression, and trauma.
2. **Trauma Focused CBT (TF-CBT) (Ages 3-18):** an early intervention for youth who may be at risk for symptoms of depression and trauma.
3. **Seeking Safety (SS) (Ages 13+):** a present-focused therapy to help people attain safety from trauma and substance abuse.
4. **Crisis Oriented Recovery Services (CORS) (Ages 3+):** a short-term intervention designed to provide immediate crisis intervention, case management, and warm linkage to ongoing services.

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