

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS LINDSEY P. HORVATH AND

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Establishing new Reporting and Accountability Structure for the Child Trafficking

Strategic Plan

Over the past 11 years, Los Angeles County (County) has spearheaded a series of Countywide initiatives aimed at identifying and supporting youth impacted by Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE). These initiatives encompass a range of programs, including but not limited to:

1. Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) training;
2. CSEC advocacy services;
3. An annual Empowerment Conference and monthly activities for young people;
4. A nationally recognized law enforcement first responder protocol;
5. Prevention curriculum titled "Word on the Street: Educating and Empowering Young Women and Girls;"
6. Establishment of Safe Youth Zones;
7. Mandatory online CSEC awareness training for County employees;
8. Development of a Housing and Services Research and Action Plan;

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9. Endeavors to hold exploiters and buyers accountable via the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) and Probation Department;
10. Development of parent empowerment program;
11. Creation of the Detention Interagency CSEC Identification and Response Protocol;
12. Creation of the LA County Human Trafficking Website; and
13. Development of the Victim Witness Testimony Protocol.

Given the multitude of existing initiatives, there is a need for a better coordinated approach to support commercially sexually exploited and trafficked young people throughout the County. As a result, the County has undergone a strategic planning process driven by significant community engagement, which will culminate in a five-year effort titled *Strategic Plan to Prevent and Address Child Trafficking (Strategic Plan)*.

The leadership and oversight structures guiding these endeavors have undergone shifts over time. Beginning in 2012, several task forces and workgroups were established to tackle human trafficking. On June 16, 2015, the Board approved a motion¹ tasking the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) with assessing the possibility of establishing a unified operational model for managing and supervising programs and services dedicated to victims of sex trafficking. This led to the formation of the Integrated Leadership Team (ILT), with the Probation Department (Probation), Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) serving as co-leads. The ILT was tasked with devising and overseeing a comprehensive Countywide strategic plan to provide a spectrum of services for youth impacted by commercial sexual

¹ [*Establishing a Unified Operational Model for Victims of Child Sex*](#) Trafficking (Knabe-Solis). June 16, 2015.

exploitation. In October 2022, the ILT recommended to the Board that the ILT and County CSEC Steering Committee merge into a single entity, resulting in the creation of the Child Trafficking Steering Committee.

As the Child Trafficking Steering Committee (formerly the CSEC Steering Committee+ ILT) prepares to present the *Strategic Plan* to the Board in October 2024, it is essential to establish an appropriate accountability structure and leadership to implement the plan. Achieving the extensive tasks necessary to prevent and combat the exploitation of the County's youth will require a collective effort from all stakeholders who have been involved in this work over the past decade and must include the voice and perspective of those with lived experience.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors (Board) direct the Los Angeles County Child Trafficking Steering Committee under the leadership of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and in consultation with the Department of Public Health (DPH), Department of Youth Development (DYD), Los Angeles County Youth Commission (LACYC), Department of Probation (Probation), and the County's Child Trafficking Consultant, to provide the following information in a verbal report to the Board at the October 1, 2024 Board meeting:

1. Creation of a newly formed Child Trafficking Leadership Team (CTLT) consisting of DCFS, Probation, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, DPH, Los Angeles County Office of Education, DYD, LACYC and the County's Child Trafficking Consultant.

- a. The CTLT is to collaborate on the implementation of a reporting structure for the County's five-year outcome oriented *Strategic Plan*.
2. A plan for CTLT to form sub-committees based on the goals, strategic priorities, and tasks outlined in the final *Strategic Plan*. Initial sub-committees, and sub-committee membership, should include, but are not limited to the:
 - a. Child Trafficking Steering Committee, as mandated by [SB 855](#) (2014), focused on youth impacted by exploitation who are involved in the DCFS and Probation systems, to be co-chaired by DCFS and Probation.
 - b. Youth Development Committee, co-chaired by a representative of DYD and a representative of the Youth Commission, with representatives from the Los Angeles County Office of Education, Department of Mental Health, Department of Health Services, Department of Public Health, and community-based organizations, with a focus on prevention intervention, and alternatives to system involvement within the community, including schools, community-based organizations, and advocacy. This Committee must also include individuals with lived experience.
 - c. Labor Trafficking Committee, co-chaired by the Department of Public Health and DCFS, prioritizing awareness building, education, and capacity building to identify and serve individuals impacted by labor trafficking.
3. In alignment with best practices and Board priorities, the CTLT shall ensure that membership of sub-committees is inclusive of youth and individuals with lived experience.

4. The CTLT will be facilitated by the County's Child Trafficking Consultant, who will serve as the CTLT Coordinator (Coordinator). The Coordinator's responsibilities should include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Convening CTLT meetings with subcommittee chairs monthly to ensure accountability for all tasks, deliverables, and deadlines, as defined by each sub-committee, and
 - b. Coordination with the sub-committees to provide biannual reports to the Board.
5. The CTLT Coordinator and sub-committee chairs shall collaborate to review and develop any additional sub-committee implementation plans, as needed. Implementation plans will include specific tasks and/or deliverables, budget, along with anticipated deadlines for task completion, thereby ensuring adherence to the *Strategic Plan's* objectives to be presented in April 2025 by each sub-committee chair.
6. By April 2025, the CTLT shall collaborate with other County agencies engaged in similar prevention work, such as the Mandated Supporting Initiative, peer navigation, Prevention and Promotion Steering Governance Committee, Youth Development Networks, Decarceration of Girls and Young Women initiative, and System of Care work to leverage existing resources that support the *Strategic Plan* wherever possible.
7. By April 2025, the CTLT Coordinator and sub-committee Chairs shall collaborate on examining and evaluating all funding sources available (state, federal, local) to bolster support for the *Strategic Plan and* work plan. This

includes identifying any unspent funds, existing funds, assessing expenditure patterns, and identifying any alignment that can be made in funding allocations, to ensure outcomes of the *Strategic Plan* are met.

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