

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
YOUTH & FAMILY COMMITTEE
MINUTES ■ Wednesday, April 10, 2019**

Members Present

Denise Nielsen, Committee Chair
Gina Petrus, BHAB
Marika Collins, Casa Pacifica
Ken McDermott, Children and Family Services
Heather Davidson, First 5 Ventura County
Crystal Cummings, Kids & Families Together
Yanka Ricklefts, SELPA
Tyler Baker-Wilkinson, Seneca
Dr. Steven Graff, Tri-Counties Regional Center

Others Present

Scott Abeson, Probation
Scott Walker, Crisis Intervention Team
Jenny Claros, Gold Coast Health Plan
Carole Shelton, Rainbow Connection
Danielle Shaw, M.D., Community Member
Lydia Lopez, Children & Family Services
Jessica Valenzuela, Children & Family Services

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Managers/Staff Present

Angela Riddle, Youth & Family Division Manager
Lisa Acosta, M.D., Y&F Division Medical Director
Hilary Carson, MHSA
Edith Pham, BHAB Assistant

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, May 8, 2019, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm

Ventura County Behavioral Health
1911 Williams Drive, Training Room (first floor), Oxnard

Note: The committee has not yet approved these minutes. There may be additions/deletions or corrections before the minutes are accepted in final form.

	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE
I.	Call to Order Chair Nielsen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.		
II.	Approval of the Agenda Ms. Nielsen asked the Committee to review and approve today's agenda. Dr. Steven Graff moved to approve, Gina Petrus seconded. The motion passed unanimously.	The agenda was approved as written. M/S/C	
III.	Approval of the Minutes Ms. Nielsen asked the committee to review and approve the minutes of the March 13, 2019 meeting. Crystal Cummings moved to approve, Tyler Baker-Wilkinson seconded. Scott Abeson noted that his last name was misspelled. The motion passed unanimously as amended.	The minutes were approved as amended. M/S/C	
IV.	Welcome and Introductions Ms. Nielsen welcomed everyone and asked for introductions.		
V.	Chair Announcements Ms. Nielsen noted that she will be unable to attend the meeting on May 8. She asked Gina Petrus to chair that meeting; Ms. Petrus agreed.	Chair the May 8 meeting	G. Petrus
VI.	Public Comments Scott Walker noted that Oxnard Police Department officers are wearing Autism Awareness patches. Proceeds of the sale benefit the Autism Society.		
VII.	Presentation: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) – Lydia Lopez and Jessica Valenzuela, Children & Family Services READY Program The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) is a form of human trafficking and an extreme form of child sexual abuse. Several risk factors make certain children more susceptible to being victimized: runaway, foster, homeless, transgender, and youth with a history of sexual abuse, dating violence, low self-esteem, or minimal social support. Recruitment can be done through social media, peer recruitment, and unhealthy relationships. The Harm Reduction Model is a best practice for professionals to engage the youth and help them create their own safety plan. The READY Program staff are available to give presentations to teens ages 15+ that focus on peer recruitment. See attached for details.		

VIII.	New Business A. Appoint Members Ms. Nielsen appointed Jamie Banker, Carole Shelton, Scott Abeson, Dr. Shaw, and Ariann Bulger to the committee.		
IX.	Old Business A. Progress on Action Plan Ms. Nielsen noted that she and Carole Shelton will meet to work on the handout to parents. No other member volunteered to help with this project.	Draft handout to parents	D. Nielsen, C. Shelton
VIII.	Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Youth & Family Division Updates A. Angela Riddle, Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The California Institute of Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS) will hold a symposium on April 15 in Burbank; it will focus on Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice systems. • The State asked VCBH to present at California Mental Health Advocates for Children and Youth (CMHACY) in Monterey regarding Integrated Core Practice Model. • Upcoming Cognitive Behavior Training (CBT) will be open to VCBH community partners: CBT Basics on May 14 and 15; booster training on Case Conceptualization and Guided Discovery on May 6; booster training on CBT for Depression on May 22. • VCBH and Ventura County of Education (VCOE) are cooperating to develop a worksheet for parents that explains how to access services. B. Youth & Family Division Medical Director – Lisa Acosta, M.D. A contract is being prepared for a dietician trained in eating disorders and for a trainer with field experience. An app is being created that the youth, parents and therapists will have access to. A Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) team will provide services in the client’s home. Eating disorder support groups for the clients and the families are planned. C. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) – Hilary Carson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This past year four county youth ages 12-24 have died by suicide. • The results of the Community Needs Assessment were presented to the BHAB on March 18. Ms. Carson is available to help extract data relevant to specific agencies. • The Annual Update will be released on April 16 for a 30-day public comment period. 		
IX.	Committee Members’ and Participants’ Comments, Activities, Updates Ms. Shelton noted that a Spanish web group will start May 23. An autism conference will take place on April 25 at the SELPA office. Recruitment for a few Special Olympics athletes is under way. In May a presentation will provide information regarding children who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Ms. Nielsen noted that Mission Church is taking reservations for A Night to Remember, a prom for developmentally disabled youth. Dr. Shaw noted that Casa Pacifica is looking at incorporating motivational interviewing. Dr. Graff noted a recent Los Angeles Times article on Special Education. Yanka Ricklefts noted that school enrollment is down but Special Education enrollment is up. Gina Petrus noted that she recently attended a Probation award ceremony. She has also met with the Director of the Child and Adolescent Inpatient Program at UCLA; he has been wanting to get a contract in place with VCBH for beds for children under 12 years old. Jenny Claros noted that she helps Gold Coast Health Plan members connect to community resources for mental health services. She agreed to schedule a presentation with Beacon at a future committee meeting.	Present at a future meeting	J. Claros
X.	Items for the Next Meeting Agenda Not discussed.		
XI.	Adjourn The meeting adjourned at 11: 55 a.m.		

CONSEJO ASESOR DE SALUD AL COMPORTAMIENTO
COMITÉ DE JUVENTUD Y FAMILIA
MINUTOS ■ Miércoles 10 de abril de 2019

<p><u>Miembros presentes</u> Denise Nielsen , presidenta del comité Gina Petrus, BHAB Marika Collins, Casa Pacifica Ken McDermott, Servicios para niños y familias Heather Davidson, First 5 Ventura County Crystal Cummings, niños y familias juntos Yanka Ricklefts , SELPA Tyler Baker-Wilkinson, Séneca Dr. Steven Graff, Centro Regional de los Tres Condados</p> <p><u>Otros presentes</u> Scott Abeson, Libertad Condicional Scott Walker, Equipo de Intervención de Crisis Jenny Claros, Gold Coast Health Plan Carole Shelton, Rainbow Connection Danielle Shaw, MD , miembro de la comunidad Lydia Lopez, Servicios para Niños y Familias Jessica Valenzuela, Servicios para Niños y Familias</p>	<p><u>Gerentes de Salud Conductual del Condado de Ventura (VCBH) / Personal Presente</u> Angela Riddle, División de Juventud y Familia Gerente Lisa Acosta , MD, Directora Médica de la División Y&F Hilary Carson , MHSA Edith Pham, Asistente BHAB</p> <p>SIGUIENTE JUNTA: miércoles 8 de mayo de 2019 , 1 0 : 0 0 a.m - 12: 0 0 pm</p> <p>Condado de Ventura de salud del comportamiento 1911 Williams Drive , sala de entrenamiento (primer piso) , Oxnard</p>
<p>Nota: El comité aún no ha aprobado estas actas. Puede haber adiciones / eliminaciones o correcciones antes de que se acepten las actas en su forma final.</p>	

	DISCUSIÓN / CONCLUSIONES	RECOMENDACIONES / COMPORTAMIENTO	RESPONSABLE
YO.	Llama para ordenar El presidente Nielsen convocó la reunión a las 10:00 am		
II.	Aprobación de la Agenda La Sra. Nielsen le pidió al Comité que revisara y aprobara la agenda de hoy. El Dr. Steven Graff hizo la moción para aprobar, Gina Petrus la secundó . La moción fue aprobada por unanimidad.	El orden del día fue aprobado como está escrito . M / S / C	
III.	Aprobación del Acta La Sra. Nielsen le pidió al comité que revisara y aprobara el acta de la reunión del 13 de marzo de 2019 . Crystal Cummings se movió para aprobar, Tyler Baker-Wilkinson secundado Scott Abeson notó que su apellido estaba mal escrito. La moción fue aprobada por unanimidad, según enmendada .	Las actas fueron aprobadas en su forma enmendada . M / S / C	
IV.	Bienvenida y Presentaciones La Sra. Nielsen dio la bienvenida a todos y pidió presentaciones.		
V.	Anuncios de la silla La Sra. Nielsen señaló que no podrá asistir a la reunión el 8 de mayo. Le pidió a Gin a Petrus que presidiera esa reunión; La Sra. Petrus estuvo de acuerdo.	Presidir la reunión del 8 de mayo.	G. Petrus
VI.	Comentarios públicos Scott Walker notó que los oficiales del Departamento de Policía de Oxnard están usando patrones de Concienciación sobre el Autismo . Las ganancias de la venta benefician a la Sociedad de Autismo.		
VII.	Presentación: Explotación sexual de niños con fines comerciales (CSEC) - Lydia López y Jessica Valenzuela, Servicios para niños y familias Programa READY La Explotación Sexual Comercial de los Niños (CSEC) es una forma de trata de personas y una forma extrema de abuso sexual infantil. Varios factores de riesgo hacen que ciertos niños sean más susceptibles a ser víctimas: fugitivo, adoptivo, sin hogar, transgénero y jóvenes con antecedentes de abuso sexual, violencia de pareja, baja autoestima, o m i Nimal apoyo social. El reclutamiento se puede realizar a través de las redes sociales, el reclutamiento de compañeros y las relaciones poco saludables.		

	<p>El Modelo de reducción de daños es una mejor práctica para que los profesionales se involucren con los jóvenes y los ayuden a crear su propio plan de seguridad. El personal del Programa READY está disponible para realizar presentaciones a adolescentes de 15 años o más que se centran en el reclutamiento de pares.</p> <p>Ver adjunto para más detalles.</p>		
VI I	<p>Nuevo negocio</p> <p>I. A. Nombrar miembros</p> <p>La Sra. Nielsen nombró a Jamie Banker, Carole Shelton, Scott Abeson, Dr. Shaw y Ariann Bulger para el comité.</p>		
IX.	<p>Viejo negocio</p> <p>A. Progreso en el plan de acción</p> <p>La Sra. Nielsen señaló que ella y Carole Shelton se reunirán para trabajar en el folleto para los padres. Ningún otro miembro se ofreció como voluntario para ayudar con este proyecto.</p>	Proyecto de folleto a los padres	D. Nielsen, C. Shelton
V I II.	<p>Actualizaciones de la División de la Juventud y la Familia de Salud Conductual del Condado de Ventura (VCBH)</p> <p>A. Angela Riddle, Gerente</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El Instituto de Soluciones de Salud Conductual de California (CIBHS) celebrará un simposio el 15 de abril en Burbank; Se centrará en los sistemas de salud del comportamiento y justicia penal . • El estado solicitó a VCBH que presente en los defensores de la salud mental de California para niños y jóvenes (CMHACY) en Monterey en relación con el modelo de práctica de núcleo integrado. • La próxima capacitación sobre comportamiento cognitivo (TCC) estará abierta a los socios de la comunidad de VCBH: Aspectos básicos de TCC el 14 y 15 de mayo; capacitación de refuerzo sobre conceptualización de casos y descubrimiento guiado el 6 de mayo; entrenamiento de refuerzo en TCC para la depresión el 22 de mayo. • VCBH y el condado de Ventura de la Educación (VCOE) están cooperando para desarrollar una hoja de trabajo para los padres que explica cómo acceder a s ervicios. <p>B. Director Médico de la División de Juventud y Familia - Lisa Acosta, MD</p> <p>Se está preparando un contrato para un dietista capacitado en trastornos de la alimentación y para un entrenador con experiencia en el campo . Se está creando una aplicación a la que tendrán acceso los jóvenes, los padres y los terapeutas. Un equipo vicios de Terapia del Comportamiento Ser (TBS) se prov ide los servicios en el domicilio del cliente. Se planean grupos de desorden alimenticio para los clientes y las familias.</p> <p>C. Ley de Servicios de Salud Mental (MHSA) - Hilary Carson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El año pasado, cuatro jóvenes del condado de 12 a 24 años de edad murieron por suicidio. • Los resultados de la Evaluación de Necesidades de la Comunidad se presentaron a la BHAB el 18 de marzo. La Sra. Carson está disponible para ayudar a extraer datos relevantes para agencias específicas. • La actualización anual se publicará el 16 de abril para un período de comentarios públicos de 30 días . 		
I X.	<p>Comentarios , actividades, actualizaciones de los miembros y participantes de los comités.</p> <p>La Sra. Shelton señaló que un grupo web en español comenzará el 23 de mayo . Una conferencia sobre el autismo se llevará a cabo el 25 de abril en la oficina de SELPA . El reclutamiento de algunos atletas de Olimpiadas Especiales está en marcha. En mayo, una presentación proporcionará información sobre los niños que reciben Ingreso de Seguridad Suplementario (SSI).</p>		

	<p>La Sra. Nielsen señaló que Mission Church está haciendo reservaciones para A Night to Remember, una promoción para jóvenes con discapacidades del desarrollo .</p> <p>El Dr. Shaw notó que Casa Pacífica está considerando incorporar entrevistas motivacionales .</p> <p>El Dr. Graff notó un artículo reciente de Los Angeles Times sobre educación especial. Yanka Ricklefts notó que la inscripción escolar está baja pero que la inscripción en Educación Especial está arriba.</p> <p>Gina Petrus notó que recientemente asistió a una ceremonia de premios de libertad condicional. Ella también se ha reunido con el Director del Niño y del Adolescente Programa para pacientes hospitalizados en la UCLA; que ha estado esperando para conseguir un contrato en su lugar con VCBH de camas para niños menores de 12 años de edad.</p> <p>Jenny Claros sin ted que ayuda a los miembros Gold Coast Health Plan co nnect a recursos de la comunidad para los servicios de salud mental. Ella acordó programar una presentación con Beacon en una futura reunión del comité.</p>	Presente en una futura reunión	J. Claros
X.	Artículos para la agenda de la próxima reunión No discutido		
XI.	Aplazar La reunión se suspendió a las 11: 55 am		

Comité de Jóvenes y Familias de BHAB Acta del 10 de abril de 2019



Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children & Youth

Ventura County Children & Family Services
READY Program – Supporting Vulnerable & Exploited Youth

READY PROGRAM
Respectfully
Empowering
And
Defining
Yourself

“ Supporting Vulnerable and Exploited Youth ”



Legislation and Codes

- CA Senate Bill 855 (2014) added WIC 300(b)(2) A child who is sexually trafficked, as described in Section 236.1 of the Penal Code, or who receives food or shelter in exchange for, or who is paid to perform, sexual acts described in Section 236.1 or 11165.1 of the Penal Code, and whose parent or guardian failed to, or was unable to, protect the child, is within the description of this subdivision, and that this finding is declaratory of existing law. These children shall be known as commercially sexually exploited children.
- Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families ACT (2014) and CA Senate Bill 794 (2015) Added Penal Code 11165.1 to clarify that sexual exploitation, sex trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation are a form of sexual abuse. Clarified the responsibilities of mandated reporters to report knowledge of or reasonable suspicion of such forms of sexual abuse. Clarified that children who are receiving child welfare services who are missing from care must be reported to law enforcement and to National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.
- Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015: child welfare social workers and juvenile probation officers are required to identify children receiving child welfare services for instances of sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation or who are at-risk of such.
- CA Senate Bill 1322 (2017) Decriminalization of prostitution and loitering charges for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation or sex trafficking.
- CA Assembly Bill 1227 (2017) Human Trafficking Prevention Education and Training Act requires school districts to include information on Human Trafficking to pupils and training for personnel.

The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children & Youth

The sexual abuse of a minor “entirely, or at least primarily for financial or other economic reasons”. The economic exchanges may either be monetary or non-monetary (i.e. food, shelter, drugs, clothing, etc.).

The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) is a form of human trafficking and is an extreme form of child sexual abuse.

- The child is treated as a commercial sexual object
- Sex trafficking includes coercion, fraud, or force and survival sex. *For children and youth, there is no need to demonstrate or prove “force, fraud or coercion” in order to prosecute since, as minors, they cannot consent to commercial sex acts.*

CA Department of Social Services' definition of children who are "at-risk" of sex trafficking or commercial sexual exploitation

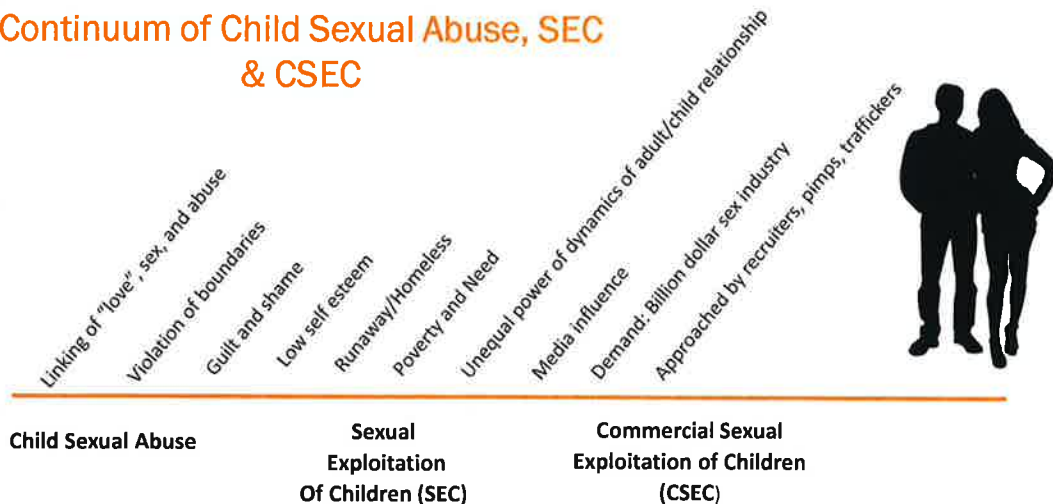
Has a minimum of ONE of the following indicators:

- Exhibits behaviors or otherwise indicates that he/she is being controlled or groomed by another person;
- Spends time with people known to be involved in commercial sex;
- Use of internet, cell phone, or social media involved social or sexual behavior that is atypical of his/her age.

OR, has minimum of TWO of the following indicators:

- History of running away, unstable housing, multiple foster care placements, homelessness;
- Prior involvement with law enforcement or juvenile justice system;
- Frequently truant;
- His/her relationships are concerning placing him/her at risk or in danger of being exploited;
- History of substance abuse.

Continuum of Child Sexual Abuse, SEC & CSEC



► **Video: Making of a Girl**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvnRYte3PAk>

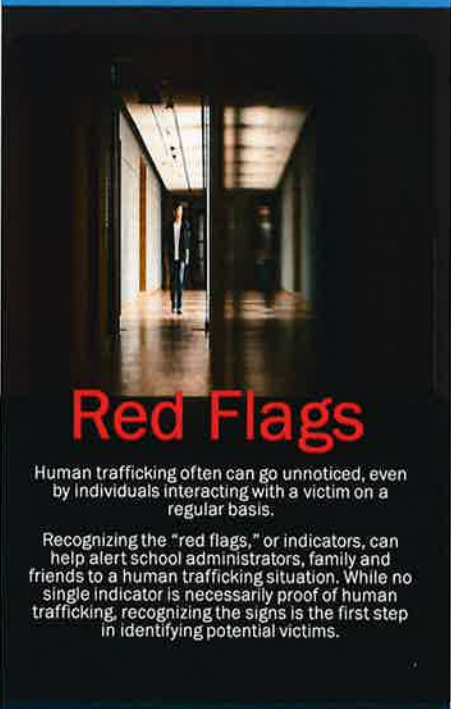
- Runaway, foster, homeless, and transgender youth are at particularly high risk for becoming victim.
- Engaging in survival sex.
- Childhood sexual abuse, chronic maltreatment and neglect, and otherwise unstable home environments.
- Wanting to take risks, feeling misunderstood by parents, and seeking romantic relationships can increase youth's susceptibility to the recruitment tactics of sex trafficker.
- Low self-esteem.
- Promotion of sexual exploitation by family members or peers.
- Exchanging or sending messages with sexual content or graphic photos online or via smartphone.
- Posting personal information on Social Media, which includes pretending to be older or younger to get information, attention, invitations.
- Having unrestricted or unmonitored use of the Internet and meeting secretly with someone they met online.



Risk Factors

Though there is no standard profile of a child-trafficking victim, several risk factors make certain children more susceptible. Reports indicate that traffickers often target children and youth with a history of sexual abuse, dating violence, low self-esteem, and minimal social support.

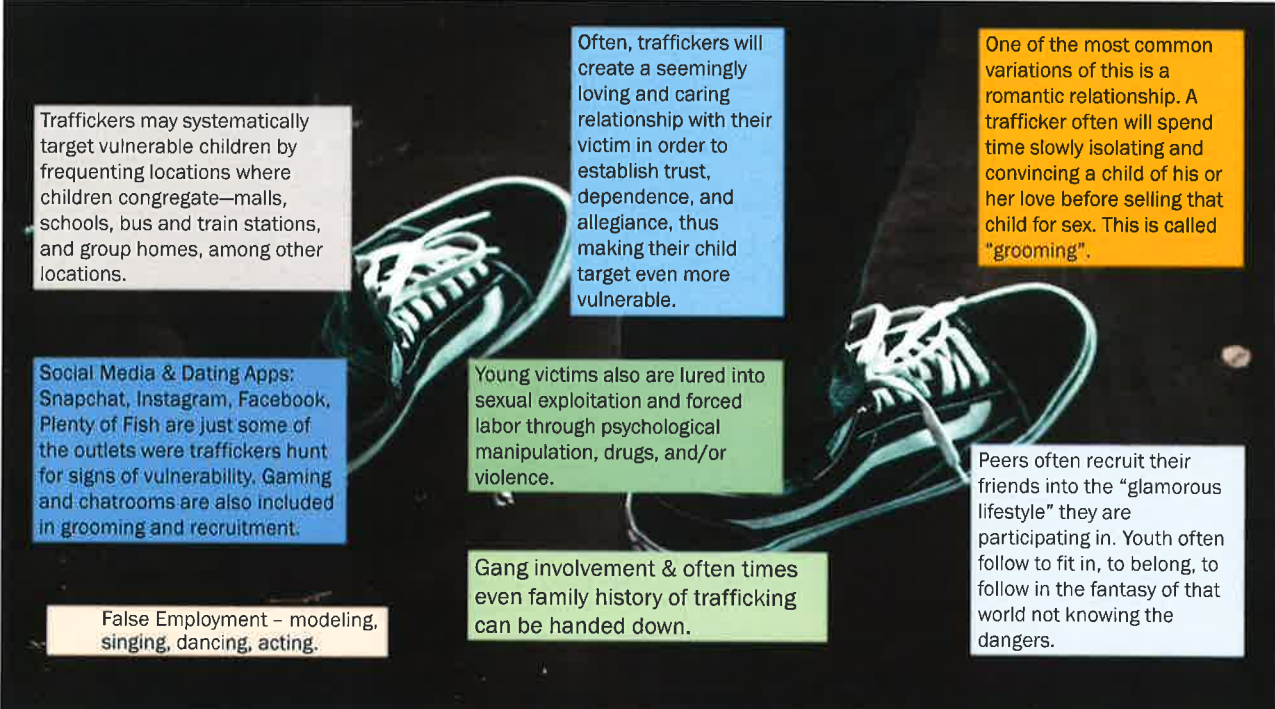
- Frequent runaway and absence from school
- Bruises/unusual markings, tattoos, burns or other branding marks
- Change in attitude mood/personality for no apparent reason
- Far older boyfriends/girlfriends possibly referred to as "daddy"/ "wifee"
- Signs of psychological coercion, such as depression, anxiety, and/or an overly submissive attitude
- The youth's lack of control over his/ her schedule, money, and/or proof of identification
- Sudden possession of new and/or expensive items such as clothes, shoes, purses, jewelry, cell phones, etc. from an unknown source.
- Change in peer group/friends
- Poor health, as evidenced by sexually transmitted diseases, malnutrition, and/or always sleepy or tired
- Mental Health Issues , substance abuse, possession of drugs or alcohol
- Children and minors having possession of condoms , hotels cards , multiple phones and other unusual items for a child.



Red Flags

Human trafficking often can go unnoticed, even by individuals interacting with a victim on a regular basis.

Recognizing the "red flags," or indicators, can help alert school administrators, family and friends to a human trafficking situation. While no single indicator is necessarily proof of human trafficking, recognizing the signs is the first step in identifying potential victims.



Traffickers may systematically target vulnerable children by frequenting locations where children congregate—malls, schools, bus and train stations, and group homes, among other locations.

Often, traffickers will create a seemingly loving and caring relationship with their victim in order to establish trust, dependence, and allegiance, thus making their child target even more vulnerable.

One of the most common variations of this is a romantic relationship. A trafficker often will spend time slowly isolating and convincing a child of his or her love before selling that child for sex. This is called "grooming".

Social Media & Dating Apps: Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, Plenty of Fish are just some of the outlets were traffickers hunt for signs of vulnerability. Gaming and chatrooms are also included in grooming and recruitment.

Young victims also are lured into sexual exploitation and forced labor through psychological manipulation, drugs, and/or violence.

Gang involvement & often times even family history of trafficking can be handed down.

Peers often recruit their friends into the "glamorous lifestyle" they are participating in. Youth often follow to fit in, to belong, to follow in the fantasy of that world not knowing the dangers.

False Employment – modeling, singing, dancing, acting.

Pathways into Commercial Sexual Exploitation can present themselves in many forms...



"Hey beautiful, you should be a model...I can help you make a lot of money"

The "Modeling/Acting" Gig.



"I can introduce you to my client, he pays me well and let's me stay at his place"

Survival sex in exchange for shelter, food, basic needs.



"Send me a picture cutie, I promise it is for my eyes only."

Use of personal pictures for websites, ads, etc. without consent.

Recruitment into "The Life" can come unexpectedly...



"Hanging out at Starbucks...Need to clear my mind...#SoOverThis"

Social Media: Posting personal info makes you a vulnerable target on any social media domain.



"Let's get out of here, I know someone who can show us a better life..."

Peer Recruitment: Leaving your home/group home with peers who make false promises.



"I love you. Just make this money and I will make all your dreams come true. Promise."

Unhealthy Relationships: Lured into false promises by a boyfriend/girlfriend.

Types of Commercial Sexual Exploitation



Child Pornography

Images that depict the sexual abuse of children.



Sex Trafficking
Commercial sex act induced by force, fraud or coercion, OR in which person performing the act is under age 18 (regardless of force, fraud or coercion).



Social Media

Exploitation can occur over several Social Media outlets. Technology is widely used by perpetrators as a method of grooming and coercing victims, often through social networking sites and mobile devices.



Child Sex Tourism
Sexual abuse of a child by an individual traveling to a domestic or international location with the purpose of purchasing sex.



Interfamilial Pimping

Youth living in low-income households were sold to contribute to the household economy or to support the drug habits of their parent(s) or other adults in the household.

Gangs /Sex Trafficking Rings

Human trafficking is now the worlds fastest growing enterprise, second only to drug trafficking and as profitable as the illegal arms trade. Sex trafficking is enormously profitable due to the ability to sell a person for sex many times as compared to drugs or guns which can only be sold once.

Peers/Friends/Family



71 % of youth are recruited into CSE by someone they know

Peer recruitment into CSEC is the #1 way exploiters recruit youth.

The Invisible Victims



- Boys are often forgotten due to the lower reporting rates. Boys have been groomed to not identify as "Victims", which they feel may come across as being weak.
- Transgender, LGBTQ, and Gender Non Conforming youth are also victims that have difficulties reaching out for help.
- Younger children with history of sexual abuse often are unable to report exploitative abuse or advocate for themselves.
- Children and youth with learning and physical disabilities can not always communicate in order to make a report or ask for help.

Lack of resources for these populations often result in reports being made yet there is no follow up or assistance being provided.

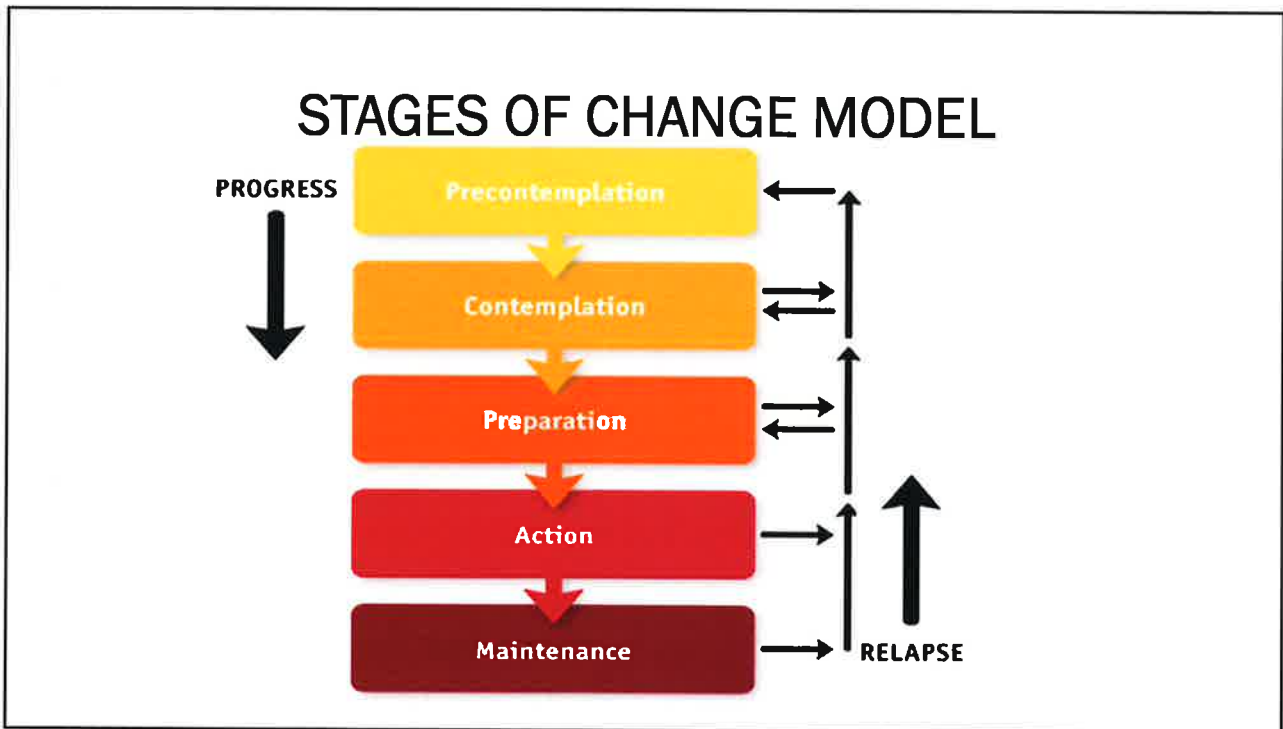
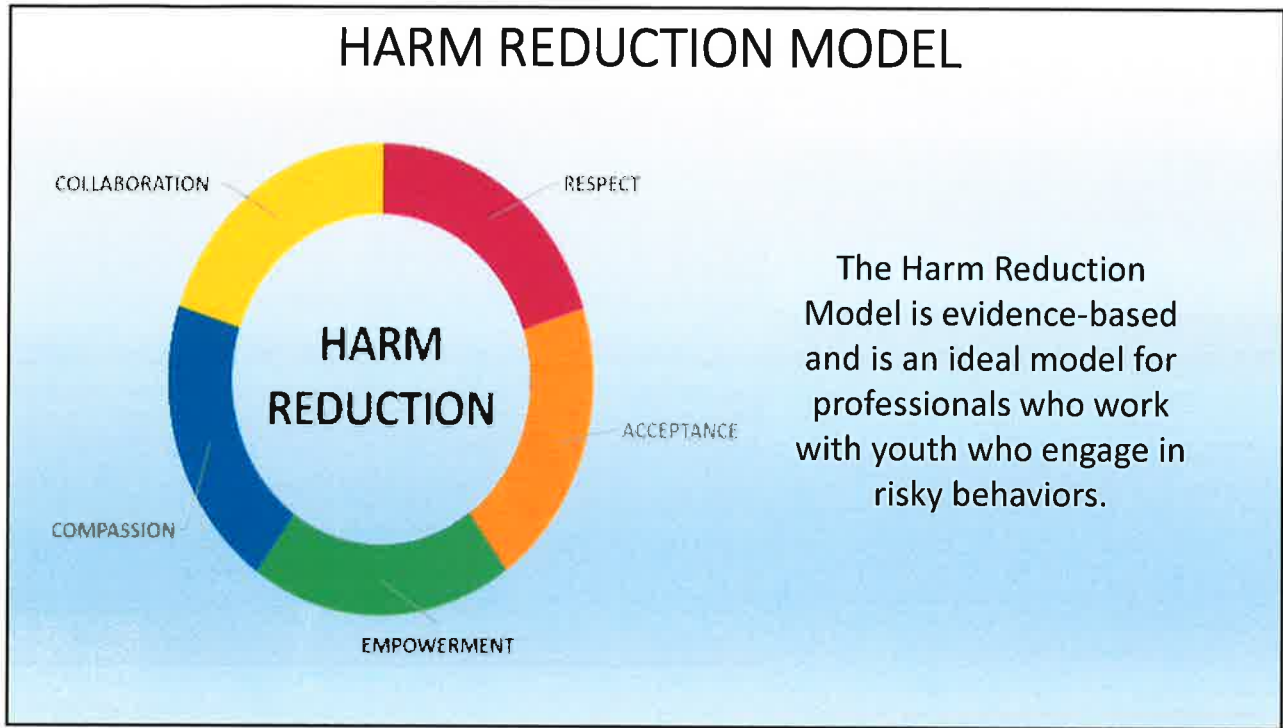
HARM REDUCTION MODEL

The Harm Reduction Model has been identified as best practice and the framework to engage such youth.

What is the Harm Reduction Model?

- The prevention of harm associated with a particular behavior rather than prevention of that behavior.
- Acknowledges that youth may continue to engage in risky behaviors
- Prioritizes long-term safety by engaging the youth to define their own Safety
- Builds the youth's sense of power
- Establishes and models healthy relationships with adults
- Aims to assist youth/NMD achieving lifelong safety
- Readily accesses appropriate resources.
- Consider these 3 questions for Youth/NMD:





Reporting

Mandatory reporting requirements for commercially sexually exploited children and those at risk for such exploitation.

- All mandated reporters must report known or reasonably suspected abuse and neglect, pursuant to Cal. Penal Code § 11166.
- Sexual abuse of children includes commercial sexual exploitation and sexual exploitation such as: prostitution, human trafficking, live performances, and survival sex. All must be reported under Cal. Penal Code § 11165.1. to:



COUNTY OF VENTURA
HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

24-hour hotline 805.654.3200

Other Resources:

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

24/7 • Toll free
Confidential
200+ languages

CALL
1-888-373-7888

TEXT
"BeFree" (233733)

LIVE CHAT
humantraffickinghotline.org

GET HELP • REPORT TRAFFICKING

FOREVER FOUND

R.E.A.C.H Team

24 hr. response to assist Ventura County Youth in leaving a situation of CSE: (805) 261-1212

NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN

24-Hour HOTLINE
1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678)



Thank You!

Ronna Bright , READY Program Coordinator

805.620.8186

Ronna.Bright@ventura.org

Lydia Lopez, READY Program Coordinator

805.340.1930

Lydia.Lopez@ventura.org

Jessica Valenzuela, READY Youth Outreach Coordinator

805.654.5211

Jessica.Valenzuela@ventura.org

Monica Alamillo, READY Program Assistant-OA

805.654.3469

Monica.Alamillo@ventura.org

Ventura County Children and Family Services- READY Program Engagement Tips for Vulnerable and Exploited Youth

Mandatory reporting requirements for commercially sexually exploited children and those at risk for such exploitation:

- All mandated reporters must report known or reasonably suspected abuse and neglect, pursuant to Cal. Penal Code § 11166.
- Sexual abuse of children includes commercial sexual exploitation and sexual exploitation such as: Prostitution, human trafficking, live performances, and survival sex. All must be reported under Cal. Penal Code § 11165.1.
- Report to Local Law Enforcement & Ventura County Adult and Child Abuse **24-hour hotline (805-654-3200)**

Red Flags and Indicators of Human Trafficking and Exploitation

- Frequent runaway and/or truancy and returns with bruises/unusual markings, tattoos, burns, or other branding marks.
- Reported change in attitude mood/personality for no apparent reason.
- Much older boyfriend/girlfriend.
- Signs of psychological coercion, such as depression, anxiety, and/or an overly submissive attitude.
- The youth's lack of control over his/ her schedule, money, and/or proof of identification.
- Sudden possession of new clothes, jewelry, or other expensive items from an unknown source.
- Poor health, as evidenced by sexually transmitted diseases, malnutrition, and/or always tired.
- Mental Health Issues, substance abuse, possession of drugs or alcohol.
- Possession of hotels cards, multiple phones and unusual items for a child.

How to Effectively Support and Engage Youth whom have been or are at-risk of being Sexually Exploited/Trafficked.

- Prioritize youth's safety by addressing the youth's basic needs including food, shelter/placement, & clothing.
- Assist youth with locating and gathering their personal belongings as quickly as possible.
- Youth/NMD should be referred to as victims; not "prostitutes".
- Youth often refer to their Exploiters/Traffickers as "Daddy" or "Boyfriend". Listen and do not judge.
- Convey safety and trust by acknowledging the youth's feelings of connectivity to their exploiter.
- Avoid using language that blames the youth and implies choice on part of the youth.
- Manage your own emotional responses, including facial expressions and body language.
- Discuss healthy relationships: Assist youth with identifying the needs the exploiter was fulfilling (This helps identify the needs the exploiter was fulfilling and ways that those needs can be met in a healthy way.)
- Acknowledge every success, however minor it may seem.
- Provide youth with lots of opportunities to choose and involve youth in key decision-making.
- Encourage/Assist youth to develop independent living and self-advocacy skills.
- Provide concrete supports and resources (i.e., links to counselors, advocates, etc.).
- Follow through with what you say; Do not over promise; Establish healthy and clear boundaries.
- Remain consistent, supportive, and truthful in order to establish and maintain trust.
- Become part of the youth's support network and attend Child Family Team Meeting with them.
- Maintain ongoing communication with the youth and the youth's support network.
- These youth are at various stages of changes (Pre-Contemplation, Contemplation, Preparation, Action, and Maintenance) while they will make progress, it is also typical for them to have relapses.
- Focus on getting to know the youth: Ask these questions:



**Ventura County Children and Family Services- READY Program
Engagement Tips for Vulnerable and Exploited Youth**

Additional Resources for Youth and Adults:

National Human Trafficking Hotline

24/7 Toll Free, Confidential, 200+ Language: Call: 1-888-373-7888 Text: Be Free (233733)
Live Chat: humantraffickinghotline.com

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

24/7 Hotline: 1-800-the lost (1-800-843-5678)

Forever Found REACH (Responding to Exploited Adolescents with care and Hope)

24/7 REACH Team hotline: (805) 261-1212 / www.foreverfound.org

- Available to directly support youth as well as law enforcement, social services, and group homes.
- Encourage Youth under the age of 18 to use this number if they find themselves in a situation of exploitation and are ready to leave that situation for a safe place.

Forever Found Mentor Program

www.foreverfound.org

- This program builds supportive relationships with high-risk youth or confirmed victims ages 12-25 (Preference given to "confirmed" victims).
- To refer a client, complete the Youth Referral Form electronically <https://foreverfound.org/youthreferrals>

Interface Children and Family Services Crisis Response and Emergency Shelter

24/7 Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Hotline: 1-800-636-6738 or <https://www.icfs.org>

- Emergency Response, advocacy and an emergency shelter for exploited and trafficked adults, which may be open to non-minor dependents.
- Crisis response is available 24/7, as well as case management services, to adults and non-minor dependents who are victims or prior victims of commercial sexual exploitation or trafficking.

Coalition for Family Harmony Sexual Assault Crisis Response

24/7 Bilingual Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-300-2181 / Office: (805) 983-6014

- Crisis Hotline for any crisis situation and emotional support
- Walk-in Crisis Clinic (Mon-Fri. 8am to 5pm)
- Rape Crisis Advocates & 24 hr. accompaniments for forensic exams, and support groups

County of Ventura – HSA - Children & Family Services READY Program

"Supporting Vulnerable and Exploited Youth "- Program Coordinators:

Ronna Bright - Ronna.Bright@ventura.org & Lydia Lopez - Lydia.Lopez@ventura.org

County of Ventura – Children & Family Services
READY Program

Resources and Services Guide for Commercial Sexually Exploited Youth

**Children & Family Services has contracted with these Service Providers for these services.*

Agency	Program	Services	Contact
<p>*Forever Found www.foreverfound.org</p>	<p>REACH: Responding to Exploited Adolescents with Care and Hope</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Youth must be under age 18 ○ Response within an hour in Ventura County ○ Provide crisis response and support in the forms of transportation to a safe location in Ventura County, snacks/water, clothing, etc. ○ REACH Team is available to support social services, group homes, law enforcement, and directly to youth. 	<p>The 24/7 REACH Team line is (805) 261-1212.</p> <p><i>“Encourage youth to use this number if they find themselves in a situation of exploitation and are ready to leave that situation for a safe place.”</i></p>
<p>*4Kids2Kids</p>	<p>Placement Bed Retainer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Focuses exclusively on female victims of commercial sexual exploitation under the age of 18. ○ Ages 12-18, Females and LGBTQ youth 	<p>Kris Hart (805) 573-0752</p>
<p>Interface Children and Family Services https://www.icts.org/</p>	<p>Crisis Response and Emergency Shelter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emergency response, advocacy and an emergency shelter for exploited and trafficked adults, which may be open to non-minor dependents. ○ Crisis response is available 24/7, as well as case management services, to adults and non-minor dependents who are victims or prior victims of commercial sexual exploitation or trafficking. 	<p>24/7 Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Hotline: 1-800-636-6738</p>
<p>Forever Found www.foreverfound.org</p>	<p>Mentor Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This program builds supportive relationships with high-risk youth or confirmed victims (preference given to confirmed victims) ages 12-25. 	<p>To refer a client complete the Youth Referral Form electronically: https://foreverfound.org/youth-referrals</p>

Coalition for Family Harmony https://thecoalition.org/	Sexual Assault Crisis Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 24 Hr. (Bi-lingual) Crisis Hotline for any crisis situation and emotional support ○ Youth Groups and Support Groups ○ Walk in Crisis Clinic (Mon-Fri.) 8:00am-5:00pm ○ Rape Crisis Advocates ○ 24 hr. accompaniments for forensic exams 	24/7 Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-300-2181 Office: (805) 983-6014
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READY Program: Respectfully Empowering and Defining Yourself
"Supporting Vulnerable and Exploited Youth"

READY Program Coordinators:

Romna Bright - Romna.bright@ventura.org - (805) 620-8186 / Lydia Lopez - Lydia.Lopez@ventura.org (805) 340-1930

READY Program Youth Outreach Coordinator

Jessica Valenzuela - jessica.valenzuela@ventura.org (805) 654-5211

READY Program Office Assistant:

Monica Alamillo - Monica.alamillo@ventura.org (805) 654-3469



COUNTY OF VENTURA

www.vchsa.org

LYDIA LOPEZ, MSW
READY PROGRAM COORDINATOR
Supporting Vulnerable & Exploited Youth

HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES
4651 Telephone Road, Suite 300
Ventura, CA 93003

(805) 340-1930
(805) 654-3200 24-Hour hotline

lydia.lopez@ventura.org

INTEGRITY COMPASSION EMPOWERMENT



COUNTY OF VENTURA

www.vchsa.org

JESSICA VALENZUELA
READY YOUTH OUTREACH COORDINATOR
Supporting Vulnerable & Exploited Youth

HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES
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INTEGRITY COMPASSION EMPOWERMENT



COUNTY OF VENTURA

www.vchsa.org

RONNA BRIGHT, MSW
READY PROGRAM COORDINATOR
Supporting Vulnerable & Exploited Youth

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CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES
4651 Telephone Road, Suite 300
Ventura, CA 93003

(805) 620-8186
(805) 654-3200 24-Hour hotline

ronna.bright@ventura.org

INTEGRITY COMPASSION EMPOWERMENT

Reality Party for Parents



Exposing today's teen party culture

Facing Reality

Many adults feel drinking and partying are a rite of passage and think teen parties are the same as when they were young. Straight Up youth want parents to face the current realities and learn why and how we need adults to help change these dangerous social norms.

What You Will See at a Reality Party

Reality Parties are open to the public (adults only) and are FREE. Participants will tour a home set up to portray a teen party with youth actors voicing concerns expressed by local teens and young adults.

Saturday, April 27, 2019

2:00-6:30pm (Reservations required)
One-hour tours start every half hour

A home in Thousand Oaks
Address given when you register

Register Online:
www.StraightUpVC.org/register

More Information:
info@StraightUpVC.org | 805-647-4622

Sponsored by Straight Up in Collaboration With Community Partners

STRAIGHT UP
reality improv



Engage



Conejo
Recreation & Park District



BreakThrough

City of
Thousand Oaks
Youth Commission

VENTURA COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
A Department of Ventura County Health Care Agency

TNC THOUSAND OAKS
TEEN CENTER

Straight Up is made possible through funding from Ventura County Behavioral Health Department, Alcohol and Drug Programs.