

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Children's System of Care

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W., Director of Health and Human Services
Twylla Abrahamson, Interim Director of Children's System of Care

DATE: September 15, 2015

SUBJECT: Resolution Affirming the County's Commitment to Preventing Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth

ACTION REQUESTED:

1. Adopt a resolution affirming Placer County's commitment to preventing commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth

BACKGROUND:

The Federal Bureau of Investigation estimates that as many as 100,000 children in the United States are victimized by the sex trade each year, including trafficking, child sex tourism, and child pornography. While comparatively small in number, Children's System of Care (CSOC) has identified and treated local victims of the Child Sex Trade.

The state of California recently approved a number of new legislative efforts, supported by Governor Brown, which will better position counties and their partners to identify and prevent child sex trafficking in local jurisdictions. Among them, schools and group home providers will be required to train and support early identification of at risk young people.

CSOC, with the support of the System Management, Advocacy and Resource Team, which includes the county office of Education and Probation Departments, and is overseen by the Presiding Juvenile Court Officer, has recently completed a Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Plan, which will provide for collaborative training, identification and prevention efforts across Placer's social and law enforcement partnerships. A formal Memorandum of Understanding between these organizations is also in development.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact as a result of this action.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

**Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Placer, State of California**

In the matter of:

Resolution No: _____

Adoption of a resolution to affirm the commitment of the County of Placer to prevent commercial sexual exploitation of children in our County and to work collaboratively with all county partners to identify, protect, and serve these vulnerable children and youth

Ord. No.: _____

First Reading: _____

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held _____ by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest: _____
Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, there is a growing awareness and challenge of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) in the State of California, and

WHEREAS, the Placer County Board of Supervisors recognizes that the commercial sexual exploitation of children is a pressing national, state, and local issue, and

WHEREAS, the FBI estimates that 100,000 children in the United States are sold for sex each year, including child sex trafficking, child sex tourism, and child pornography, and

WHEREAS, three of the top 13 highest trafficking areas in the nation are located in California: San Francisco, Los Angeles, and the San Diego metropolitan areas, and

WHEREAS, counties have led the effort to address the unique needs of (CSEC) youth, including working with law enforcement and the courts to divert suspected exploited children, and

WHEREAS, county law enforcement, child welfare services, behavioral health, the courts, and community-based organizations, with support and awareness of the county's SMART Policy Board, have recently formed a Placer County Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Task Force, to more effectively share resources and intervention efforts, and

WHEREAS, the need for intensive services tailored to minors who have been ensnared in the illegal sex trafficking trade remains critical,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Placer County hereby affirms the County's commitment to developing and supporting strategies to prevent, reduce, and serve the victims of commercial sexual exploitation of children and work to eliminate sex trafficking in California.