

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS
AND JANICE HAHN

JULY 9, 2019

**HOUSING STABILITY FOR YOUTH IDENTIFIED AS COMERCIAALLY-SEXUALLY
EXPLOITED CHILDREN (CSEC)**

Los Angeles County (County) is creating a continuum of housing options for youth in the foster care and probation systems. Through a motion adopted by the Board of Supervisors on November 20, 2018, the County is poised to have 33% more transitional housing for 18 to 21-year old foster youth (called Transitional Housing Placement Program for Non-Minor Dependents or THPP-NMD) and 50% more transitional housing for 18 to 25-year old former foster youth (called Transitional Housing Program-Plus or THP+) this year.

The County serves many youth identified as Commercially-Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) with these housing options and through other initiatives. Still, however, there are urgent opportunities to expand the array of housing options for them. This could include creation of a tiered-rate structure for THPP-NMD providers to fully serve them. A tiered-rate structure would provide additional services to youth whose needs are not met with the current program model.

The Los Angeles County Integrated Leadership Team (ILT), consisting of the Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS), Probation Department, and the Sheriff’s Department, works diligently to serve youth identified as CSEC. The County has allocated Healthier Communities, Stronger Families, Thriving Children (HST) funding to support youth identified as CSEC. The County’s housing allocation for these youth remains unspent despite a shortage of dedicated housing.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS direct the Chief

MOTION

SOLIS _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

KUEHL _____

BARGER _____

HAHN _____

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Executive Office, Department of Children & Family Services and the Probation Department, in consultation with the Sheriff's Department and the Office of Youth Diversion and Development, to report back in sixty (60) days with a:

1. Status on the current funding levels for HST, how HST has been allocated for the past and current fiscal year, and recommendations for maximizing the allocation dedicated to housing;
2. Plan to create and support existing housing and Intensive Services Foster Care placements for youth identified as CSEC or at risk of CSEC by utilizing the maximum HST allocation dedicated to housing without disrupting existing critical services; and
3. Long-term funding plan to identify ongoing funding that ensures the continued operation of housing for youth identified as CSEC, including advocacy at the state and federal level to support the County's Extended Foster Care program.