

HOUSING STABILITY FOR YOUTH IDENTIFIED AS COMMERCIALY SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN

Since 2015, the State of California (State) has made funding available for counties that submit a comprehensive plan and demonstrate an ability to provide intensive treatment and services for commercially sexually exploited children and youth (CSEC/Y). That same year, the Los Angeles County (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) authorized the use of \$6.738 million from the Healthier Communities, Stronger Families, Thriving Children (HST) fund for services, programming, interventions, and recovery solutions for CSEC/Y. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the CSEC Integrated Leadership Team (ILT), headed by the Department of Children and Family Services, Probation, and Sheriff and comprised of several County departments which directly serve CSEC/Y, were tasked with submitting a plan for the expenditure of these monies. The Board approved the spending plan, which was recently extended to cover five years, due, in part, to the supplemental funding the State has provided.

Since that time, more young people have disclosed their trauma and much has been learned about this population and the critical services they need most in order to thrive. As a result, some funding gaps have surfaced. It is important for the County to

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MOTION

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MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
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PAGE 2

reexamine the funding and services plan for CSEC/Y and explore an array of housing and service options that are tailored to effectively meet the needs of victims and their families, using updated information.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS direct the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Integrated Leadership Team (ILT) to submit, in writing within 60 days, updated funding recommendations and an implementation plan for housing, treatment, and services that address the spectrum of needs for CSEC/Y victims and their families. The report should:

1. Contain recommendations that include, but are not limited to: housing and services for CSEC/Y without a history of dependency or delinquency system-involvement, workforce development programming and training for CSEY who are 18 and older, and innovative housing placement pilots;
2. Incorporate input from CSEC/Y, service providers, and other relevant stakeholders; and
3. Utilize the findings of the 2018 report commissioned by the CSEC ILT, *Commercially Sexually Exploited Girls and Young Women Involved in Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice in Los Angeles County: An Exploration and Evaluation of Placement Experiences and Services Received*, the first-of-its-kind study about specialized services and placements for CSEC/Y in the County.

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(ECW/PC)