



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item 13.1

Meeting Date: June 2, 2016

Subject: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

Division: Youth Development Support Services Department

Recommendation: Provide a greater understanding of CSEC to the Board and the community. Highlight the work of the Sexually Exploited Children and Teens (SECT) Collaborative within SCUSD.

Background/Rationale: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) involves crimes of a sexual nature against minors for financial or other economic gain. The original Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 defines severe forms of trafficking as “sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such as act has not attained 18 years of age”.

SCUSD has been serving CSEC (or trafficking survivors) since 2009, when a 6th grade elementary student was identified as being trafficked, and was recovered from a motel in Oakland. In response to growing community concerns, SCUSD co-founded the Sexually Exploited Children and Teens (SECT) Community Collaborative, in order to provide a comprehensive response to CSEC youth in the Sacramento area. In 2012, Students Together Reducing Exploitation and Trafficking (STREAT) Team was established to enhance youth voice to the efforts of reducing exploitation and supporting trafficking survivors.

Financial Considerations: None

LCAP Goal(s): College and Career Ready Students; Family and Community Engagement; Safe, Clean and Healthy Schools

Documents Attached:

1. Executive Summary

Estimated Time of Presentation: 15 minutes

Submitted by: Stacey Bell, Director & Aliya Holmes, Coordinator

Approved by: José L. Banda, Superintendent

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I. OVERVIEW / HISTORY

Background: Sex trafficking of minors, or Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) involves crimes of a sexual nature committed against juvenile victims for financial or other economic gain and is a both domestic and international problem. The original Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 defines severe forms of trafficking as “sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age”.¹ CSEC is a form of child abuse, and results in immediate and long term physical, mental, and emotional harm to victims and survivors. Adverse childhood experiences exhibited by CSEC include: homelessness; childhood abuse; rape; domestic violence; racism; school push out; self-harm; suicidal ideation; suicide attempts resulting in hospitalization; childhood molestation; incarceration of one or both parents; death; PTSD; chronic depression; and anxiety. Under the Youth Development Support Services (YDSS) Department, the Targeted Prevention and Intervention Unit understands the importance of safety and support for all students and acknowledges the challenges and barriers that youth face on a daily basis.

YDSS began providing services to CSEC survivors in 2009. At that time, a sixth grader from a local elementary school was identified as being trafficked to and from the Bay Area. To respond to this concern, SCUSD, UC Davis and Wind Youth Services, pulled together community partners, neighboring districts, law enforcement and governmental agencies from all over the Sacramento area and founded the Sexually Exploited Children and Teens (SECT) Community Collaborative. Shortly thereafter, SCUSD developed the SECT Program to provide direct services to CSEC within the district. In 2012 Students Together Reducing Exploitation and Trafficking (STREAT) Team was founded to ensure youth survivors and their allies had voice in all CSEC programming.

II. GOVERNANCE

- SCUSD Local Control Accountability Plan Goals: college and career ready students; safe, clean and healthy schools and family and community engagement are met through the following:
 - Providing school placement, academic support, educational transition services & career readiness to identified students;
 - Providing social, emotional and mental health supports, or referrals, to identified students;

¹ <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/laws/>

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- Building awareness of CSEC throughout the district;
- Engaging and supporting family members of CSEC, including training and awareness workshops for parents and foster parents.

SB 855: legislation to create programs to more comprehensively support CSEC and clarify that exploited children and children who are forced to trade sex to meet their basic needs may be served through the child welfare system as victims of child abuse and neglect.

III. BUDGET

YDSS leverages Expanded Learning and Foster Youth funding in order to provide supports to CSEC in SCUSD. In order to enhance and sustain programming for future years additional funding must be identified through national, state, local and private funders. An Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention grant was recently submitted to fund a formal mentoring program for CSEC within SCUSD.

IV. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND MEASURES

The YDSS Targeted Prevention and Intervention Unit has identified the following goals and objectives related to CSEC:

Goal 1: Raise awareness within the district about issues related to sex trafficking

- Objective 1.1: Raise awareness among middle school youth
- 200 middle school age youth will receive CSEC awareness education, information and materials
- Objective 1.2: Raise awareness among SCUSD school site staff and administrators
- TPI Online Referral Form
 - Provide CSEC 101 trainings
 - Develop social media campaign within SCUSD

Goal 2: Identify youth that are at-risk of being trafficked and/or currently being exploited

- Objective 2.1: Share information with collaborative partners regarding CSEC youth within SCUSD
- Objective 2.2: Develop MOU/Information sharing agreement between CSEC Collaborative Partners
- Objective 2.3: Training and education for SCUSD first responders (social workers, nurses, counselors, etc.)

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- TPI Online Referral Form
 - CSE-IT Assessment tool to help with identification of possible at-risk or CSEC victims
- Objective 2.4: Pilot protocol for reporting/responding and supporting CSEC within SCUSD
- Objective 2.5: Work with Law Enforcement (Sac PD and Sacramento Sheriff) to identify protocol for district youth
- Objective 2.6: Track number of youth identified for CSEC to ensure streamlined service provisions
- Develop internal/confidential data tracking system for vulnerable and exposed CSEC

Goal 3: Provide prevention and early-intervention services for young people both in group and individual settings

- Objective 3.1: Provide targeted prevention groups for middle school students (specifically targeting foster youth)
- Enhance Girls Empowered group and Go B’Nanas curriculum to include CSEC education
 - Conduct WRAP (With Respect and Passion) group on at least 1 middle school campus
- Objective 3.2: Provide 1:1 mentoring/advocacy for vulnerable and exposed youth
- Mentoring/advocacy and case management for identified youth
 - Refer youth for mental health services as needed

Goal 4: Expand youth voice opportunities among foster youth and other at risk teens

- Objective 4.1: Expand prevention work and impact of STREAT Team
- Increase STREAT Team impact through recruitment of additional members
 - Provide stipend for STREAT Team youth leader
 - Conduct weekly or bi-weekly STREAT Team meetings
- Objective 4.2: STREAT Team provide feedback to community collaborative and other CSEC agencies as needed
- Develop best practices for youth involvement in CSEC agencies
 - STREAT Team members attend various CSEC Collaborative meeting 2x per year

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Goal 5: Enhance direct services for youth who are at-risk for, or victims of CSEC

Objective 5.1: Enhance direct services for identified youth

- Youth referred to intensive case management services as needed
- Youth participate in STREAT Team activities
- Youth referred to community resources as needed
- Youth referred to mental health resources as needed

V. MAJOR INITIATIVES

Sexually Exploited Children and Teens (SECT) Community Collaborative: Established in 2009, this grassroots effort to mobilize the community to address issues of commercial exploitation, has helped inform a local and statewide CSEC movement. Since the development of the Sacramento Countywide CSEC Action Team, the SECT Collaborative will be transitioning to focus specifically on collaborating to improve educational outcomes for youth in the Sacramento area.

SECT Program: In addition to the SECT Collaborative, the YDSS SECT program provides training, prevention education, mentoring, advocacy and other direct services to youth at risk, or currently identified as CSEC. There are currently 55 at-risk or CSEC youth that are being served within SCUSD. Of these youth, more than half have either child welfare or juvenile justice involvement; 90% are African American; 1% Caucasian; and 8% Latino/a; and 5.5% identify as LGBTQ.

Other highlights of the SECT program include:

- Training and awareness throughout the district, including providing fact sheet for parents and principals; training for nurses, social workers, counselors, etc.;
- Presented at various statewide conferences;
- Helped inform CA Child Welfare Council report ²
- Created and administered WRAP (With Respect and Passion) groups in Juvenile Hall and SCUSD (American Legion);
- Collaborated with the Sacramento Sheriff's Department missing persons unit, and other law enforcement agencies, including the FBI Innocence Lost Task Force.

Students who have been victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE) face additional challenges in the school setting. The SECT goal is to provide prevention and intervention

² http://www.sacramentosect.org/uploads/5/0/9/5/5095098/ending-csec-a-call-for-multi-system_collaboration-in-ca.pdf

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services so that no student falls through the cracks. Using trauma informed practices, all at-risk or identified CSEC victims within SCUSD have access to the following services:

Tier I: Advocacy; referrals to community providers; school re-entry; court advocacy; academic support;

Tier II: Peer mentoring; mentoring; school based support services; small group sessions;

Tier III: Crisis assessment; safety planning; suicide prevention; intensive case management; mental health referrals;

STREAT Team: STREAT Team (Students Together Reducing Exploitation And Trafficking) was founded on April 13, 2012 by three Sacramento youth activists. Their goal is to raise awareness among youth about issues related to sexual exploitation. The STREAT Team motto is “we recognized that young people are not the problem, they are the solution. STREAT Team, which is made up of both survivors and peer allies, is part of the solution.” STREAT Team events are held at specific school sites, as well as in central locations, throughout the year.

STREAT Team groups are currently being held at the following school sites:

- Rosemont High School
- Rosa Parks K-8

YDSS works collaboratively with other youth serving organizations in Sacramento to help with sharing and developing best practices that will help improve the outcomes of at-risk and victims of CSEC in Sacramento. YDSS services on several leadership committees such as the following:

Sacramento County CSEC Action Team: led by Presiding Judge Stacy Boulware Eurie of the Juvenile Delinquency Court, the CSEC Action Team is a partnership between Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice System and various community agencies working collectively to develop an interagency protocol that uses a multidisciplinary response for serving CSEC victims. SCUSD is an integral partner in this collaboration and has signed a participatory MOU.

WestCoast Children’s Center - Commercially Sexually Exploited - Identification Tool (CSE-IT): SCUSD is piloting a screening tool to identify risk level of students. This tool is post-interview measure that assesses CSEC risk factors.

Child Welfare Council Statewide Action Team: A statewide team designed to support implementation of SB 855 and address the holistic needs of CSEC in California.

The California Endowment Project “No Such Thing As A Child Prostitute” : The No Such Thing Campaign seeks to eradicate the term “child prostitute” in language and in law. SCUSD students have participated in a photo campaign and continue to be involved in this work.

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Protect: SCUSD is collaborating with three non-profit organizations in partnership with the Office of the Attorney General for the State of California, and the California Department of Education to help educators and students across the state identify and prevent instances of human trafficking through a standardized educational curriculum.

Friday Court: A court room designated to serve male and female CSEC in Sacramento County. SCUSD advocates for our youth within the Court and provides ongoing support and case management to Court involved district students.

VI. RESULTS

- The SECT program continues to inform local and statewide policy and programming, as well as provide training, awareness and direct support to SCUSD students and staff;
- STREAT Team continues to provide a safe-space for CSEC and their allies, as well as provide opportunities for youth voice
- Collaboration with the Student Hearing and Placement Office regarding early identification, and appropriate placement, of CSEC; including on-going mentoring and case management of identified student;
- Collaboration with the Enrollment & Family Services Center; including intentional collaboration with the Student Attendance of Review Board (SARB);
- Piloting of CSEC screening tool within SCUSD;
- SECT/STREAT team has maintained contact with all but 3 identified CSEC since beginning case management services.
- 18 STREAT Team students have graduated from high school since 2014.
- 12 of our 18 graduates are actively pursuing or currently enrolled in secondary education. STREAT Team students are currently attending 2 and 4 year colleges locally and around the country.

VII. LESSONS LEARNED / NEXT STEPS

- Locate additional funding for SECT/STREAT Team through local, national and private sources to enhance and expand programming;
- Expand CSEC Mentoring/Advocacy services;
- Explore feasibility of CSEC Board Policy and/or resolution;
- Continue training and awareness within SCUSD;
- Develop CSEC Tool Kit for SCUSD staff that will provide tips and strategies for engaging and supporting youth;
- Increase use of CSE-IT screening tool around the district;

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- Continue collaboration with Countywide CSEC Action Team and other School Districts through the SECT Collaborative.