

CSEC in California: Timeline of Collaborative Efforts

2013 – 2015



2013	Jan.	California implements Proposition 35 which increases penalties for human trafficking crimes, channels criminal fines to pay for victim services and mandates law enforcement training
		California Child Welfare Council (CWC) explores link between child welfare, child sex trafficking and publishes its report: <i>Ending the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)</i> CWC establishes CSEC Action Team to carry out recommendations from report
2014	June	SB 855 signed by the Governor in June. Creates CSEC Program and clarifies WIC § 300
	Sept.	Preventing Sex Trafficking & Strengthening Families Act (HR 4980) passed by the U.S. Congress
	Sept.	California Department of Social Services (CDSS) issues guidance on CSEC Program, outlining protocol development and funding for social worker and foster youth training (ACL No. 14-62)
	Oct.	The Preventing and Addressing Child Trafficking (PACT) Grant begins its 5 year grant cycle (2014-2019) with 10 participating counties
2015	Jan.	CSEC 101 Identification and Awareness training program is initiated by the Regional Training Academies and Resource Center for Family-Focused Practice
	April	CDSS issues guidance for how counties will be able opt into the first year of the CSEC Program, which includes ACIN No. I-23-15 and the CSEC Action Team's Model Framework
	May	CDSS issues complete instructions on how counties can opt into the first year of the CSEC Program, which includes ACL No. 15-48 and the CSEC Action Team's CSEC Practice Guidance Toolkit. CDSS also issues ACL No. 15-49 which provided instructions for documentation of CSEC in CWS/CMS including four new special project codes
	June	35 counties submitted to CDSS their County Plans in order opt into the 2015-2016 CSEC Program. County Plans highlighted county's current and proposed future approach to CSEC
	July	Two of the four CSEC CWS/CMS special project codes go into effect for county child welfare agencies: (1) S-CSEC Victim During (Foster) Care and (2) S-CSEC Victim Before (Foster) Care (ACL No. 15-49)
	Sept.	The third of the four CSEC CWS/CMS special project codes go into effect for county child welfare agencies: (3) S-CSEC Absence From Placement (ACL No. 15-49)
	Sept.	California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office begins delivering CSEC Awareness and Identification training for foster parents, FFA parents and group home staff.
	Oct.	CDSS announces allocations for the 35 CSEC Program counties based on their County Plans (CFL No. 15/16-22). Fifteen counties receive Tier I baseline funding and are not required to submit any additional materials. Twenty counties are selected to receive enhanced funding. These 20 counties submit complete interagency protocols in order to access the funding
	Oct.	Governor signs SB 794, California's compliance bill for the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking & Strengthening Families Act (HR 4980)
	Oct.	H.E.A.T. Institute Blue Ribbon Panel holds first of nine regional information summits
	Nov.	Stanislaus and Sonoma submit to CDSS complete interagency protocols and move from Tier I to Tier II, making 22 Tier II counties and 13 Tier I counties
	Dec.	The CSEC Action Team compiles its first year CSEC Program resources into one document: <i>Improving California's Multi-System Response to Commercially Sexually Exploited Children</i>

Important Upcoming Dates

- **December 2015:** CDSS to issue guidance on the SB 794 runaway/missing child protocols
- **Spring 2016:** CDSS to issue further guidance on SB 794 CSEC policies and procedures and reporting requirements, as well as guidance for opting into year two of the CSEC Program
- **Spring 2016:** H.E.A.T. Institute to issue policy recommendations based on regional hearings
- **Fall 2016:** The final of four CSEC CWS/CMS special project codes go into effect: S-CSEC At-Risk



Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Action Team

The Child Welfare Council established its CSEC Action Team in 2013 to research the issue of domestic CSEC in California, identify promising prevention and intervention practices and make recommendations to the State on how to better address the problem. During the two years since the CSEC Action Team's inception, awareness of CSEC and the intersection between child sex trafficking and the child welfare system has increased dramatically. The CSEC Action Team continues to conduct research and to develop guidance on coordinated, interagency approaches to ensure that CSEC and children at-risk of becoming CSEC are identified, protected and receive the services they need to overcome trauma and thrive. The CSEC Action Team is led by Co-Chairs Diana Dooley, Secretary of Health and Human Services, and Leslie Heimov, Executive Director of the Children's Law Center of California, along with Director Kate Walker Brown and Assistant Director Elizabeth Laferriere of the National Center for Youth Law.



Child Trafficking Response Unit

The Child Trafficking Response Unit was formalized within the California Department of Social Services in early 2015. The Unit is responsible for coordinating child trafficking training programs, producing guidance for counties, and administering SB 794 requirements as well as the CSEC Program. In the CSEC Program's first year, 22 counties received enhanced funding to develop and implement Tier II protocols. Thirteen other counties were accepted into the Program's Tier I and received a small planning allocation.



Preventing and Addressing Child Trafficking (PACT)

The PACT Program was created in 2014 to address child sex and labor trafficking within the California child welfare population. The Program is funded through a five-year federal grant from U.S. HHS-Administration of Children & Families and its efforts are coordinated from the Child & Family Policy Institute of California (CFPIC). Ten counties are participating in the program, including: Riverside, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Ventura, San Luis Obispo, Alameda, Sacramento, Madera, San Joaquin and Santa Barbara.



H.E.A.T. Institute

The Human Exploitation & Trafficking Institute (H.E.A.T. Institute) is an innovative think-tank, bringing together leaders from multiple state and local systems to create a unified and comprehensive system of support to respond to and prevent human exploitation and trafficking. This year the H.E.A.T. Institute established a Blue Ribbon Commission chaired by Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley consisting of leaders from child welfare, education, criminal justice, health, and the nonprofit sector. The panel will convene regional hearings throughout the state and issue policy recommendations in 2016.