



**WORKING TOGETHER
TO PROTECT
EXPLOITED CHILDREN**

**California Child Welfare Council
CSEC Action Team Report Out
December 7, 2016**

The CSEC Action Team is dedicating a significant portion of its December meeting to tackling the issue of group home cell phone policies. Our Advisory Board will offer some initial thoughts on the subject before leading us in a larger group conversation. Next, the CDSS Child Trafficking Response Unit will present on significant data trends emerging from the 35 counties participating in the CSEC Program.

We'll end our meeting by looking back on 2016, recognizing both our significant accomplishments as well as the major shifts in state policy.

Now in California:

- No child can be arrested for prostitution (SB 1322) and CSEC must be reported as child abuse
- 60%+ of counties are developing local, innovative, and multidisciplinary approaches to serving CSEC and at-risk children
- Child Welfare and Probation in all 58 counties must identify, serve, and document CSEC and at-risk children in CWS/CMS – and also provide relevant training to social workers and probation officers

The CSEC Action Team has - and will continue - to play a leading role in improving California's response to this population. Two of our major accomplishments:

- The CSEC Action Team's *Revised MOU Template* guides counties in meeting all relevant CSEC policy requirements. CDSS published and distributed our latest resource on November 23rd. This updated version includes new federal requirements, social worker / probation officer cheat sheets, and tailored hints to guide users through their own policy development process. Find it here: tinyurl.com/csecmou16
- Formed in June, the groundbreaking survivor Advisory Board offers substantive leadership and policy input to the CSEC Action Team. Members have provided valuable feedback on such projects as: the SB 794 Missing Youth Debrief and Safety and Supports Plan; CSE-IT updates; cell phone policies at group homes; and more. The Advisory Board serves as a critical resource to counties as they develop their own CSEC policies and practices. For more information, contact elaferriere@youthlaw.org