

For more information on the CSEC Collaborative Response Team please contact:

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## Did You Know?

The average age when a young person is first trafficked is 12-13.

One in three teens will be recruited by a trafficker within 48 to 72 hours of running from home.

The National Runaway Switchboard estimates as many as 1.6 to 2.8 million children are on the streets at any time.

## CSEC Collaborative Response Team:

- Atascadero Bible Church
- Community Action Partners of San Luis Obispo
- Department of Homeland Security
- Family Care Network Incorporated
- Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)
- Immigration Services
- Mountainbrook Abolitionists
- RISE
- Restorative Partners
- Runaway Girl, Inc.
- County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services
  - Adult Services
  - Child Welfare Services
  - Participant Services
- County of San Luis Obispo District Attorney's Office
  - County of San Luis Obispo Victim Witness
- County of San Luis Obispo Health Agency
  - Drug and Alcohol Services
  - Mental Health Services
  - Public Health Services
  - Suspected Abuse Response Team (SART)
- County of San Luis Obispo Juvenile Court
- County of San Luis Obispo Juvenile Probation
- County of San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Office
- County of San Luis Obispo Office of Education
- Women's Shelter Program



Collaborative Response Team  
of San Luis Obispo County

# A Multi-Disciplinary Response to the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children



## What is Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)?

CSEC is the sexual abuse of a minor “entirely” or at least primarily, for financial or other economic reasons.

It is a form of violence against children, including:

- Sexual abuse and remuneration in money, goods, or services, or the promise of money, goods, or services;
- The child is treated as a commercial and sexual object.

*“It’s not a choice, no one just wakes up and wants to do this. You can’t just walk away.”*

*-CSEC Survivor*

## Indicators of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

### General Indicators:

- Unexplained absences from school for an extensive period of time.
- Chronically running away from home or placement with no explanation to their whereabouts.
- Makes reference to frequent travel to other cities or states.
- Change in behavior, attire, or material possessions.
- Makes reference to an older boyfriend/girlfriend.
- Uses terminology of the commercial sex industry.

### Red Flags to look for:

- A change in physical appearance.
- Frequent truancy from school and/or unexplained absences from home or placement.
- Involved with a male who is older, controlling, has a street name, and gives them cash.
- Loss of interest in age appropriate activities.
- Disconnection from family and or other caregivers.
- Interest in pornography or other parts of the sex industry.

## Identifying CSE or At-Risk Youth Screening Tool

- A universal Screening Tool will be used amongst local agencies to identify CSE or at-risk youth.
- Depending on the risk level, the screener at the agency can refer the youth to services in the community that will meet their needs or continue providing services for them.
- There are certain questions on the Screening Tool that if marked yes, will require an immediate Suspected Child Abuse Report (SCAR) to Child Welfare Services (CWS). Contact CWS by:
  - ✓ Calling (805) 781-KIDS and,
  - ✓ Faxing SCAR to (805) 781-1803

### Child Welfare Services

P.O. Box 8119  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93403-8119

Phone: (805) 781-KIDS  
Fax: (805) 781-1803