Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)

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The commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is:

- Sexual activity involving a child in exchange for something of value, or promise thereof, to the child or another person or persons.
- The child is treated as a commercial and sexual object.
- CSEC is a form of violence against children.
CSEC includes:

- street prostitution
- pornography
- stripping
- erotic/nude massage
- escort services
- phone sex lines
- private parties
- gang-based prostitution
- interfamilial pimping
- forms of Internet-based exploitation
Factors related to Vulnerability

- **Societal and Public Policy risk factors**
  - Poverty, Racism, and Discrimination
  - Glorification of pimp culture, objectification of women, gender bias, and widespread use of Internet and social media (Greenbaum 2014).

- **Institutional Risk Factors**
  - Higher rates of poverty, live in high-crime neighborhoods/environments, large and international airports, large transient male populations, community violence, street-involved culture/economy, and higher rates of prostitution (Greenbaum 2014).

- **Community Risk Factors**
  - Identifying LGBTQ, substance use, earlier pubertal maturation, and early adversity experiences, increased rates of mental health issues and higher rates of substance abuse/use or parents who abuse/use substances, and are less likely to be educated or exposed to employment opportunities

- **Interpersonal and Relationship Risk Factors**
  - Sexual or physical abuse or maltreatment, being a runaways or homeless,

- **Individual Risk Factors**
  - System-involvement, such as with the juvenile justice and child welfare systems,
Pathways of Entry

Ways in which recruitment can happen:

- Children are recruited by seduction or coercion. Often begins On-Line!
- Romeo entry-recruited by “boyfriend or significant other”
- Peer pressure
- Gang initiation
- False advertising for modeling, acting, or dancing
- Blackmailing with photos or sexting
  http://www.missingkids.com/Sextortion
- Internet enticement through chat rooms
- Parents sell children
- Violence, Force and Kidnapping

Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS)
ADDRESSING SURVIVOR NEEDS

When a flower doesn’t bloom you fix the environment in which it grows, not the flower.

Alexander Den Heijer
Increasing Protecting Factors that promote healing

Protective factors are conditions in families and communities that act as buffers to help parents and children build capacity, foster resilience, and reduce risk. Minor victims of human trafficking and their families often do not have these buffers and have been exposed to abusive situations. Building protective factors among families is key to preventing and combating human trafficking of minors.

Five protective factors that strengthen families:
• Parental resilience
• Social connections
• Knowledge of parenting and child development
• Concrete support in times of need
• Social and emotional competence of children

The Center for the Study of Social Policy’s Strengthening Families Program
Citrus CHANCE Program

Specialized Therapeutic Foster Care

• **Stable and secure family unit:** The intervention model includes a foster parent specially trained in both the behavioral and emotional needs of this population and the unique social factors related to commercial sexual exploitation. The foster parents are available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week to respond to crises or to the need for special therapeutic interventions.

• **Single Child Home:** Victims of abuse are vulnerable to exploitation, recruitment, and manipulation by peers. The CHANCE Program requires that the CHANCE child initially be the only foster child placed in the home.

• **Secure Home:** The homes are secured with an advanced alarm system that will both alert the foster parent of intruders and if the child is leaving the home without permission.

• **Home Support Staff:** The program also includes the opportunity to enhance the services that the child receives in the home with the inclusion of appropriately trained Specialized Support Staff available 24 hours-a-day, 7 days a week.
• At this time the number of youth survivors of commercial sexual exploitation in Miami-Dade County exceeds the number of CHANCE STFC homes available.

• Children may reside in foster homes, shelter, group homes, or in relative and non-relative care and receive CHANCE services. Some children will be in the care and custody of their parents or guardians from the onset of treatment.

• The CHANCE Community Response team will work with survivors who reside in alternative placements in an effort to stabilize them in their current environment or assist in the identification and transition of the child to an appropriate living situation.

• These children will be offered all of the same clinical services available to CHANCE STFC clients.
Services Provided

• Children in both the CHANCE STFC and Community Response Team tracks will receive the following wraparound services upon entering the program:
  
  o **Assessment and Evaluation**
  o **Individualized Treatment and Service Plan Development**
  o **24/7 On Call Clinical Staff**: For CHANCE clients and foster parents
  o **Regular Monitoring**: To ensure that the goals and objectives of the service and treatment plans are consistently pursued or adjusted as needed
  o **Psychiatric Services**
  o **Substance Use Treatment**