



CSEC Statewide Coordinating Committee

June 19th, 2017

Minutes

Committee Attendees: Farshad Talebi, Assistant Attorney General at the Washington State Attorney General's Office; Lieutenant Curt Boyle, Director of the Fusion Center; Molly Mee, Intelligence Analyst at the Fusion Center; Melinda Giovengo, Executive Director at YouthCare; Judge Barbara Mack, King County Superior Court Judge and Chair of the King County CSEC Task Force; Cameron Meyer, Co-Chair of the Whatcom County CSEC Task Force; Jeanne Kohl-Welles, King County Councilmember; Mike Donlin, The School Safety Center Program Supervisor at the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; Patty Fleishman, Board Chair of Stolen Youth; Nichole DeCario, Executive Director of Stolen Youth; Katie Lohman, Director of Oasis Teen Shelter and Daylight Center; George Yeannakis, Special Counsel at TeamChild and the Office of Public Defense; Mabel Elsom, Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinator at Lutheran Community Services Northwest and Co-Chair of the Spokane County CSEC Task Force; Leslie Briner, Sexual Exploitation Training and Policy Coordinator at YouthCare; Judge Melissa Hemstreet, Kitsap County Superior Court Judge; Coreen Schnepf, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney at Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office; Valiant Richey, Deputy Prosecutor at King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Dae Shogren, CSEC Program Manager, Children's Administration – DSHS; Justice Bobbe Bridge (ret.), President and CEO of Center for Children and Youth Justice.

On the Phone: Representative Tina Orwall, State House Representative; Laurie Hill, Kerri Pedrick, Executive Director of Washington Engage; Kelley Aburgey-Richardson, Court Program Analyst of Washington State Supreme Court Gender & Justice Commission; Erin Williams, Director of Victim Advocacy & Education at Lutheran Community Services Northwest and Co-Chair of the Spokane County CSEC Task Force; Robin Miller, Case Manager at Janus Youth.

Audience Attendees: Alice Zillah, Research Project Manager at Department of Commerce; Patti Toth, Child Abuse Investigation Program Manager at Washington Criminal Justice Training Commission; Laura Baird, Assistant Attorney General at WA State Attorney General's Office; Adam Delph, Assistant Attorney General at WA State Attorney General's Office; Norene Roberts, CSEC Liaison at Children's Administration – DSHS; Amanda Bernard, Social Service Specialist at Department of Social and Health Services; Claire Cambridge, Law Enforcement Grants Manager, Office of Justice Program – Minnesota Department of Public Safety; Sergeant Nikkole Peterson, Human Trafficking Unit of St. Paul Minnesota Police Department; Cindi Buchanan, Cowlitz County Juvenile Probation and Chair of the Cowlitz County CSEC Task Force; Kelly Mangiaracina, King County CSEC Task Force Coordinator at King County Superior Court; Ginny Randall, Intern with King County CSEC Task Force; Nicholas Oakley, Project Manager at Center for Children & Youth Justice; Kimberly Ong, Project Assistant at Center for Children & Youth Justice; Tanya Fernandez, Education Director at Seattle Against Slavery; Beatriz Menanteau, Violence Prevention Unit Supervisor at Minnesota Department of Health; Lauren Ryan, Safe Harbor



Director at Minnesota Department of Health, Injury, & Violence Prevention; Richard Torrance, Director of the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy – Department of Commerce and Chair of the Statewide Task Forces on Human Trafficking; Fallon Stid, Legislative Assistant to Washington State Representative Morgan Irwin.

Observers, Presenters, and Staff Attendees:

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Farshad Talebi welcomed attendees and thanked them for their participation in Washington’s efforts to respond to CSEC. He expressed his hope that with the extension of the Committee through 2023, the Committee could be influential in policy reform. Mr. Talebi noted that three CSEC related bills were passed in the legislature in 2017 and that the Attorney General’s Office would be developing its 2018 legislative agenda in July.
- Justice Bobbe J. Bridge, ret. also welcomed participants and expressed excitement about the expansion and extension of the Committee, the work the Committee has been doing on a legislative level, the expansion of task force participation, the increased availability of training, and the data collection efforts.
- Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Project Respect Statewide Mapping of CSEC Resources

- Nicholas Oakley provided an overview of efforts to map CSEC resources across the state. He credited the work that Project Respect intern, Kelly Martin-Vegue, has put into the expansive and comprehensive list of resources so far. The Project Respect team has visited five of eleven CSEC Task Forces to identify and assess resources. The goal is to identify who is doing prevention, identification, services, and law enforcement/prosecution, as well as the strengths, challenges, and opportunities related to each of these categories. Project Respect plans to build a comprehensive database with this information.
- Relatedly, Valiant Richey noted that the King County Prosecuting Attorney’s office is working on a statewide resource for all human trafficking -- including sex and labor trafficking and both adults and children.

3. Project Respect CSEC Data Collection

- Kimberly Ong reported to the Committee on Project Respect’s CSEC data collection efforts and the recent changes made to the data collection methodology, providing an overview of the project’s history, the data collection process, and the 2016 results.
- Attendees raised the following questions and concerns:
 - Whether the data collection could be mandated by law – the Committee will work with Rep. Orwall to determine if this is a feasible proposal.
 - How system-involvement was determined and how data was being controlled to ensure accuracy – this information and its accuracy rely on reports from the data sources.
 - Whether resulting prosecutions were tracked – not at this time because this data collection is primarily focused on identification and demographics; tracking referral and prosecution data would add another barrier to participation from potential partner agencies.



4. Introduction: Fusion Center

- Mr. Talebi introduced the Fusion Center, which operates in states and major urban areas as a focal point for the receipt, analysis, gathering, and sharing of threat-related information between federal, state, local, tribal, territorial (SLTT) and private sector partners. The AG's Office and the regional Fusion Center announced that they would be partnering. Molly Mee, the newly hired Fusion Center data analyst, will be working fulltime with Mr. Talebi with the intent of becoming a repository for all law enforcement information regarding human trafficking, both sex and labor, regardless of age. The Fusion Center will have the capacity to work with the non-governmental organizations and other agencies, bridging the gap between community and law enforcement.
- Mr. Talebi also introduced Lieutenant Curt Boyle, the new director of the Fusion Center. Lt. Boyle came into this position in April 2017. Lt. Boyle and noted that there were 78 Fusion Centers around the country. He noted that the Fusion Center acts as a central database and amplifier to facilitate information exchange between agencies and across states and countries. The Fusion Center's four main missions are to deter and prevent terrorism; deter significant crime; provide online state patrol, analysis, & resource sharing; and offer investigative assistance. Lt. Boyle emphasized the Center's desire to work collaboratively with both private organizations, public agencies, and community based organizations.
- Mr. Talebi shared that the Fusion Center is collaborating with the AG's office on developing a data platform that will receive reports from around the state and aims to improve communication with law enforcement agencies within the state. While Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor penalties are severe, resources to prosecute those cases are limited. Both the AG and the Fusion Center have identified a need to push on data collection to help prove the need for these resources and to help identify areas where resources should be allocated. He ended with a request for county task force representatives to collect data with Project Respect and the Fusion Center to make this effort successful.

5. Briefing: Proposed Reforms for Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness

- Regina McDougall, of the Office of Homeless Youth Prevention & Protection (OHY), briefed attendees on the Office of Homeless Youth's proposed reforms for unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness. She provided an overview of OHY's origins, its role in serving homeless youth, and then presented on the proposed reforms.
- Ms. McDougall reported that OHY is seeking feedback on its proposals for an operational response to Child in Need of Services (CHINS) filing and the current system's challenges. She shared that CHINS is intended to be a response to family disruption where a young person can no longer live in their parent(s)' household. It is the vehicle by which services can be offered to young people who do not qualify for dependency but for whom returning home is not an option. The OHY Workgroup identified CHINS in particular due to its current under-utilization and capacity to keep youth from entering the child welfare system and prevent the response from being stigmatizing or seeming punitive. Ms. McDougall acknowledged that this response system will not solve housing issues for all youth experiencing homelessness, but is an attempt to use existing structures, fund them, and detail them to create a better response system for petitions that are filed.



- Ms. McDougall offered a visual to help the group understand what structures currently exist and which structures would need to be developed or enhanced significantly. Some of the options that have been proposed have been to develop a screener to signal for family assessments and a menu of services to provide. She shared that the ultimate goal would be reunification or a long term plan for the youth that includes options for long term placement if reunification is not possible or does not occur.
- Attendees raised the following questions and concerns:
 - Whether resources for housing and functional family therapy would be allocated – Ms. McDougall acknowledged that some statutory changes and a significant funding proposal would need to be made to accommodate this plan. She suggested that a pilot option in certain courts could be used to test the plan. Melinda Giovengo added that the State has options that can be expanded, like HOPE beds and Transitional Housing/Independent Living Beds.
 - Whether OHY’s workgroup was trying to substitute dependency with long term placement and how they will avoid infringing upon dependency issues. Ms. McDougall shared that this population of young people were individuals for whom CA were reluctant to open dependency cases and therefore would find accessing services from CA difficult.
 - Whether there is justification behind attaching this effort to Juvenile Court, as some counties do not split Juvenile Probation into civil and criminal departments – an alternative proposal would be to move this back into DSHS, where they would have access to Title 19 funding. Ms. Giovengo asked what we do about youth who are not dependent but are in need. Judge Mack suggested that, in some states, Title 4E funding can be used for certain populations and that some dependency programs are controlled by the county and not the state.
 - How a new Department of Children, Youth, and Families impact the proposal – Ms. McDougall responded that building the outline of services and responses for a responsive system is going to be useful whether the system exists in the juvenile courts or in DSHS. She hopes that encouraging the filings of CHINS petitions will reduce the number of young people going from shelter to shelter without any sort of coordinated response.

6. Briefing: Proposals Impacting Service Providers Who Serve Both Youth and Young Adults

- Melinda Giovengo of YouthCare reported on Senate bill 5656. Her concern with the legislation is that it prohibits the provision of services to both minors and adults at the same locations and prohibits services to children under the age of 18 who refuse to give any identifying information. Ms. Giovengo shared that these two provisions not only would make it extremely difficult for providers to give care to those who need it – especially since needs like shelter and mental health services do not go away when a person turns 18 – but also increase the barriers to accessibility of services and help for young people.
- Justice Bridge commented that this bill is not congruent with the way that both child welfare and juvenile justice approaches to serving young people are shifting.

7. Briefing: Changes to Children’s Administration Policy and Screening Procedures



- Dae Shogren, LGBTQ, Disproportionality, Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) program manager for DSHS Children’s Administration (CA), introduced herself and reported on the future changes to CA policy and screening procedures. First, Ms. Shogren began by crediting Norene Roberts, CSEC Liaison for Region 2, as a champion for kids in care. Ms. Shogren then gave an overview of CA efforts as of late and looking forward. She informed the committee that, in accordance with the federal mandate for child welfare agencies to screen, identify, and assess children for services, CA Missing-From-Care Locators have been trained in administering CHET screenings at intake for long-term planning with children ages 11 and up. CA is working on language to be specific about identifying CSEC across the state, with Norene Roberts responsible for training Region 2, and Alliance training Regions 1 and 3. Other staff within CA are also going to receive this training. The intake process is also going to reflect this new effort, with the specific question of “do you suspect that this child has been trafficked,” as opposed to asking the caseworker to note suspicions of sexual abuse.
- Ms. Shogren also noted that CA is going to provide funding to CSEC Task Forces statewide to help provide resources for Task Force coordination. She acknowledged CCYJ’s part in helping to notify task forces of the funding opportunity. Ms. Shogren shared her excitement about the work that task forces are planning to do with the grant and is looking forward to keeping these partnerships ongoing. She is hoping that CA will be more regularly at the table and knows that the Missing-From-Care Locators are already very engaged with the Task Forces. Ms. Shogren ended by stating that the more we all partner, the more work we can do.
- Members suggested supplementing CA involvement by engaging the health sector and the Department of Health, citing that the Health and Human Services Committee just produced a Stop Observe Ask and Respond (SOAR) training specific to human trafficking – which would be a huge area of opportunity to engage. Ms. Shogren reported that CA is already working with DOH because they are moving CA alumni and adoptive kids into Apple Health. CA and DOH are currently working on how to work together to respond to CSEC and all CA medical providers will include mental and behavioral health services in 2018. Members emphasized that we need to ensure coordination and make sure that innovation is shared as a resource.
- Ms. Roberts also reported that a big challenge in CA is examining how the Department will address non-familial CSEC cases. Currently, CA does not take on CSEC cases with third party perpetrators. Unfortunately, legislation asking for more funding to add capacity to address these cases was unsuccessful. CA is now anticipating being out of compliance with federal law for a year, which will potentially impact their access to federal funding. Mr. Talebi asked that they share their legislative priorities with him by July 7th.

8. Briefing: Supplementing Victim Services Protocols with a Model for Exploiter Accountability

- Valiant Richey, Senior King County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, began a discussion on how CSEC task forces can begin efforts to supplement victim service protocols with a model for exploiter accountability. He explained that law enforcement does not have the capacity to arrest their way out of this problem and that we should be looking at preventive measures like exploiter accountability and reaching out to the public health and education sectors. Looking forward, he suggested adding those responses into the Washington State Model Protocol for CSEC.



- Mike Donlin, Program Supervisor for the School Safety Center at the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), reported that Laurie Dils, OSPI's Program Manager for HIV and Sexual Health Education programs, is working on prevention, mitigation, protection, response, and recovery services and is also working with school staff to engage with students.
- Judge Mack suggested that the group also reach out to share CSEC trainings with teachers who are in the process of being certified to teach.

9. Task Force and Regional Reports:

- **Clark**
 - No representatives were present.
- **Cowlitz**
 - Cindi Buchanan reported that the Cowlitz Task Force began activities again in September of 2016 and currently have three operating subcommittees – healthcare, outreach, and legal (which includes law enforcement and mental health) and are invitation only. She shared that the Cowlitz Task Force still does not have a prosecuting attorney as a part of discussions.
 - Cindi shared that they received a grant to do trainings in the community and to start a girls resiliency group. They are currently working on partnerships and trying to draft a CSEC protocol for the county.
 - Fusion Center offered resources and help in regards to prosecution.
 - Cindi also shared that they are working to get Medicaid to the table to help provide evidence-based practices and screening for health providers and service providers.
- **King**
 - Judge Mack shared that King County trainers have trained over 2000 people since October 2013 in Responding to the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC 101), And Boys Too, and Engaging and Serving Youth Using Motivational Interviewing trainings. This has had an immediate impact on awareness and identification and has resulted in the number of referrals of advocates to boys quadrupling since the And Boys Too training launched. The King County Task Force also received a grant that have allowed for Training of the Trainers (ToT) to train more individuals in delivering the CSEC 101 content. The Task Force is also working on a foster care pilot with Casey Family Programs and the YMCA to train foster families specifically for CSEC and support them with wrap around services. Judge Mack also mentioned a GQ article highlighting the Ending Exploitation training for court-referred buyers.
- **Kitsap**
 - Judge Melissa Hemstreet reported that the Kitsap County Task Force had its first meeting in January 2016 and is still working on developing an infrastructure and goals and finding funding sources. The Task Force will begin data collection in summer quarter of 2017. The Task Force is also working on bringing school, medical, and dependency representatives to the table. Judge Hemstreet also shared that many of their staff went through the ToT and they will be reaching out to the



probation counselor to offer the CSEC 101 trainings. Kitsap County is also producing an outreach brochure for CSEC awareness and services.

- Coreen Schnepf added that the Task Force has applied for three grants, has formalized Task Force MOUs, and has been formally recognized by the County Commissioners. They are currently working on getting a drop-in center in Kitsap County and are working with Seattle Against Slavery for high school outreach and education. Ms. Schnepf shared that they are working on training more prosecutors, are developing a more formalized training for law enforcement – which will be run through the Kitsap Recovery Center – and have received significant buy-in from their school districts. Their plan for this year is to get all their projects to the next level.
- Judge Hemstreet added that Kitsap is working actively to connect with tribal judges, who have reported difficulty in communicating the problem to their tribal communities. This is parallel to the problem they have seen in their rural communities. She shared that Navy Judge Advocate General's has been interested in helping out more and that other organizations may have funding to support Task Force efforts. Ms. Schnepf also shared that Naval Criminal Investigative Services has shown significant interest in participating as well and that they have been instrumental in communicating with military personnel that Kitsap County does not offer diversion treatments and that Kitsap County will prosecute if military personnel are caught in stings.

- **Pierce**

- Tasha Smith of Rebuilding Hope shared that the Pierce County CSEC response operates more as a multi-disciplinary team. The Pierce County Task Force has been working to get the Gang Task Force to participate in their MDTs and that the Child Advocacy Center also has Abuse and Neglect contacts that need to be integrated into the Task Force and MDT work. They are working consistently on training with Joint Base Lewis McChord personnel, which is the source of many of the buyers.
- Ms. Smith reported that the challenges they're now facing now that they have a drop-in center and are able to provide resources to CSEC is that they are not addressing the demand side of the issue. They are now training public defenders to be trauma informed and to better equip them to defend CSEC in court. They are also connecting with patrol-level law enforcement and informing them of Rebuilding Hope's 24 hour hotline for supporting CSEC. Rebuilding Hope is also connecting with probation staff to offer training to them as well.

- **Skagit**

- Katie Lohman of the Skagit County Task Force reported that their group started meeting in January of 2017. Currently, their Task Force is made up largely of service providers and they are still trying to get law enforcement and prosecution to the table. Ms. Lohman asked Justice Bridge if she could provide support in getting a judge to participate. She also shared that their main attempt right now is to get everyone to speak the same language around serving CSEC and are hoping that offering more trainings will help do that.



- Ms. Lohman shared that OASIS is the only drop-in and resource center in the county, but it does not have the capacity for outreach services. In order to address the gap, they are partnering with housing providers in Kitsap. The Task Force is also hoping to get funding for Task Force coordination through the CA grant.
- With regard to case staffing, both Oasis and Skagit Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) are working together to staff cases and are working with law enforcement and prosecutors. However, they are still having trouble connecting the pieces of CSEC response together.

- **Snohomish**
 - No representatives were present.

- **Spokane**
 - Mabel Elsom reported that the Spokane Task Force was still meeting bi-monthly and progressing through their education, service provider, and law enforcement subcommittees. They have been working on outreach in the community; training and awareness with service providers, in hospitals, and in schools; connecting with local airports; and, are planning a conference in early December. They are also working on coordinating a resource list in their county and Spokane law enforcements are working on undercover operations, recovering children, and getting a judge to come to their meetings.
 - Ms. Elsom reported that they have three agencies collecting data – the juvenile court, Lutheran Community Services NW, and Excelsior. They are also trying to engage hospitals and schools in the collection effort. The Task Force continues to seek funding for homelessness outreach and to address their challenges in housing resources.

- **Tri-Cities**
 - No representatives were present.

- **Whatcom**
 - Judge Raquel Montoya-Lewis reported that the Whatcom Task Force was meeting monthly and had regular participation from DVSAS, CA, the Superior Court, FBI, and their public defenders. They have been operating with focal points: MOUs with all task force participants; developing a protocol for all participating agencies for what to do when participants have a CSEC concern; and, issuing trainings at least once a month. Their goals for the future are to get school district participation, train counselors and teachers, host a film screening for the community of *I am Jane Doe*, and plan a bi-annual conference and community conversation.
 - Justice Bridge offered to help with the film festival and Stolen Youth Executive Director, Nichole DeCario, offered to help with community outreach.

- **Yakima**
 - No representatives were present.



10. Fall Meeting Planning and Additional Discussion

- Mr. Talebi thanked the task forces for their updates and suggested that the committee meet again in October or November. He also reminded Task Force chairs to connect their county prosecutors and law enforcement with him so that he could get them acquainted with the Fusion Center. Mr. Talebi requested that everyone think about policy priorities and legislative proposals for the next year and to get those suggestions to him by July 7th. He also invited anyone to send topics for the next agenda to Joyce.
- Mr. Richey suggested that we should issue a recommendation to require CSEC training at the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys and Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs at every annual meeting. Mr. Talebi said he would connect with Bob Ferguson to try to make that happen.
- Leslie Briner reported that the second edition of the Responding to the Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Children Toolkit was in development right now and asked all members to send any updated or new information to her.
- Mr. Oakley reminded everyone that the 3rd Annual CSEC Task Force Conference is occurring on Wednesday, October 25th.
- Fallon Stid shared that she would be reporting back to Representative Morgan Irwin on the data collection piece, an alert to SB 5656, the necessity of training, and the difficulty of obtaining resources to serve CSEC.
- Mr. Oakley also acknowledged Stolen Youth for their support, without which CCYJ would not be able to help coordinate this statewide effort to better serve CSEC.

The meeting adjourned at 12:58PM.