



CSEC Statewide Coordinating Committee

November 7th, 2017

Minutes

Committee Attendees: Farshad Talebi, Assistant Attorney General at the Washington State Attorney General's Office; Justice Bobbe Bridge (ret.), President and CEO of Center for Children & Youth Justice; Janiece Mondale, Intelligence Analyst at the Fusion Center; Judge Barbara Mack, King County Superior Court Judge and Chair of the King County CSEC Task Force; 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; Erin Williams Hueter, Director of Victim Advocacy and Education at Lutheran Community Services Northwest Spokane and Co-Chair of the Spokane County CSEC Task Force; Melinda Giovengo, Executive Director at YouthCare; Leslie Briner, Sexual Exploitation Training and Policy Coordinator at YouthCare; Judge Melissa Hemstreet, Kitsap County Superior Court Judge; Laurie Schacht, Director of YWCA Clark County's Sexual Assault Program and Chair of the Clark County Task Force; Aaron Doyer, Skagit County CSEC Task Force Coordinator; Lindsay Cortes, Snohomish County CSEC Task Force Coordinator; Valiant Richey, Deputy Prosecutor at King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Dae Shogren, LGBTQ, Disproportionality, and CSEC Program Manager, Children's Administration.

On the Phone: Kelly Bergeson; Pam Duncan; City of Tacoma, Human Services Manager; Rachel Sharber; Kelly WA Engage; Mike Good; Richard Torrance, Director of the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy – Department of Commerce and Chair of the Statewide Task Forces on Human Trafficking;

Kelley Amburgey-Richardson, Court Program Analyst at Washington State Supreme Court Gender & Justice Commission; Julian Bray, Assistant Attorney General; Melissa Burke-Cain, Counsel for the Senate Law & Justice Committee; Pamela Duncan, Human Services Division Manager at City of Tacoma; Sydney Forrester, Senior Policy Counsel and Policy Staff Coordinator, Washington State Senate Democratic Caucus; Emily Nayar, Outreach Coordinator at Partners with Families; Kerri Pedrick, Executive Director of Washington Engage

Observers, Presenters, and Staff Attendees: Norene Roberts, Region 2 CSEC Liaison at Children's Administration; Tera Risenhoover, DSHS Intern; Kelly Mangiaracina, King County CSEC Task Force Coordinator at King County Superior Court; Ginny Randall, Intern with King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office - Valiant Richey; Nicholas Oakley, Project Manager at Center for Children & Youth Justice; Kimberly Ong, Project Assistant at Center for Children & Youth Justice; Robert Beiser, Executive Director at Seattle Against Slavery; Tanya Fernandez, Education Director at Seattle Against Slavery; Olivia Herring, Safe Place Coordinator at Seattle Police Department; Rachel Alger, MSW Practicum Intern with Representative Tina Orwall.



1. **Welcome and Introductions**

- Farshad Talebi welcomed attendees and thanked them for their participation in Washington's efforts to respond to CSEC.
- Justice Bobbe J. Bridge, ret. also welcomed participants and expressed her hope that this agenda would be a good balance between discussion topics and feedback from attendees.
- Attendees introduced themselves

2. **Task Force and Regional Reports:**

○ **Clark**

- Laurie Schacht shared that Janus Youth received a grant that allowed them to hire two outreach workers and one case manager. The new staff has increased Clark County's capacity to take meaningful steps to reach youth where they are.
- Clark County is now doing outreach at hotels, including "Truck Stop Tuesdays" and "Motel Mondays," so that they can develop their relationships and do outreach and education in businesses and schools.
- Clark County has also put effort into increasing their trainings and outreach, which they have been able to do since their task force has been growing in number. Now they are working on how to make sure that information collected at their meetings are collected in a meaningful way for the different organizations that are participating.
- They also received additional funding that can be put towards updating their website.

○ **King**

- Judge Mack shared that King County trainers have trained over 2000 people in 2017 in Responding to the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC 101) trainings. She briefed the group on the results of the second phase of the outcomes evaluation of the King County CSEC Task Force and announced that if anyone had any questions, they could reach out to her, Kelly Mangiaracina, or Dr. Pullman at the University of Washington for follow-up. Specifically, the evaluation found that many CSEC had dual-systems involvement with child welfare and juvenile justice. Their experience often comprised of referrals at an early age, "unfounded referrals," frequent placement changes, numerous runaway events, early and frequent juvenile justice involvement, and difficult participating in Bridge Collaborative services. Judge Mack shared that the next steps would be to compare the data they have collected on youth referred to the Bridge Collaborative to non-CSEC youth in child welfare, examine predictors, and collaborate with stakeholders for further discussion on those findings.
- The outcomes revealed by the evaluation showed a significant improvement in membership, process, structure, and communication of the coalition of service providers since 2015. Major themes from the youth interviews showed that they wanted help with obtaining resources, not just referrals, specifically to housing, transportation, education, and appointment assistance; and that they greatly appreciated the advocates.



- Melinda Giovengo asked if there was an opportunity to have direct referral for housing for young people over the age of 18. Judge Mack clarified that the interviews included people above the age of 18 and would have to check back in with the interviewers since she did not have the raw data.
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- **Kitsap**
 - Judge Melissa Hemstreet reported on the successful progression of their prosecution the Kitsap net nanny sting and shared that the Kitsap CSEC Task Force doesn't have any issues with law enforcement representation at the table. Presently, they are working on building their task force's capacity to train – the Sheriff's department has trainers and their partners are also training juvenile detention staff in order to help them identify CSEC. Their partners are also working on preparing for CPS and other service providers to be trained. They also have trainers equipped with the Seattle Against Slavery curriculum going to high schools and working with district staff to show the need for prevention training.
 - The Kitsap CSEC Task Force is also building tribal partnerships – the Suquamish Tribe has come on board and they are working on building a relationship with the S'Klallam County tribal judge.
 - The task force used the CA grant funding to create a library of resources and information on identifying and serving CSEC and prosecuting CSEC cases. They are now focused on grant fundraising from the county commissioners to hire a trauma-informed therapist to work with the Kitsap Recovery Center.
 - Outreach efforts include a new website that should be launched in the next week, Kitsap Recovery Center's informational human trafficking flyer, and a 5K run organized by local community groups to raise funding for a drop-in center.
- **Pierce**
 - Mike Good, representative of the AG's Office in Tacoma spoke to the increasing numbers of youth in foster care and how local agencies are putting their energy into reduction efforts, as many are in the 0-3 age range and many are also at risk of CSE. The Pierce County CSEC Task Force has the support of the Tacoma Police Department and other community groups, including the human trafficking committee.
 - Mike reported that Tasha at the Sexual Assault Center is also doing well at dispersing training and has been keeping an active presence and has provided trainings for judges and AG.
- **Skagit**
 - Aaron Doyer introduced himself as the new Skagit County CSEC Task Force Coordinator. He shared that he has attended the Conference and several trainings and is working on learning and getting caught up to speed with what the Skagit Task Force has been up to before he came on. He shared that he appreciates the



other task force representatives at the table and those who have reached out with advice and support.

- Aaron spoke to similar frustrations with getting partners to buy in to their work, but has been able to elicit participation from law enforcement and the prosecutor's office – though no concrete partnerships or MOUs have come about yet. The task force is now working on the accountability piece by hosting targeted trainings to increase knowledge with first responders and other sectors who should have been equipped to identify CSEC.
 - The Skagit Task Force is also reaching out to the community, schools, and medical professionals to get an idea of what they're seeing in terms of CSEC and gather feedback on where the gaps in service provision are.
 - The Task Force is also discussing the logistics of operating a sting in Skagit to bring about awareness of the demand for buying sex from minors to show the community there is an issue, which will hopefully lead to the development of a formal protocol.
 - The Outreach Team of the Skagit CSEC Task Force is operating through the Oasis Teen Shelter is also conducting street outreach, developing educational materials, and doing general awareness and education directly with teens.
- **Snohomish**
- Lindsay Cortes introduced herself as the new coordinator of the Snohomish County CSEC Task Force. She shared that the Task Force has been around for about 10 years, but that it is good to now have someone to coordinate all the services and resources. Lindsay expressed her excitement to partner with Aaron and the upcoming Whatcom County CSEC Task Force coordinator as all three counties share a lot of the same youth.
 - Over the last few months, Lindsay has put effort into identifying the purpose of the task force and trying to get more people – specifically law enforcement – at the table. Matt Baldock, the local prosecutor, wants to see law enforcement come together and support the CSEC efforts in Snohomish, but they are not getting referrals for prosecution from law enforcement.
 - Some Snohomish successes include dedicated positions for CSEC victims' services at Cocoon House, greater coordination between service providers and across county lines, monthly community trainings for both community-based providers and community members at large, and a planned CSEC Training of Trainers led by Leslie Briner.
 - Val Richey wondered if it would be helpful if the King County Prosecuting Attorney's office could show the scope of the demand in the online community to help other counties see that demand for buying sex from minors is an issue in their community and offered the opportunity to demonstrate to local law enforcement that there is demand in their region. He asked where the law enforcement resistance to participating in these efforts seemed to be coming from. Lindsay shared that it seemed like an issue of resource. Val noted that resource shortage tends to come from a place of "We don't think there's a



problem, so we're not going to prioritize it" and hopes that demonstrating the scope of the problem will act as a catalyst.

- Norene Roberts shared that the Swinomish Tribe did a trial run with Val Richey, where the Swinomish PD posted an ad on Craigslist and Backpage. Law enforcement were receptive, but no one necessarily has taken the initiative to participate more in CSEC efforts.
 - Val stated that if task forces are not seeing LE participation or activity, we as a community need to make the case and highlight the prioritization within the department – why, for example, would there be 5 drug detectives but only one person devoted to human trafficking, CSEC, etc?
 - Dae Shogren asked Val and other task force chairs if stings only work to illuminate demand if LE is already participating, or can this happen without them at the table? Val shared that they can figure it out.
 - Sha informed the group that the Committee has funding to provide full-time prosecutorial support around the state. Jan Mondale, in her role at the Fusion Center, can help as an intelligence analyst to provide any analysis support, State Patrol has four detectives around the state dedicated to investigating human trafficking cases, and Sha's office has the ability to come in and prosecute cases if local jurisdictions want to concede jurisdiction to the AGO.
 - Katie Lohman also noted that part of the issue of getting law enforcement participation is where the message is coming from. She shared that she often thought it would be helpful to have the help of law enforcement or prosecutors come in to help communicate the message and urgency.
 - Jan shared that she would like to start sending in a representative from Sha's office to regional CSEC task force meetings.
 - Sha also reminded everyone that he is conducting OCVA, legislatively mandated trainings for law enforcement and prosecutors. The next one-day training will be in Burlington on November 17. He invited task forces in the northwest region of the state to share this opportunity for training with their prosecutors and law enforcement.
- **Spokane**
- Erin Williams-Hueter shared that the Spokane CSEC Task Force just had their November meeting, where there was strong participation and presence following the CSEC Conference. She noted that participation often varies, but now there are newly engaged and newly energized people.
 - The Spokane Task Force has broken out into different committees: Law Enforcement, Victim Advocacy, and Education. The Spokane Law Enforcement committee has seen some progress including engagement from federal and local offices, connections with the Spokane PD's Human Trafficking Department – which is putting effort into building relationships with victims, and an energized prosecuting attorney who is developing a training for prosecutors in the region. The Victim Advocacy committee is working closely with the juvenile detention centers and has seen an increase in referrals from law enforcement and human services organizations from local areas and other counties in eastern Washington



and northern Idaho. They are also organizing info nights for the parents of children who have experienced sexual assault or commercial sexual exploitation. A recurring concern in committee conversation is available housing options for CSEC.

- Mabel Elsom leads the Education Committee and reported out that they are working in partnership with Partners With Families to host Respond Spokane, a one day conference to address child trafficking and exploitation, on December 5th. Respond Spokane aims to bring education and awareness to the community that works with these youth, but who may not necessarily know all the resources, what to do, or how to identify indicators of commercial sexual exploitation. The event will feature speakers – including Justice Bridge, videos, panels, facilitated discussion, and breakout sessions.

- **Tri-Cities**
 - N/A

- **Whatcom**
 - N/A

- **Yakima**
 - N/A

3. **Human Trafficking Resource Map**

- Sha invited Kelly Mangiaracina, Val, and Ginny Randall to update the task force on their efforts to create an online human trafficking resource map. The aim is for this to be a resource for survivors and other stakeholders. The website is currently modeled after a website in Arizona, created by Arizona State University.
- Kelly reported that they will have a mock-up that she will be sharing with the CSEC Statewide Coordinating Committee for feedback by the end of the year. She will also be sending everyone a survey to vet the resources listed. There are currently over 200 organizations identified, which include state level agencies and law enforcement, and will be organized by region and by resource.

4. **Seattle Against Slavery, Training Curriculum**

- Tanya Fernandez, Education Director of Seattle Against Slavery gave a presentation on Seattle Against Slavery’s curriculum for high school students. Tanya shared that they have the capacity to train other CSEC task forces in the curriculum so that other regions may also distribute this training in their school districts.
- The training is focused on prevention strategies and operates with the goal of tackling the root causes of sexual and labor exploitation. Upon evaluating the data collected from their surveys, the training is working better than they had hoped and there is a measurable shift in knowledge, behavior, and attitude.
- Tanya shared her contact information (<http://www.seattleagainstslavery.org/about/leadership/>, tanya@seattleagainstslavery.org) in



the event that other regional task force representatives wanted to reach out for access to the training. She also clarified that Seattle Against Slavery charges to train individuals to deliver the training, but that charge includes all the curriculum and all future updates, in addition to training support, data, and other assessments.

- Judge Hemstreet asked how Tanya would recommend connecting with high schools. Tanya shared that they have been lucky with high schools who have had teachers who were champions of the curriculum and have been invited back to every school they've been to and have been referred to other schools through that connecting. They have been effective in reaching out to teachers, but find making the same impact more difficult when reaching out to administration first. Tanya also suggested using a presentation agreement, where students can opt out if they don't feel comfortable with the content. She shared that they are currently talking to a school about developing an MOU to get parental consent through a letter sent home.
 - Judge Mack suggested that providing an informational presentation to the PTA may be a good way to leverage pressure from the parents.
 - George Yeannakis asked if Seattle Against Slavery was doing this programming in the JR facilities. Tanya reported that she has heard that REST may be providing this training at Echo Glenn.
- Sha asked what class this training is conducted in. Tanya shared that this training can happen in any class where a teacher finds this appropriate. They have had the best luck going in to health, psychology, social studies or sociology, and global issues classes, but have also presented in a cooking class.

5. Project Respect Data Updates and Direction

- Kimberly Ong presented an update on the Project Respect data collection since the changes in the collection process on April 1st, 2017. She shared a summary of the demographic breakdowns of the CSEC identified in quarters two and three of 2017 and then reported back on her concern about the accuracy of the checklist in flagging potential CSE.
 - Melinda asked why such a large proportion of responses were “Unknown” or “No Response.” Kimberly shared that, since this tool is a case-review, some of this information is not known by the case author.
 - Others asked how our numbers compare to other states. Nicholas Oakley responded that other states are not collecting data, so we don't have much to compare to.
- Nicholas began a discussion how difficult data collection has been, highlighting that CCYJ is unable to compel others to collect data. Nicholas emphasized the importance of accurate and consistent data collection and presented two recently released validated screening tools for CSEC. He proposed the idea of somehow mandating a validated screening tool and having the data collection mirror the screening tool.
- Justice Bridge suggested that the Statewide Coordinating Committee form a workgroup and asked for volunteers to participate in ongoing discussions about data collection.
 - Children's Administration has a dedicated CSEC screener, but Norene Roberts shared that the screening tool asks for absolute responses and does not leave much room for “unclear” observations.



- Judge Mack suggested that there be a legislative requirement for anyone who receives state money and provides CSEC services to furnish data. Judge Hemstreet raised concerns that unique identifiers would risk personally identifying youth.
- Leslie Briner referred to the validated West Coast Poverty screening tool, which she feels is broader and addresses some of the holes in currently employed screening tools.

6. Office of Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection, Family In Need of Services Petition

- Regina McDougall and Melinda presented an update on the OHY CHINS petitions proposal they shared with the Committee earlier in the year. Regina shared that the proposal has evolved from bolstering the CHINS petition into movement to merge ARY and CHINS petitions into a Family in Need of Services petition in order to embody the “prevention and protection” part of the OHY mission. Melinda reiterated the concern of what to do with a young person who’s not going to be made state-dependent and who is not able to go home – a category many CSEC fall into.
- The intention is to propose a bill in the 2018 legislative session. Regina requested feedback from everyone in the room. The major components of the bill will be to fund case managers at the court level to manage FINS cases and to fund services like Family Intervention Services.
- Much of their efforts in developing this proposal has been spent with stakeholders in preparation for the upcoming session. Regina reported that they have great stakeholder momentum and input from a diverse representation of counties and organizations. She shared that the group that came together to develop this proposal wanted to propose something that would work just as well in King as it does in Kitsap and Klickitat.
- Regina shared some of the highlights and core features of the FINS proposal and then shared some of the next steps for their work. They plan on addressing the capacity for and variety of shelter options accessible under a FINS petition, how to serve youth exiting detention without a parent willing or able to pick them up, petitions for youth in run-away status, additional alternatives to formal confinement, and consider how families can access services without a petition or involving the court system. Regina stated that they will continue scheduling speaking engagements and conducting community outreach, and that their next joint meeting will be on November 21st.
- George Yeannakis voiced his concerns about implementing statewide reform given the state’s county-based system. He shared that he thought this would be a great opportunity with the creation of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families to take this on as their responsibility, fund the programs and case workers, set statewide standards, and avoid all court involvement. George emphasized that the court doesn’t have people trained to serve these youth, lack the funding, and cannot respond to youth who come in at 1AM on a Saturday. Regina acknowledged George’s concerns and responded that they saw the role of the DCYF as having potential services for FINS youth and families. They are proposing this through the OHY because this will be in partnership with juvenile court administrators. Once this proposal rolls out and have set a high standard for case management involvement, they are open to seeing a hand off to the DCYF.
- Sha will send out the FINS feedback survey to the members of the Statewide Coordinating Committee.



7. Washington's Compliance with the Child Abuse Prevention & Treatment Act

- Judge Mack reported on Washington's level of compliance with the federal law, which requires states to plan for CPS systems to include certified assurance that the state has in effect and is enforcing a law that requires identification and assessments of all reports of children known to have or suspected to have experienced CSE and/or sexual abuse and provide services – no longer requiring the assessment and services only if the perpetrator is a parent or caregiver. CA's response was to do this through the WACs, due to the fact that they cannot make the change their policy about third party perpetrators without a change in the state law. Judge Mack reinforced that the concern is that Title 4E funding is at risk if we do not comply with the federal law. Legislation to change the state law to be in compliance with the federal law is anticipated to be proposed, but they are not sure whose office it will come through yet.

8. Next Meeting, Final Items

- The spring meeting date will be announced at a later date.
- Kelly Mangiaracina will share the resource website when it is launched and Sha will send out the resource vetting survey.
- Sha reminded the audience that the Committee is a policy body and encouraged attendees to think about legislation for future legislative sessions or legislation that we should be supporting.
- Justice Bridge reminded data workgroup volunteers to look out for a message from Nicholas and Kim.